



Legislation Text

File #: 19-725, **Version:** 1

A Resolution to amend Resolution No. 94-19 increasing the 2019 Sand Creek Drainage Basin Fee

Presenter:

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Summary:

The Colorado Springs/El Paso County Drainage Board, at their July 11, 2019 meeting, approved an increase of \$124.00 per acre to the drainage fee for the Sand Creek Drainage Basin. The existing 2019 drainage fee for this basin is \$12,673.00 per acre. The new drainage fee proposed for this basin would be \$12,797.00 per acre.

Background:

Action by the Drainage Board to increase the Sand Creek basin fee to cover additional drainage basin costs represents a common practice used by the Drainage Board to cover unanticipated additional drainage facility costs in new subdivision development. Unanticipated costs can be described as costs not shown in the Drainage Basin Planning Study for the drainage basin and/or costs that were not included in the original fee calculation for the basin.

The Drainage Board's action to increase the drainage fee originated with a request by Powers and Airport, LLC, the developer for Westgate and Powers Filing No. 1. Improvements were constructed for Reach CT-1 of Center Tributary Sand Creek as identified in the Drainage Basin Planning Study for the Sand Creek Drainage Basin. The estimated cost of the improvements in the Sand Creek Drainage Basin Planning Study was \$538,879.00 (adjusted for inflation). The actual construction cost of \$1,329,929.31 exceeded the estimated cost by \$791,053.31. This fee increase is intended to cover the excess cost for the reimbursable improvements.

Previous Council Action:

On October 8, 2019, the City Council approved Resolution No. 94-19 increasing the 2019 Sand Creek Drainage Basin Fee. This resolution set the drainage fee for the Sand Creek basin at \$12,673.00 per acre.

Financial Implications:

Drainage fees are paid by developers and are used to reimburse other developers who construct drainage improvements. These basin fees are not utilized by the City of Colorado Springs for drainage infrastructure, maintenance or improvements. Instead, the fees are used to help offset the costs that developers incur to build public infrastructure that is beyond their obligation. The increase in the drainage fee should help preserve the financial integrity of this drainage basin. The revenue and expenditures for drainage fees are tracked in a separate fund. There is no impact to the General Fund.

City Council Appointed Board/Commission/Committee Recommendation:

At their July 11, 2019 meeting, the Colorado Springs/El Paso County Drainage Board approved an increase of \$124.00 per acre to the drainage fee for the Sand Creek Drainage Basin.

The City Council Budget Committee has reviewed this fee change at the meeting on November 21, 2019.

Stakeholder Process:

There was no public comment on the item presented at the Drainage Board meeting.

Alternatives:

Leave the drainage fee for the Sand Creek basin at its current amount. This could result in the fee being too low to cover all of the reimbursable drainage facility costs in the basin.

Proposed Motion:

Move to approve the resolution to increase the per acre drainage fee in the Sand Creek Drainage Basin by \$124.00, from \$12,673.00 per acre to \$12,797.00 per acre.

N/A