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## County weighs using developer fees to bolster affordable housing

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Palm Beach County commissioners on Tuesday will decide whether to use the interest the county earns on impact fees it collects from developers to pay for improvements in affordable housing projects.

Commissioners tentatively approved the idea in August. County administrators will ask the seven-member board for final approval on Tuesday.

The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and will be held at the county's governmental center, 301 N. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach.

More than 100 members of P.E.A.C.E. — People Engaged in Active Community Efforts — are expected to attend the meeting and urge commissioners to approve the measure.

Under the plan, the county could use the interest earned on impact fees to help pay for roads, parks and public buildings inside affordable housing projects.

In Palm Beach County, developers pay about \$10,000 in impact fees to the county to build a moderately sized single-family home. The fees are used to pay for improvements — like roads, parks and services — needed to support the new development.

County administrators say the county already has plans to spend the impact fee interest it expects to earn for the next several years. It would likely be 2015 before interest is available for affordable housing projects.

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