Effective October 1, 2010, the Florida Legislature has mandated the method for assessing permit surcharge fees to be changed from the current one cent per square foot to 3.0 percent of permit fees associated with the enforcement of the Florida Building Code.

Building departments will be required to collect a 3.0 percent fee on all construction permits (i.e., building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, etc.) with the minimum fee of $4.00 on any permit.

Pursuant to Section 553.721 and 468.631, Florida State Statutes, building surcharge fees shall be remitted at a rate of 1.5 percent each to the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the Florida Department of Professional Regulation (DBPR), respectively.

In accordance with the new law, funds collected by the State shall be used exclusively in the following manner:

- For the duties of the Florida Building Commission and the DCA,
- To fund the Florida Homeowners’ Construction Recovery Fund established by s. 489.140, and
- To fund the functions of the Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board.

For further information, please visit us on the web at www.tampagov.net/permits.