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Plano considering hike in impact fees

By **Linda Schweitzer**
 SPECIAL TO THE BEACON NEWS

PLANO — Plano City Council members are considering raising the city's impact fees to accommodate new development and increased population in the community.

Tom Karpus, director of Building, Zoning and Planning, brought the matter to the council this week, suggesting the current \$1,500 per new dwelling that developers pay is low compared to neighboring communities.

"I think the city could double it or even go 150 percent, and we would be in line with other communities," Karpus said. "The community to the immediate north of us recently raised theirs from \$4,000 to somewhat higher. I think \$3,000 per new dwelling would put us in the ballpark."

Alderman Scott Mulliner suggested the council "have a survey done on what we need to arrive at a number and not just pick one."

"I have a problem sending that to the committee without having some sort of survey done on what we actually need in line with the projected growth," Mulliner said.

"I think we should be arriving at our own numbers."

Karpus said there will be two annexation hearings coming before the city in the next month.

"It might me nice to get these (impact fees) put into place so that we're covering the developments that are coming through the door," he said.

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The current impact fee of \$1,500 is paid by the developer for each new home and is divided among public works, streets, water and sewer, and police and fire departments.

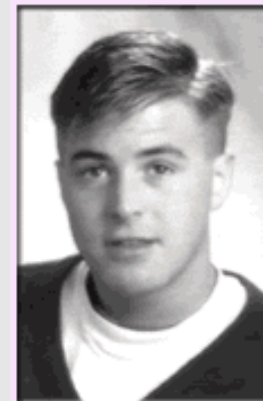
"I don't know that the fees have been raised since they were originally done," Karpus said. "I know in my nine years with the city, it hasn't happened."

Alderman Fred Butler said Building and Zoning Committee members would discuss the impact fees and bring it to the council at a later date.

03/31/06



They got Married?!

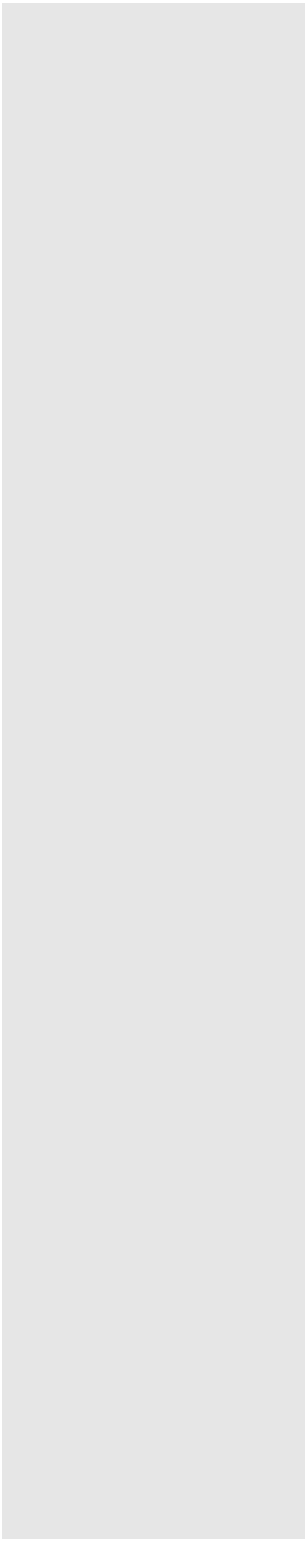


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