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Cape looks to up the cost of building

Patrick Flanary

Last updated on: 5/8/2006 6:22:30 AM

CAPE CORAL: The cost of building in the Cape could soon go up - for public safety reasons.

Every home builder already pays what is known as a "Fire Only" fee of more that \$300. But the city is looking to charge much more.

A new "Public Safety" impact fee of just over \$1,200 will be discussed on Monday. The idea is to keep the city's rapidly growing population safer with more resources.

Flames swept through Greg Alspaugh's home last month. Fire crews say dry and windy conditions took it out of their control.

Still it's a loss for his family.

The Alspaugh's say they plan to rebuild their home in the same spot. That means they'd be responsible for paying the impact fees again.

The new fee would pay for supplies police and firefighters need most. The money would also help pay to tear down the main police and fire station off Nicholas Parkway and rebuild a bigger one.

City leaders say it's the only real way to make an impact on citizens' safety.



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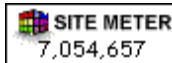
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