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Published Wednesday, August 17, 2005

Bartow Approves New Home Fees

By Suzie Schottelkotte

The Ledger

BARTOW -- The price of an average new house in Bartow grew by \$1,254 on Monday night when city commissioners approved a new construction fee to cover recreation expenses.

And the commission isn't stopping there. It also gave preliminary approval to impact fees for roads and public facilities, totaling \$1,755, on new homes averaging 1,800 square feet of living space.

Combined, the bottom line for a new house in Bartow could increase \$3,009 by the end of September -- \$1,254 for recreation, \$1,050 for roads and \$705 for public facilities, like police and fire services.

Larger homes will carry a heftier fee, and similar fees will be charged to most commercial construction for roads and public services.

For example, developers of a drive-through restaurant will pay \$7,003 in transportation impact fees and another \$3,611 for public facilities if the measure receives final approval.

No one spoke against the ordinance at Monday's meeting.

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