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Bonita plans to charge new development more

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Building in Bonita Springs is going to cost more beginning in November.

The City Council approved an impact fee study today that is the first step in changing what the city charges developers. Impact fees are a one-time charge to new development.

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A single-family home would cost \$8,211 in fees, up from \$5,647.

A shopping center less than 500,000 square feet cost \$11,451 per 1,000 feet, instead of the existing \$9,626.

The increased fees come as a time when Bonita's development is tapering off. The city expects to earn \$1.6 million in impact fees during the 2007-08 fiscal year, about half of what was generated during the current budget cycle.

The council unanimously approved the study, after a brief presentation, and intends to hold two public hearings next month. The new fees would go into effect on Nov. 15.

<< [Back](#)