

**Updated fee structure for Board of Building Standards and Appeals****Ord. No. 1536-2025****Summary**

This legislation amends Section 3101 of the Building Code to update the board hearing and time extension fees for the Board of Building Standards and Appeals (BBS). This update is necessary to modernize the fee schedule and comply with new requirements in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). The fee structure is currently provided in Cleveland Codified Ordinances (CCO) 3103.21.

**Background**

The need for this update stems from Senate Bill 6, which was signed into law by Governor DeWine and went into effect on September 30, 2025. This new state law changes the building appeals process and establishes an expedited appeal process for certain orders requested under R.C. 3781.19 or 3781.20. This change impacts the BBS's budget and its fee structure, specifically necessitating the establishment of a fee for an expedited hearing. The existing fee structure, provided under CCO 3103.21, has not been updated since 2003 and also needs to be modernized.

**Details**

The legislation updates the fee structure for hearings before the Board of Building Standards and Building Appeals. The new proposed fee structure includes increases for existing categories and new tiers for dwelling units.

**Key changes in the proposed new fees:**

- Owner-occupied single-family dwelling appeals increase from \$15.00 to **\$20.00**.
- Single-family (non-owner-occupied) 2, 3, and 4 family dwelling appeals are proposed at **\$65.00** (previously \$30.00 for 2 and 3 family non-owner-occupied).
- New categories are introduced for **5 – 10 dwelling units** (\$150.00) and **11 dwelling units and up** (\$250.00)
- Mixed-use commercial structures appeals are set at **\$350.00**.





## CITY OF CLEVELAND

Mayor Justin M. Bibb

Page | 2

### CITY PLANNING

**Calley Mersmann**  
Director

- "Permit

Extension, Civil Tickets, Lead Appeals, Division of Fire" appeals are set at **\$85.00**.

- Product approvals and any other appeals increase from \$65.00 to **\$75.00**.
- Time extension appeals increase from \$20.00 to **\$30.00**.
- Furthermore, the new state law allows the board to establish **additional reasonable fees for the expedited appeal**, which shall not exceed **\$500 per day** the appeal is pending, with a total limit of **\$1,000**. BBS proposes to establish this new fee at \$500 per day.

### Alignment

This legislation ensures that the City's Building Code complies with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) regarding building appeals. It also updates the fees for the Board of Building Standards and Appeals, which directly impacts the board's budget and financial operations.

### Geographic Impact

This legislation has citywide impact, as the Board of Building Standards and Appeals has citywide jurisdiction over appeals related to the Building Code.

