

# Project Dox \*\*

# ELECTRONIC PLAN REVIEW APPLICANT USER'S GUIDE



## BUILDING TO OUR FUTURE



# ePlan Applicant User Guide **Table of Contents**

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### Introduction to ePlan

Electronic Plan Review (ePlan) is a web-based solution that allows a variety of plan and plat types to be submitted electronically, replacing the traditional paper-based review method. ePlan will improve the plan review cycle & reduce costs associated with obtaining approvals while supporting green initiatives. By electronically submitting plans and plats for review, more accurate tracking of review comments and responses, and clearer communication relating to markups on the plans can be achieved. The City of San Angelo also believes that this method will streamline both the review steps and the time necessary to complete each step, consistent with the City Council goal to improve the development process. Applicants will be able to follow their projects and understand at each step the status of each submitted project.

This manual provides basic documentation on the steps involved in the Electronic Plan Review (ePlan) process. It has been prepared as a general reference guide and is not designed to present every detail or situations on every element of the process. There are text descriptions and screen images of the step-by-step tasks necessary to complete a submittal and review using ePlan.

If at any time in the process you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call. Be sure to ask to speak to one of the following System Administrators:

#### **Planning & Development Services**

Rae Lineberry, Development Services Technician rae.lineberry@cosatx.us
(325) 657-4210, #5

Aaron Vannoy, Development Services Administrator <a href="mailto:aaron.vannoy@cosatx.us">aaron.vannoy@cosatx.us</a> (325) 657-4210, #5

#### Forms and Applications:

- Building Permits & Inspections Division (<u>www.cosatx.us/permits</u>);
- Planning Division (www.cosatx.us/planning); and,
- Engineering Services Department (www.cosatx.us/engineering).

**NOTE**: In addition to this user manual, please reference the help documentation available within the ePlan Review Web portal for further assistance.



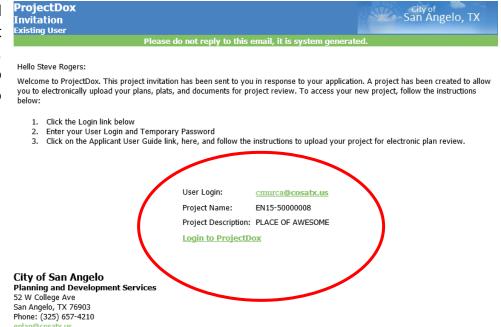
#### I. Electronic Plan Submission

- A. Please complete the following prior to getting started:
  - 1. For the following types of plan and plat submissions, fill out the relevant application online. Applications may be submitted via email (applications must be signed and may be digitally signed). Email submittals to <a href="mailto:development.services@cosatx.us">development.services@cosatx.us</a> or <a href="mailto:rae.lineberry@cosatx.us">rae.lineberry@cosatx.us</a>.
    - a. Utility plans;
    - b. Drainage plans;
    - c. Street construction plans;
    - d. Non-residential construction plans;
    - e. Fire suppression plans;
    - f. Preliminary plats;
    - g. Final plats; and,
    - h. Replats.
- B. Review the standards for naming your drawing and document files, sheet sizes, file formats accepted, etc. (Review the entire "Standards" section of this guide, pages 9-11).

#### II. ePlan Review Invitation

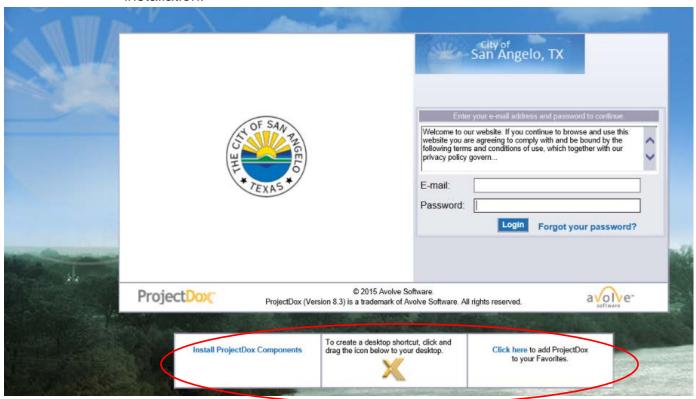
A. When your application for your project is reviewed and is deemed to meet minimum requirements, an Electronic Plan Review invitation will be sent to your e-mail address. For first time users, the invitation e-mail will contain your login information, temporary

password and information about the project, including a link to the ePlan web portal.



### III. Logging In

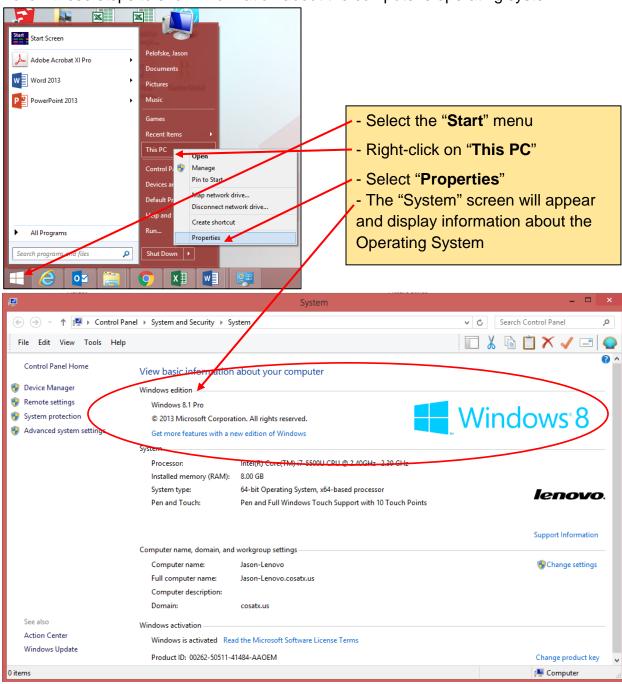
- A. New Users First Time Login
  - 1. Prior to logging into the Electronic Plan Review web portal, the following actions must be completed:
    - a. The login page has an MSI (Microsoft Silent Install) component required to install all necessary ProjectDox ActiveX controls (see image below). This installation will only need to be done once; if you utilize a different computer it will require another installation.



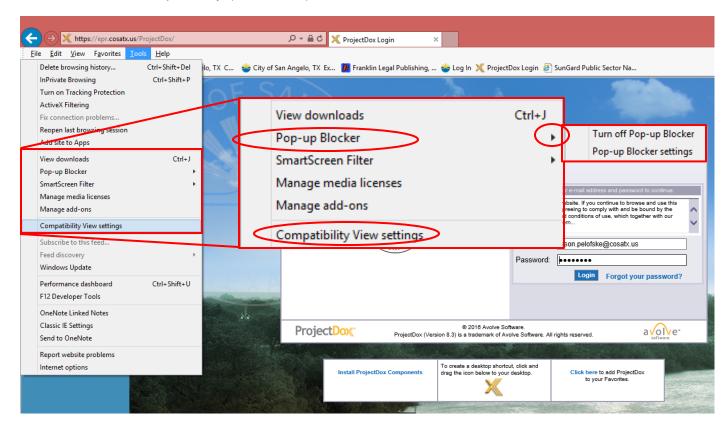
b. If your computer's operating system is Windows Vista or Windows 7, User Account Control (UAC) needs to be turned off for the installation of the ActiveX controls. For Vista instructions on how to turn off UAC, click <a href="here">here</a>. For Windows 7 instructions click <a href="here">here</a>. User Account Control may be turned back on if desired after ePlan has been successfully run and allowed to install all ActiveX controls. After the components are installed, log into the ePlan web site and allow new ActiveX components to be installed as prompted (additional prompts may appear at other points besides the ePlan login, for example when viewing a file).

**NOTE:** Google Chrome does not support all features of ProjectDox.

Follow these steps to show information about the computer's operating system.

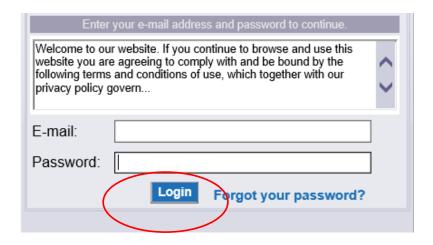


c. Internet Explorer 10 requires Compatibility View be enabled on the ePlan Login Screen. Internet Explorer will remember this choice for future visits. Failing to enable Compatibility View will result in numerous errors, the most prominent being the inability to login. Instructions on how to enable this can be found on the following Microsoft Web Page by clicking <a href="here">here</a>. Go to the "Tools" menu and then select "Compatibility View Settings" to enable compatibility (see below).



d. Electronic Plan Review uses pop-up windows (windows with no toolbars). If you log in but no ePlan window appears, you probably have a pop-up blocker in use that is preventing the main project window from opening. You will need to disable pop-up blocking in order to utilize the ePlan application. (Pop-up blockers allow you to disable pop-up blocking for specified sites if you wish to leave it on and exclude ePlan). Go to the "Tools" menu and then select "Pop-up Blocker" to enable pop-ups for ProjectDox (See above).

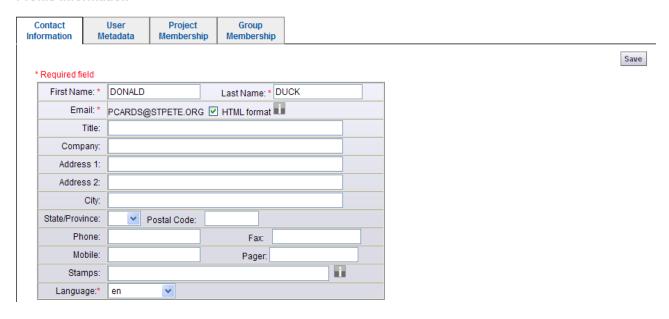
2. To sign in, enter your e-mail address and temporary password provided in your invitation email and click the "Login" button, as shown in the image below:



3. You will be prompted to enter a new password and account information. All fields in yellow are required. Click on the "Save" button to save your profile.

Settings for DONALD DUCK (PCARDS@STPETE.ORG)									
Welcome to Electronic P	Welcome to Electronic Plan Review.								
enter a security question a	e you currently have a temporary password, you will need to change it to a permanent password and (if you have not done so) r a security question and answer. This question/answer will be something that only you know, and will enable you to reset password if you ever forget what it is.								
After you have changed yo	After you have changed your password you will be taken to the main Projects View.								
Change Password:		vord Reset Question & Answer:							
New password:*	Security question								
Confirm new password:*	Security answe	· **							
Password must not contain special characters, must contain at least one digit and one alphabetic character, and must be between 8 and 16 character.									
	R	EMEMBER!							
	Pa	asswords are case-sensitive.							

#### **Profile Information**



#### B. Existing Users

- 1. If you are a returning user, login to ePlan with your full e-mail address and password.
- 2. If you have forgotten your password, click on the "Forgot Password" button so that you can retrieve it through your security question.

**NOTE**: No one can see your password or security question answer. If you cannot access your account after trying to retrieve your account information, contact us at <a href="mailto:development.services@cosatx.us">development.services@cosatx.us</a>, to have your password reset. An email will be automatically generated and sent to the account holder's email address with a temporary password.

#### IV. Standards

- A. Plan File Naming Standards
  - 1. Drawings
    - a. To maximize plan review efficiency we require an index page that clearly names the sheet and location number.
    - b. All file names will begin with an ePlan three digit number that flows in sequence. Example: 001, 002, 003, etc. IMPORTANT NOTE: The plan Cover Sheet must always begin with 001 and the Index Sheet must always begin with 002 (unless combined with the Cover Sheet).
    - c. The second part of the file name will be any alpha-numeric number you have assigned to each page. Example: <u>L1</u> Landscaping, <u>E1</u> Electrical, etc.
    - d. The third part of the file name will be the title that you have given each sheet. Example:

      Building Elevation Detail, Electrical Riser, Site Lighting, Foundation, etc.

### TIP!

Use a decimal to insert a plan page into the existing plans in the order you wish it to appear. Example:

001 CS Cover Sheet and Index

001.5 C.5 Inserted Page

002 C1 Site Plan

**Example**: Sheet names using the requested ePlan numerical sequence with your individual alphanumeric sheet # and sheet titles:

ePlan sequence number

Your Alpha-Numeric Sheet #

Your Sheet Title

O01 CS Cover Sheet and Index

O02 C1 Site Plan

File names cannot include special characters (i.e. @, %,\*#, etc.)

#### 2. Documents

- a. Documents that contain multiple pages (truss engineering, energy calculations, product approval forms, geotechnical reports, stormwater reports, etc) may be uploaded as multi-page PDF files and the file name shall indicate what the document is.
- b. Separate document types shall be uploaded as separate files. (cost breakdown sheet, application, energy calculation sheet, etc.).

#### B. File Type Standards

1. ONLY searchable PDF files are accepted for calculations, reports and other supporting plan documentation (non-drawing files). PDF's that are not searchable

and uploaded will result in rejection of the submission.

2. Both vector PDF and Design Web Format (DWF) files will be accepted for drawing files. Since AutoCAD software is commonly used to create drawing files, converting a DWG to a DWF, file-print, ready is the preferred secured file format. Files must be 2D DWF file-print ready. The DWF must be saved as Auto CAD version 10 or lower format. ePlan does not support 3D DWF files at this time.

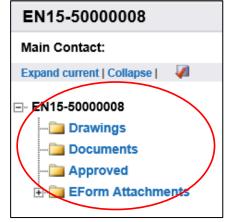
WHY VECTOR PDF'S?

Vector based PDF's can be scaled by any amount without any degrading image quality. It allows the plans to be reviewed in a much higher level of clarity on a computer screen.

3. If you choose to create PDF files, you will need to convert your AutoCAD files to a <u>Vector PDF</u>. It is recommended that drawings created in AutoCAD are converted to a Vector PDF within the AutoCAD program itself. In addition, the newest Adobe Acrobat (not the free version of Adobe Reader) will accommodate the creation of a Vector PDF.

#### C. Folder Structure Standards

- 1. All project application forms must be uploaded into the "Documents" folder for each project.
- 2. All drawings must be uploaded into the "Drawings" folder for each project.
- 3. All applications and supporting documents and any of their associated reports must be uploaded into the "Documents" folder for each project. Sample document types would be truss engineering, energy calculations, product approval forms, geotechnical reports, cost breakdown worksheet, reports, cotice of commencement, etc.

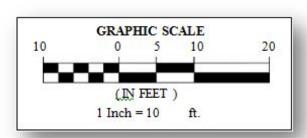


- 4. The "EForm Attachments" folder is not used for uploading files.
- 5. All approved plans and documents will be found in the Approved folder. Approved documents will have a City of San Angelo stamp affixed to them. This folder will also

contain the job placard, permit summary and any conditions of approval documents that need to be on site.

#### D. Graphic Scale Standards

- DWF, DWG and PDF plan pages should be properly oriented in landscape mode for efficient review.
- 2. Each sheet must have a typical graphic scale as shown in the image to the right.
- 3. When more than one scale is used on a sheet, an independent graphic scale must accompany the applicable detail.
- 4. All plans must be drawn to scale.



#### E. File Sheet Size and Orientation Standards

- 1. For planning projects, all drawing files must be drawn and formatted for a minimum horizontal 24" x 36" sheet file, except plats which are drawn to a 20"x24" sheet file.
- 2. For building permits, all drawing files must be drawn and formatted for a minimum horizontal 24" x 36" sheet file or horizontal 11" x 17" sheet file for smaller scale jobs (pool enclosures, pools, termite repairs, etc.).
- 3. Plan pages shall be properly oriented in landscape mode for an efficient review.

### V. Uploading Plan Drawings & Documents

A. When you have successfully logged in to ePlan, the Active Projects screen will display. Any projects for which you have access will display in this list. Any outstanding tasks that require your action are displayed in the Active Task List.

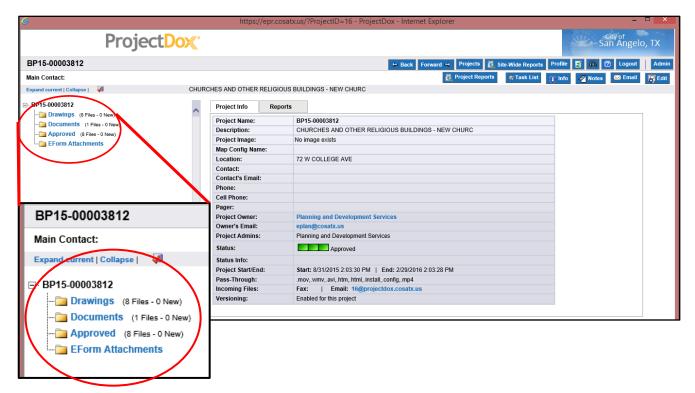
### TIP!

Please read this entire section before attempting to upload.

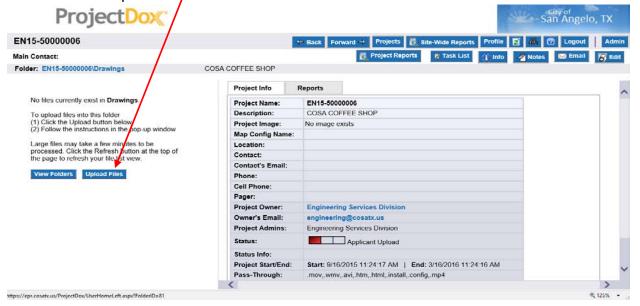
B. To access your project and upload your plans, you will need to select the specific project in the Active Project List by clicking on the project number. The projects are listed in order by application number ex. BP15-00001234. Prefixes with BP are Building Permits & Inspections, PL for Planning, & EN for Engineering projects.



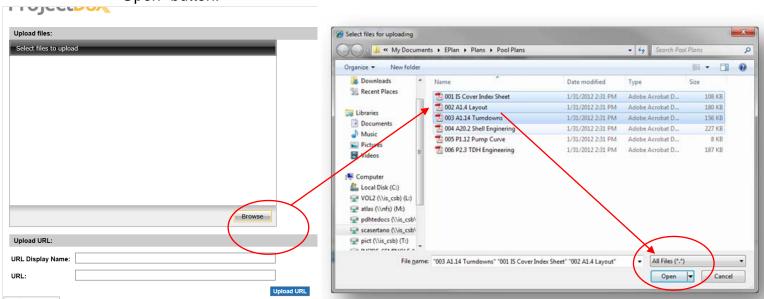
C. Click on the project number and you will see the project info screen:



D. Click the "Drawings" folder to upload your plans or the "Documents" folder to upload your Application and supporting plan documents for all forms related to the project application. Follow the prompts for uploading your plans and documents. Click the "Upload Files" button.

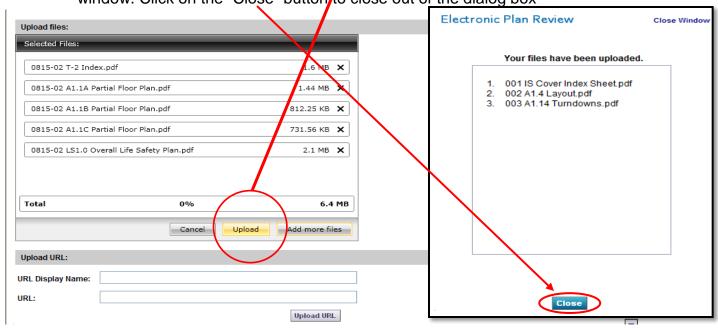


E. Select or browse to the file location on your computer. Select or highlight the files you want to upload; multiple files can be selected by using your Shift or Ctrl keys. Click the "Open" button.

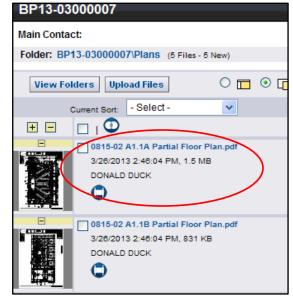


**Note:** City of San Angelo requires that all drawings be uploaded as individual files and saved in landscape format (horizontal orientation). See page 8, Plan File Type Standards, for how to name the drawings.

F. After reviewing the files, click the "Upload" button. The files will be copied to the upload window. Click on the "Close" button/to close out of the dialog box



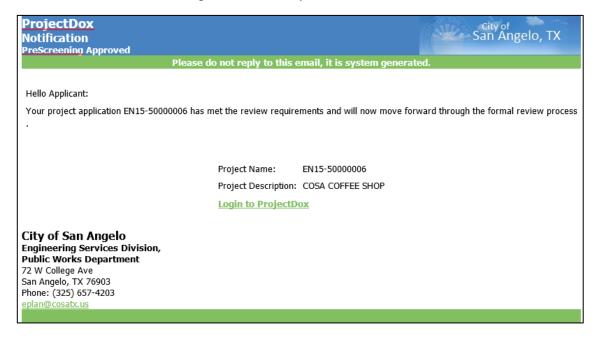
- G. Once files are uploaded to the folder(s), the folder list is populated with thumbnail images of each file contained in the folder. Under each thumbnail, the file name, author, date, and any relevant file icons are displayed.
- H. Once all documents and drawings have been uploaded, and you click on the "Complete" button, ProjectDox will automatically notify the prescreen reviewers.
- I. You have successfully finished part one of submitting your plans electronically.
- J. Please logout after your session is complete.



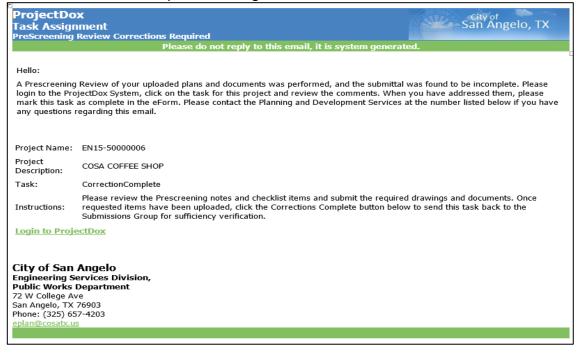
**NOTE:** For all Planning projects, fees must be paid either by phone or in person at the time of application submittal. For Building Permits & Inspections, all applicable fees must be paid by phone or in person before plans are stamped and permits can be issued; but, only after the plan or permit has been approved.

### VI. Prescreening/Completeness Check

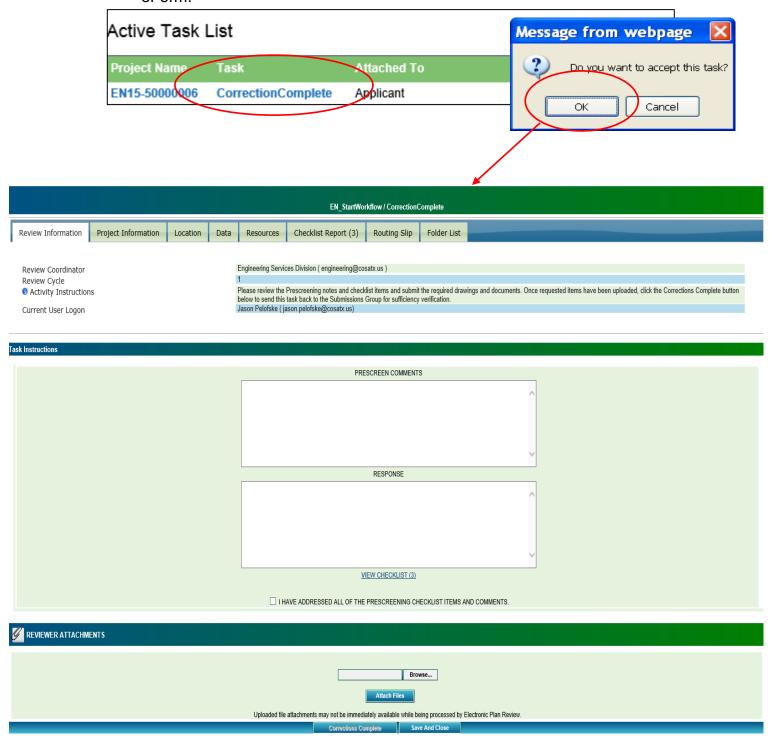
- A. Prescreening Has Been Approved
  - 1. If your submittal is approved, you will receive an e-mail and your project will continue through the ePlan system for review, as shown below.



- B. Prescreening Has Been Returned (Revisions Needed)
  - 1. If your submittal did not meet all of the requirements, you will receive an e-mail notification that prescreening has been denied and corrections are needed.

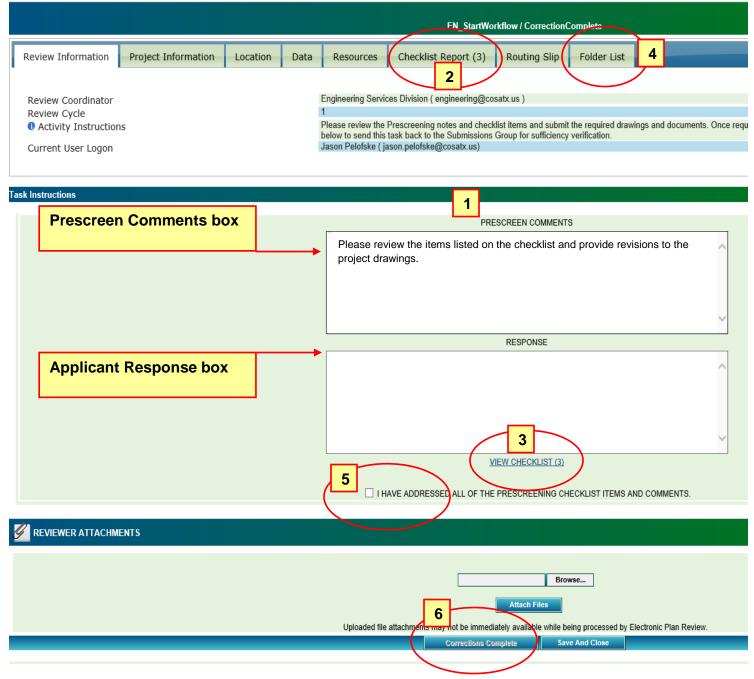


2. Login to Electronic Plan Review. Find the project and associated task in the Active Task List, click the "Correction Complete" task, and accept it and it will launch the eForm.



3. (1) Please review the "Prescreening Comments" under the "Task Instructions." You may type a response, if necessary, in the "Response" box. (2) Review the Checklist Items under the Checklist Report Tab or (3) View Checklist Hyperlink, if any. (4) Once you understand the corrections needed, upload the revised/corrected drawings and/or documents by going to the "Folder List" tab. (5) Once you are ready to submit and finish this step, check the box stating "I have addressed all if the prescreening checklist items and comments" and then (6) select the "Corrections Complete" button.

Note: The "Save and Close" button enables you to save your work without submitting.

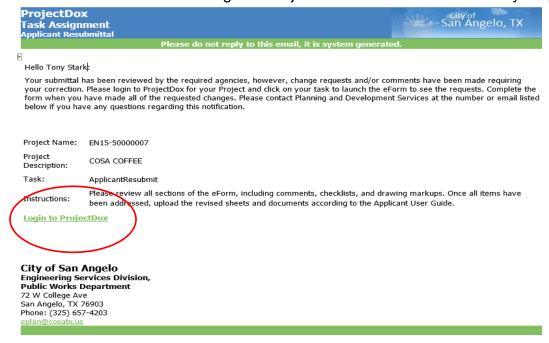


Once your project has met all the requirements for Prescreening/Completeness
Check you will be e-mailed letting you know that your project has moved on to the
formal review process.

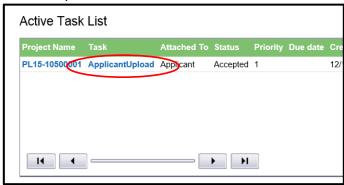


#### VII. Correction Items and Plan Resubmit

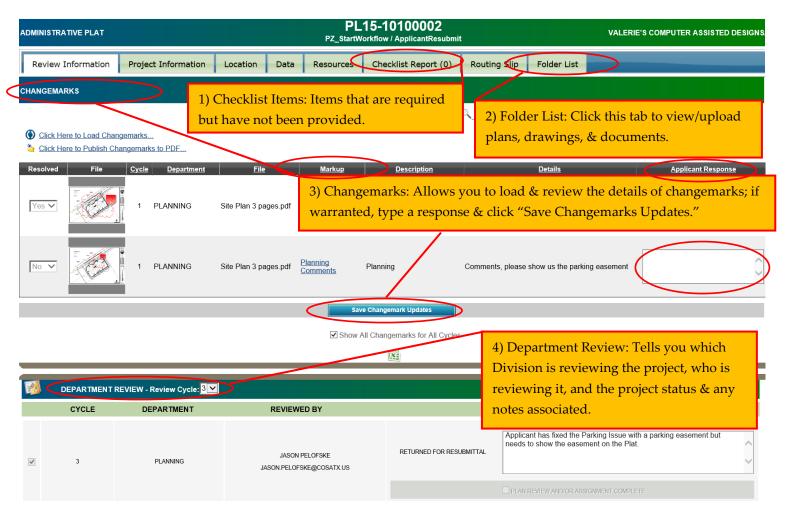
- A. Before the formal review process for your project is completed, correction items and/or review comments may require plan corrections or changes.
- B. You will receive an e-mail notification from the City requesting corrected plans and/or documents. Click the link "Login to ProjectDox" in the email to access your projects.



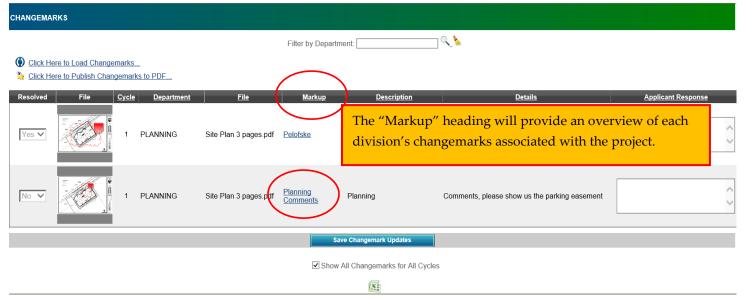
C. Once logged in, scroll down to the Active Task List and select "Applicant Upload" or "Applicant Resubmit." The question "Do you want to accept this task?" will launch. Select "OK" to accept it, and open the eForm.



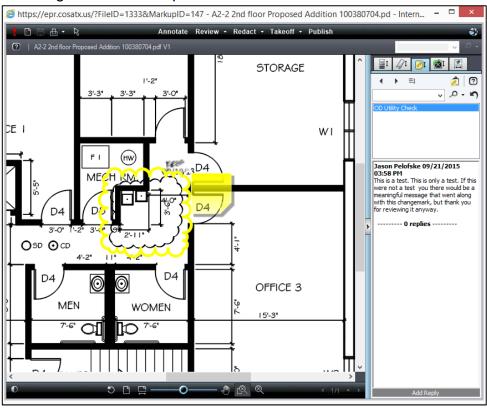
- D. The eForm has four sections that provide correction information. Make sure to review:
  - 1) Checklist Items, 2) Folder List, 3) Changemarks/Markups, & 4) Department Review.



- E. How to Open Files with Markups:
  - 1. The first way to open Markups is to go to the Active Task List, click "Applicant Resubmit," then click the link under the "Markup" heading to open the file that contains the changemarks.



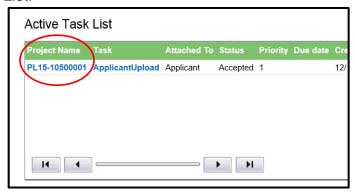
2. The Brava! viewer will launch only the selected Division's markups and display the changemarks that require revisions.



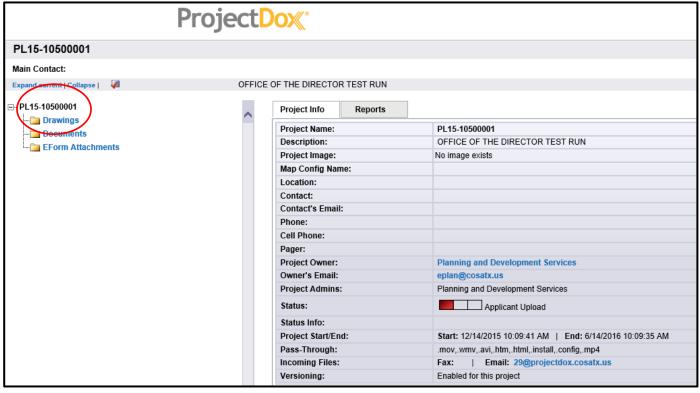
### 3. Markup and Changemark Color Standards

Project Group	Project Group Members	MarkupColor	Markup Name	Changemark Title/Issue	
Building Inspector	Building Inspector, Principal	Brown	BLDG-Initials	Title: Name of Issue Comment: Explanation of action needed	
	Combination Inspector	Brown			
Electrical Inspector	Electrical Inspector	Orange	ELEC-Initials	with citation	
	Building Inspector, Principal	Orange		Example:  Emergency Lights and Fire Extingusher  Fire Lane Width	
	Combination Inspector	Orange			
Mechanical Inspector	Mechanical Inspector	Black	MECH-Initials		
	Building Inspector, Principal	Black			
	Combination Inspector	Black			
Plumbing Inspector	Building Inspector, Sr	Teal	PLMB-Initials		
	Mechanical Inspector	Teal		Jason Pelofske 11/18/2015 02:34 PM Applicant needs to show Emergency Exit Lighting and either submit revisions showing Fire Extingushers Placement or submit plans for a sprinkler suppression system. IFC 213.223 sec 2; IFC 211.223 sec 1	
	Building Inspector	Teal			
Plans Examiner	Senior Plans Examiner	Yellow	EXAM-Initials		
	Plans Examiner	Yellow			
	Building Official	Yellow			
	Deputy Building Official	Yellow		l	
Permit Technician	Permit Technician	Pink	PERM-Initials		
	Building Official	Pink			
	Deputy Building Official	Pink			
	Senior Plans Examiner	Pink			
Engineer Stormwater	Stormwater Engineer	Blue	STORM-Initials		
	Project Engineer	Blue			
	City Engineer	Blue			
	Assistant City Engineer	Blue			
Engineer Streets	Project Engineer	Grey	STREET-Initials		
	City Engineer	Grey			
	Assistant City Engineer	Grey			
	Stormwater Engineer	Grey			
Engineer Utilities	Project Engineer	Green	UTIL-Initials		
	City Engineer	Green			
	Assistant City Engineer	Green			
	Stormwater Engineer	Green			
Fire Marshal	Fire Inspector	Red	FIRE-Initials		
	Fire Investigator	Red	FIRE-Initials		
	Fire Marshal	Red	FIRE-Initials		
Planning	Planner	Purple	PLAN-Initials		
	Planning Manager	Purple	PLAN-Initials		
Health Department	Health Inspector	Gold	HLTH- Initials		

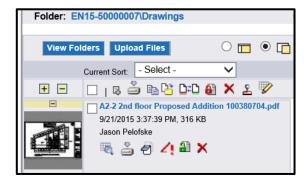
- a. Standard markup names and colors will be used for each reviewing agency for easy identification as shown on the previous page.
- b. A markup can have one or more changemarks.
- c. A changemark is a plan call-out created by review staff to quickly identify a markup and associated comments.
- d. Each agency changemark will be titled with an issue name for each sheet/file.
- 4. Another way to open markups is to select the project number from the "Active Task List."



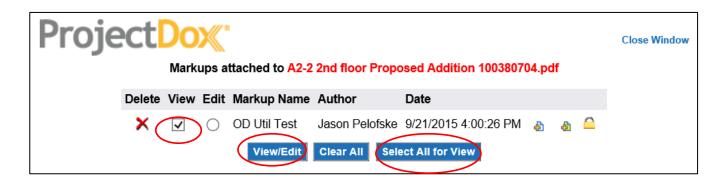
5. Select the "Drawings" folder once this screen loads:



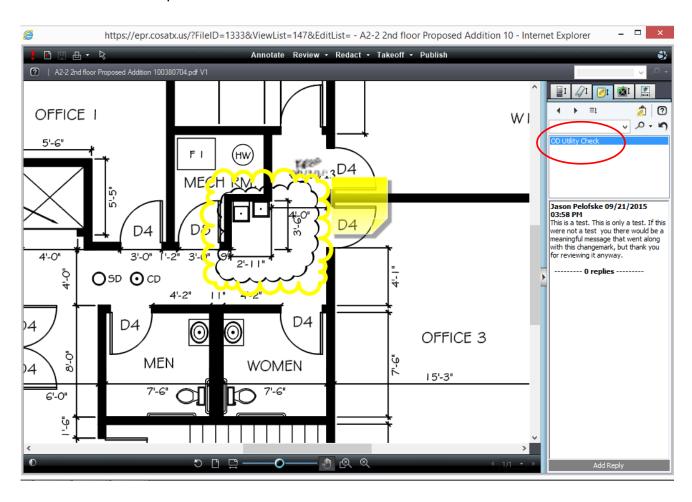
- 6. It will show all the drawings/plans associated with the project.
- If markups exist on the file a markup icon will be displayed.



8. Click the markups icon do open the list of markups attached to the file. To view the markups on the file, check the "View" box beside the markup name(s) and then click the "View/Edit" button. If there are multiple markups check all of the "View" boxes and click the "Select All for View".

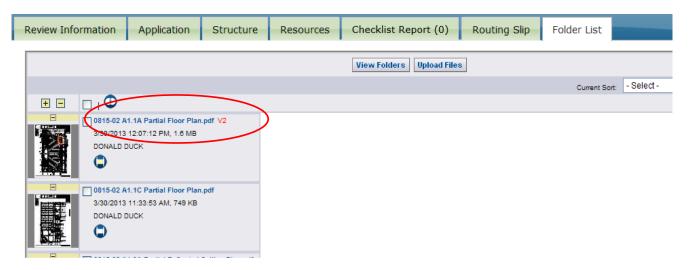


9. The Brava! viewer will launch and load the changemarks associated with the markups that have been selected to view.



#### VIII. Uploading Corrections

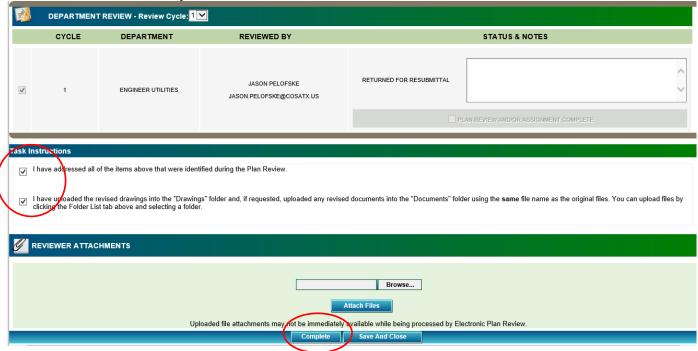
- A. When corrections have been made to the plans and/or documents you are ready to upload revisions.
- B. Revised plans and/or documents MUST be uploaded with the EXACT file name as the original submitted file. The system will automatically add a version number to the resubmitted plans and/or documents. If no changes were made to the file a new version will not be created.



- C. Verify all corrected plans and documents that have markups or comments have been corrected. Failure to submit corrected plans will result in the project being returned for corrections again.
- D. Applicant comments may be added in the "Applicant Response" box located in the "changemark" section of the eform. *Note: If you are submitting a narrative explaining the plan corrections, it should be submitted to the document folder and labeled as Plan Corrections Narrative.*

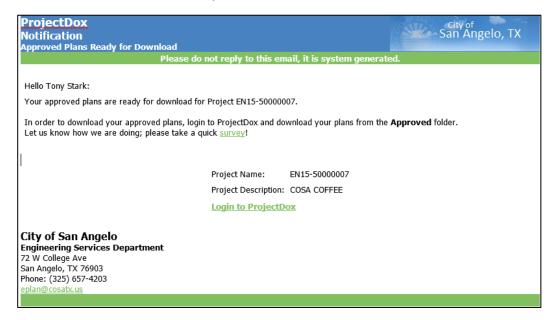


E. Once you have successfully uploaded plans and documents into the correct folders, scroll down to the "Task Instructions" section and check the boxes to confirm you have completed all tasks. Then Click the "Complete" button so the project can be forwarded back to the City.



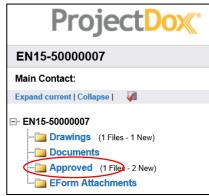
### IX. Approved Plans

A. When all agencies have approved the plans you will receive an e-mail notifying you that the review is complete.



### **Downloading Approved Plans/Files**

A. Click on Approved folder to view/download/print the files.



B. Check the "Select All" box and click the download button | to download the files.



