Expedited Processing of Certain City-Issued Development Permits If Projects Meet Specific Requirements and Project Applications Are Filed By Specified Professionals Who Have Received Required Training Pursuant to the New Program; Program Includes Audits of Approved Permits and Appeals of Certain Denied Permits and Adverse Certification Actions of the Specified Professionals to Newly Created Appeals Board and to the City Council

The proposed initiative would add a new chapter to the Oxnard City Code that would set up a streamlined permit review and approval process for certain projects that meet specific criteria.

In order for the streamlined process to be utilized, applications would need to be filed by specified licensed professionals (including architects and civil engineers) who have completed an authorized training program. This training program would include information regarding the program, the process for examining plans for compliance with the City’s building codes and other applicable laws pertaining to public health and safety, and the administrative aspects of permit processing for which the professional will be responsible when certifying plans.

The proposed initiative outlines a detailed process for project application submittal, including attachments. Upon receipt of the application, the City Building Official is to verify that all necessary items have been submitted and all necessary pre-approvals have been obtained. If that has occurred, then the Building Official is to accept the project into the program and notify the applicant and their professional who has been trained in the program within one business day thereafter.

If the Building Official determines that the plans require minor corrections to bring the plans into compliance with City building codes and other applicable regulations, then the Building Official is to inform the applicant and their professional who has been trained in the program within one business day.

If the Building Official determines that the program requirements have not been met, then the application shall be rejected and the applicant and the professional notified within one business day. Projects rejected from the program can be processed through the City’s standard permit application process or the applicant can appeal the denial to the Building Board of Appeals.

Once a determination has been made that all the requirements have been met, the Building Official is to issue a permit for the project.
The proposed initiative includes procedures for auditing plans that have been submitted into the program. If issues are discovered, then the professional who has been trained in the program can be issued a warning and eventually suspended from the program or permanently removed. Adverse audit results, suspensions or revocations are subject to appeal to the Building Board of Appeals and the City Council.

*Word Count: 437 [Maximum of 500 words]*