

CivCheck — Honolulu's AI Pre-Screening Tool Cuts Building-Permit Review Times by More Than Half

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting built CivCheck, an AI pre-screener for residential permits. DPP data show review times fell from 73 to 32.5 days and corrections per permit dropped 67%; the tool won a 2026 AI 50 Award and became mandatory in August 2026.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-15

[Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting \(DPP\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-15

[Honolulu Launches AI-Assisted Fast-Track Permit Review — GovTech](#) — accessed 2026-08-15

[Honolulu launches AI tool to simplify permit applications — Hawaii News Now](#) — accessed 2026-08-15

[How Honolulu leveraged AI to cut permit review times in half — HousingWire](#) — accessed 2026-08-15

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