



## INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL  
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CUPERTINO.GOV

The City of Cupertino would like to alert residents, contractors, and businesses about an active nationwide permit fee phishing scam that has recently impacted communities across the Bay Area.

Scammers are sending emails that look like they're from City or County staff, asking for additional payments or information. These messages may include real project details like permit application numbers, property addresses, or even staff names, to appear legitimate. Payment is typically requested through wire transfer, peer-to-peer apps, or cryptocurrency. These emails may also include attached invoices with payment instructions.

Please be aware that the City of Cupertino will never ask you to provide payment information via email, text, phone, direct transfer, or third-party links.

### Red Flags to Watch For:

- Requests for immediate payment or threats of delays
- Email addresses that don't end in "@cupertino.gov or @cupertino.org"
- Instructions to only respond by email instead of calling to verify

### What Should You Do?

- If you have not applied for a permit from the City of Cupertino, ignore the email and do not respond.
- Do not click links, open attachments, or send money if something seems suspicious. Instead, contact the City by calling 408-777-3228 or emailing [permitcenter@cupertino.gov](mailto:permitcenter@cupertino.gov) to verify the request.
- If you do have an active permit with the City, log into the City's [Accela](#) to verify your balance; only make payments through the Permitting Online Portal, in person at City Hall, or by mail.

**If you've been targeted or affected please report the incident**, visit the [Federal Bureau of Investigation PSA](#) for more information.