



Legislation Text

File #: 22-105, **Version:** 1

A Resolution establishing the Citywide Development Impact Fees for specific land uses as required by City Code Section 7.5.1904

Presenter:

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Summary:

The Resolution establish the initial amount of the Police and Fire Protection Capital Expansion Impact Fees (Police and Fire Impact Fees) by land use. City Code § 7.5.1901, et seq. establishes Citywide Development Impact Fees, which includes a Police Capital Expansion Fee and a Fire Protection Capital Expansion Fee. City Code §§ 7.5.1902 and 1903 require City Council to establish the initial amount of any Citywide Development Impact Fees, subject to annual adjustment. The Impact Fees will replace the current Police and Fire Annexation fees.

Background:

After the Banning Lewis Ranch Amended and Restated Annexation Agreement was complete, it was observed by the City Auditor's Office, in Report 18-05, that "The proposed police and fire fees described in the Agreement were not defined in City Code. Current fees imposed through annexation agreements do not cover the full cost of land acquisition, construction, and initial outfitting of the required police and fire stations." The Report contained a Recommendation, which stated that City Management should develop a clear policy and methodology for calculation of police and fire fees for incorporation into City Code and obtain Council approval for related City Code changes.

To accomplish this, the City contracted with TischlerBise (a fiscal, economic, and planning consultant) to conduct a study to determine the appropriate level of fee needed to fund capital infrastructure for the City's Police and Fire Departments. As new development is created within the City, it necessitates increased capacity for emergency services response. It is the purpose of this part to require the payment of Police and Fire Impact Fees whenever new developments are constructed or existing developments are converted to a more intensive use. The fees will fund capital improvements that provide additional capacity to the Police and Fire Departments, they will not be used to replace existing facilities. The fees recommended by the study are proportional to the burdens on the City's police and fire services created by the new development. The fees are a one-time payment for growth-related public safety infrastructure.

The current Police and Fire Annexation fee is required of annexations via annexation agreements. The annexation fee is calculated based on gross-acre area and is collected at recordation of annexation, or plat, or deferred to building permit, depending on the annexation agreement. The fee is adjusted annually for construction inflation.

The new Police and Fire Impact Fees will apply to all new development and redevelopment city-wide. For residential development it will be calculated on a per unit basis, using tiers which group the development based on residential density. For non-residential development it will be calculated on a per square foot basis, using tiers which group the development based on intensity of use. The fee will be collected at building permit and will be adjusted annually for construction inflation. The Impact Fees are set at a 70% cost recovery level, which is the High-cost recovery category per the City's User Fee Policy and in recognition that the City already has in place a dedicated Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST). The Ordinance also allows credits to be applied for land dedication, previous annexation payments, and for the current use of the property. For example, if a property is being redeveloped from industrial to retail, the amount of fee will be calculated based on the retail use, then the amount will be calculated for the current industrial use and subtracted from the retail fee, to determine the net amount of fee that is required.

The Police and Fire Impact Fees are authorized by separate Ordinance, which is a companion item to this Resolution.

Previous Council Action: N/A

Financial Implications:

Revenue generated by the Police and Fire Impact Fees will be dependent on development activity. As development activity increases, there will be more revenue collected by the application of the Police and Fire Impact Fee, and as development activity decreases, the revenue collected will decrease. Based on development activity at the 2021 level, it is anticipated that the Police and Fire Impact Fees could produce approximately \$4.5 million annually.

Stakeholder Process:

The Police and Fire Impact Fees were presented to the Housing and Building Association's Policy Committee and representatives multiple times in 2020, 2021. The Police and Fire Impact Fees were presented to the representatives from the Housing and Building Association's Policy Committee, Downtown Development Authority Board, the Colorado Springs Chamber/EDC, the Colorado Association of General Contractors, and the Pikes Peak Area Realtors multiple times in 2022.

City Council Appointed Board/Commission/Committee Recommendation:

Ordinance was discussed with the City Council Budget Committee on February 8 and June 14, 2022. This Ordinance will be discussed with the City Planning Commission on June 16, 2022.

Alternatives: City Council could change or not approve the fee.

Proposed Motion:

Move approval of the Resolution establishing the Citywide Development Impact Fees for specific land uses as required by City Code Section 7.5.1904

N/A