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Cape utility connection fee payments extended

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CAPE CORAL, Fla. - People living in Cape Coral are getting a break on the high fees to connect to city utilities.

Residents are facing an impact fee of several thousand dollars to hook up to city sewer and water; but city officials say because of the economy, many people can't afford to do that right now.

Financing was offered over six years, but only with a 15 percent down payment, and only if done within a 180 day time limit.

"What tipped the scale is I met with this very, very nice family on Tuesday who informed me unequivocally, they really want to connect, they just can't do this 15 percent down," said Cape Coral Financial Services Director Mark Mason.

Now, the city has decided to drop the down payment requirement, and extend financing offers to people who've passed the time limit cut-off.

The new fee plan starts immediately, and includes all areas where utilities are complete or still being installed.

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