

7513 Nashville Street, Ringgold, GA

March 23, 2005

We update our Web site often. Please refresh your browser.

NWGA
careers.com

Search jobs locally, statewide, and nationally in one place.
 Begin searching for your new career today!

Northwest Georgia Careers



**Achievement
Center Online**

**NORTHWEST
Georgia**
BUSINESS CARD GUIDE
CLICK HERE

Committee gathering data for impact fee study

03/21/05

Randall Franks

[Respond to this story](#)

[Email this story to a friend](#)

The Catoosa County Impact Fee Advisory Committee will "work together to get everyone on the same page" about impact fees, according to Don Hutelin, committee chairman.



Bill Clark

The committee, recently appointed by Catoosa County Board of Commissioners chairman Bill Clark, held its first meeting March 14 at the Catoosa County Courthouse.

"We are anxious to get the program under way so that the current residents will not be taxed to provide the infrastructure of the new people coming in," Clark said before the meeting.

Impact fees are charged to developers to offset the costs of infrastructure, such as roads, sewers and water, required by the development.

The committee will work as a liaison between the county government and Bill Ross & Associates, Clark said.

Ross & Associates, a consulting firm, is conducting an \$118,000 study on the feasibility of impact fees for the county. Commissioners approved the study in November.

"The purpose is to make sure he (Ross) gets what he needs," Hutelin said.

"We are a long way from fees," Hutelin said.

Under state guidelines, the committee includes a builder, developer and real estate agent, while residents fill the remaining positions, Hutelin said.

Other members of the committee are Jerry Hawthorne, Eddie Floyd, Sherman Smith, Ron McKelvy, Emory White and Marilyn Helms.

Hutelin stressed that the committee has no authority over whether the county eventually implements the fees. That decision is in the

Messenger

Search tips Advanced

Features

[Local TV Listings](#)

hands of commissioners based on the recommendations of the consultant, he said.

"The key is for the county to stay within the box (current law)," he said. "The whole idea for having the consultant is to have the county stay within the box."

Ron Brown, assistant county manager, said county department heads have already met with the consultant and are now beginning the process of providing the information the study requires.

Get all the local news and sports with a subscription to The Catoosa County News. To subscribe [CLICK HERE](#)

An Economic Growth and Equity Committee was established by the county in December 2003 to review the viability of implementing impact fees or other measures to maintain infrastructure. The committee finished compiling its recommendations on March 31, 2004, which suggested the study be pursued.

The committee decided that impact fees may be a viable source of needed revenue that could assist in funding future capital projects that are associated with the county's future population growth.

Additionally, other sources of revenue might be generated via changes in fees and ordinances that might also be recommended and utilized in addition to, and in coordination with, impact fees. The other sources could include additional storm water fees and county and city business and contractor licenses, the committee's report said.

Finally, the county's growth rate is now critical, and commissioners should act with prudence and haste to address county growth, the committee suggested.

©2004 [MyWebPal.com](#). All rights reserved.

Contact us at webmaster@mywebpal.com

All other trademarks and Registered trademarks are property of their respective owners.