

# Avolve ProjectDox® and Infor Hansen - Partners for Efficiency

## Technology Trailblazers for All-Digital ePlan | Chicago, Illinois

Chicago is the third-most populous city in the United States. With over 2.7 million residents, it is the most populous city in the state of Illinois, and the county seat of Cook County. The Chicago metropolitan area, often referred to as Chicagoland, has nearly 10 million people and is the third-largest in the country.

Chicago has the third-largest gross metropolitan product in the United States—about \$630.3 billion according to 2014-2016 estimates. In 2014, Chicago had 50.2 million international and domestic visitors. It also has professional sports teams in each of the major professional leagues. The city is an international hub for finance, commerce, industry, technology, telecommunications, and transportation: O'Hare International Airport is the second busiest airport in the world when measured by aircraft traffic; the region also has the largest number of U.S. highways and rail road freight.

To better enable growth in this thriving metropolis, Chicago Mayor Emanuel has made streamlining the building permit process a priority for homeowners, businesses and design professionals. The Mayor knows that building permits are more than just ensuring that buildings are built safe and sound.

Behind every building permit is a homeowner's dream, a new or expanded business, an enhancement to the community and the economy, and the creation of jobs. Therefore, reducing the time to obtain a building permit is paramount. A key element in reducing the time to permit is replacing the old paper-based sequential plan review process with an electronic-based simultaneous plan review system. [ProjectDox interfaces with the Infor Hansen permitting system to enable a fully digital permit application and plan review process for constituents.](#)



*ePlan will offer enormous benefits to the design community and your clients," says Michael Merchant, Commissioner Department of Buildings. "The City of Chicago is committed to making the building permit process a green light for businesses and home owners."*

## Excelling in Citizen Services | Springfield, Missouri

Springfield is the third-largest city in the state of Missouri and the county seat of Greene County. Springfield's economy is based on health care, manufacturing, retail, education, and tourism. It is also home of several universities including Missouri State University, Drury University, and Evangel University.

The City of Springfield launched the first end-to-end electronic plan services initiative in the State of Missouri and selected Avolve Software's ProjectDox for implementation of the new ePlans system.

ePlans benefits the city's business development by offering significant cost and time saving efficiencies, including: improved communication with developers; contractors, design professionals and project stakeholders; reduced administrative processing; reduced printing and travel time; and streamlined plan review and permit approval.

According to Deputy City Manager, Fred Marty, "The City Council and City Utilities have made streamlining our development review process a priority."

The city, in concert with city utilities (CU), was able to easily integrate its ePlans technology with existing permitting and document archival systems, reducing redundant data entry and enabling network and wireless data distribution to multiple city and CU departments.



*Springfield has been using ProjectDox since 2012 and is now in the process of bringing Infor Hansen online in an upgrade to their permitting solution.*

ProjectDox brings the strength of our industry-leading ePlan solution to Infor's widely-used Hansen permitting system. Due to our years of experience working together, and successful integrations in the marketplace, our users can rest assured that the products work together as a proven seamless solution.



# Driving Growth with ProjectDox® and Hansen

## Accelerating Economic Growth and Development | *Fairfax County, Virginia*

Fairfax County's new electronic zoning application submission system is already exceeding expectations for staff review speed, say planners who announced that the first application has been submitted and accepted using the new system.

Novus Property Holdings was the first developer to complete the applications acceptance process electronically under the county's new pilot system called ePlans, which interfaces directly with the Infor Hansen permitting system. The developer proposes to rezone a 5.3-acre site to build a new apartment building. Planners were able to respond to the proposal with deficiency comments within four days of its submission, moving even faster than anticipated using the new ePlans system – the current goal being 10 days.

"After working with Fairfax County for nearly a decade and submitting hundreds of plans through the paper process, Bohler's Development Services Group has found the new ePlans system to be not only intuitive and easy to use, but extremely efficient," said Brian Clifford, a planning manager on the Novus development team. "Having the ability to upload plans and review staff responses electronically has streamlined the submission and acceptance."

ePlans allows the County to ditch the inefficiencies—for both developers and planners—resulting from paper-based submissions for major zoning proposals. Fairfax is testing out this new system as part of a broader strategy to rev up its economy. Through its Strategic Plan for Economic Success, the County is actively improving the speed, consistency and predictability of its development review process.

"ePlans dramatically cut staff review time and sped up the application acceptance process thereby allowing us to move forward to the public hearing process in a much shorter time frame," said Sara V. Mariska, an attorney with Walsh Colucci Lubeley & Walsh PC, on the Novus team.



*"The online application reduces the amount of paper typically needed for a submission and allowed us to meet our deadline and exceed our client's expectations."*

## A Streamlined Enterprise ePlan Solution | *Montgomery County, Maryland*

Montgomery County is a 500 square mile area with a population of 1 million. Montgomery, like other inner Washington, D.C. suburban counties, contains many major U.S. government offices, scientific research and learning centers, and business campuses, which provide a significant amount of revenue for the county. As the third largest biotechnology cluster in the U.S., it is home to many companies of large corporate size within the state.

The county's economic priority initiatives cover a broad range, from major development and transit projects (such as the White Oak Science Gateway anchored by the Food and Drug Administration and the Rapid Transit System) to innovation partnerships (such as BioHealth Innovation and the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence).

As part of its economic growth vision and sustainability efforts, Montgomery County uses electronic automation for permitting and plan review. The county has used Infor Hansen for permitting database tracking since 1999, and began bringing ProjectDox online in 2009. The county now uses ProjectDox for electronic plan review in three departments - Planning, Permitting Services and Parks. The Hansen/ProjectDox integration allows a seamless process for document submission, permit application, plan review and approval, and permit issuance - speeding the process significantly.

"Converting the manual business process for construction document exchange to a ProjectDox workflow gives us more control. We eliminate the need to outsource, reduce our paper consumption, and experience faster review cycles," according to Park Development Division Chief, Mitra Pedoeem. "Plus all project information resides in one central location – ProjectDox. The business value of ProjectDox will definitely increase as we add more projects to ePlans."



*"Digitally transforming our business process to an all-electronic workflow improves collaboration between internal reviewers and external stakeholders while establishing an easily accessible, centralized hub for all project-associated information for the complete project life cycle."*

*ProjectDox and Hansen have together implemented more than 15 integrations in cities and counties in the U.S. and Canada.*

