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Lee commission delays impact fee hearing

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Written by news-press.com

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The Lee County Commission on Tuesday delayed a public hearing to raise impact fees for parks and lower them for schools and most emergency services until April 10.

Commissioner Ray Judah asked to push back a public hearing on the matter from March 13 to April 10. He said to allow the sustainability committee to make a recommendation. That committee advises the commission on sustainable growth.

The county's Local Planning Agency recommended Monday the commission suspend the impact fees for two years. That recommendation aimed to jump start construction and the local economy, authorities said.

The county collects impact fees from contractors who build new structures. Contractors, in turn, usually pass along those fees to homebuyers and other end users.

Commissioner Brian Bigelow said Judah's recommendation to bring impact fees in front of the sustainability committee was an unusual step that constituted a policy change by the commission.



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