Livewire

waited consultant's report for the grand jury concludes that more than \$80,000 could be saved every year and a month haved off the time builders wait for permits from the County Planning department. Paperwork should be streamined, instructions to builders made clearer and layoffs staggered rather than closing the entire department every fifth week, the consultant concluded.

Earlier this year the Board of Supervisors grumbled when the grand jury asked for \$30,000 to pay for the study while the money-hungry County was already doing its own audit of planning practices. Those grumbles were fueled, in part, by the extensive connections between this grand jury and the real estate, development and construction industry. — BJ

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