

DAILY NEWS

Red Bluff fee suspension aims to bring development, jobs

By TANG LOR -DN Staff Writer

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Today marks a new year-long celebration of growth and development in the city of Red Bluff.

With the implementation of the Development Impact Fee Suspension and Deferral Holiday, which commences at 8:01 a.m. today, they City Council is hoping people will be lining up at the Building Department service counter in City Hall with plans to start hacking away at vacant lots.

Under the suspension and deferral program, projects would qualify for fee suspension or deferral depending on the size of the lot on which a development is planned.

Fees are being suspended for projects in the freeway commercial and the general apartment-professional zones for one year.

In all other zones, for properties smaller than 3 acres, fees are suspended for one year. For those over 3 acres, fees will be deferred until the project is complete. The fee will have to be paid in full before occupancy.

Development impact fees are levied on new projects to help pay for costs that result from growth and are not on the site of the project. The funds are used by the city to pay for facilities and equipment that are needed to accommodate growth.

With implementation of the temporary fee policy the city stands to lose an estimated \$1 million on projects that have already been identified. Those projects are the Holiday Inn, a 56-unit apartment complex near Vista Way and 60 single family homes on Walnut Street.

Ridding development impact fees for a year is expected to help spur growth and development and is the best thing for job stimulus, Councilman Wayne Brown has said.

Brown and Councilwoman Daniele Jackson were appointed to a development impact fee adhoc committee. The committee was created by the council Tuesday at the request of Red Bluff Rebound to examine the city's overall development impact fee policy.

Rebound members Brian Ramsey and Charlie Wright and a Red Bluff-Tehama County Chamber of Commerce representative will be a part of the committee.

For information on the Development Impact Fee Suspension and Deferral Holiday, including specific requirements for qualification, call the city at 527-2605.

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