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City to raise impact fees

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BRADENTON - Developers looking to start new construction within the city will have to dig deeper into their pockets to cover increased utility impact fees approved Wednesday by city officials, but some say the fees will be passed unfairly to future homeowners.

With developments lining up to build thousands of new homes within city limits, the sewer and water facilities are projected to need more than \$21 million worth of expansions. In anticipation of the costs, the city contracted an engineering firm to study what the city's water and sewer systems would need in order to function with added growth.

The new fees start Aug. 1 and apply to building permits applied for on that day or later, and fees are assessed by each water or sewer fixture a new home will have. The impact fee for a water fixture in a new home increased by 43 percent to \$43.58. Sewer fixtures took a 167 percent jump to \$81.34. An average home has 19 fixtures.

Current utility customers will not see increased costs to their bills.

-For more on this story, read The Herald on Thursday.

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