

CITY OF AMES STAFF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MISSION

Help our current and prospective residential, commercial, and industrial citizens to grow or expand within the City of Ames with the goal of improving the quality of life for all of our residents.

Promote Ames as a welcoming place to do business by embracing a “can do” attitude.

Many departments, programs, and staff of the City carry out this mission in many ways every day. During the planning and design of physical development, over 20 City staff members in eight departments are involved. The Development Review Committee (DRC) was formed over 20 years ago as a one-stop shop: development customers would not have to contact and work with each member of the City staff individually. This committee brings City staff together to work with developers, designers, owners, and contractors on all of the physical development in the city.

PURPOSE OF THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

To work unitedly as COA staff to help development happen in accordance with Council’s approved codes and plans. To accomplish this, we will:

- *Help customers feel our “can do” attitude*
 - *“How To, not Why Not”*
 - *“They made me feel like they were on my side”*
- *Provide approvals & direction from one source to minimize customer’s inconvenience dealing with multiple departments*
- *Assure complete, timely, consistent answers from City staff*
- *Lean towards the applicant’s proposal if there is not a clear, code-based reason not to do something*
- *When needed, help identify alternative ways that their projects can work*