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County Suspends Annual Building Fee Increases

by Chris Andis, published on November 15, 2011 at 5:13 PM

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Sacramento County Supervisors have voted to suspend the automatic annual fee adjustments for several development impact fee programs.

"As part of our ongoing effort to encourage business and job opportunities, and improve the local economy, we have held back automatic fee increases on new building projects. This will help new projects get started, help create jobs and add to the economic recovery of the Sacramento region," said Roberta MacGlashan, Chair of the Board. "This will be the fourth consecutive year we've suspended increases as we continue to develop ways to improve the stability and growth of our region."

The programs affected are:

- Antelope, North Vineyard Station, Vineyard and Mather Field Plan Area Fee Programs
- Eight local Recreation and Park Districts' Park Fee Programs
- Sacramento County Water Agency Zone 11A, Zone 11B, Zone 11C and the Supplemental Drainage Fee for the Vineyard Springs area.

Cumulatively, without suspending these fee increases for four years, there would have been a 12.1% increase in the fees. In addition, the Board extended the temporary reduction in fee rates for several fee components in the North Vineyard Station Fee program for an additional two years, with a new sunset date of December 31, 2013. This will continue the reductions approved last year. The Roadway fee is reduced by 17.5%, the Frontage Lane Fee is reduced by 38.3% and the Library Fee is reduced by 1.8%.

The County has been working with the North State Building Industry Association (BIA) to comprehensively review all fee programs in an effort to address the systematic change that has occurred in the market place and put systems in place to move the economy forward. The working group has achieved significant fee reductions in some areas without compromising construction standards. Suspending fee increases will contribute to economic recovery by lowering the costs so that it will be more likely for projects to develop in this economic climate.

"As partners, Sacramento County and the BIA are working together to address the ever changing market environment. Through the County's leadership we are creating an environment which not only improves the stability and growth in Sacramento County, but will also translate into job creation," John Costa, Senior Legislative Advocate, BIA.

Disclosure: Media Officer with Sacramento County

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Davi Rodrigues

November 15, 2011 | 7:59 PM

I have little respect for the county fees right now, since the board of supervisors waived the fees for a county employee who built a whole house without paying them, and when caught asked for and got off



with not only not being fined , but got a severe reduction for a "hardship". Hard for me to take these fees seriously when the administration practices corruption like that. Shouldn't the county be waiving everyones fees and reducing the amount required all across the board?

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