

Fees for some new homes may be lowered in Willows

By Staff Reports

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WILLOWS — Fees charged for building new homes in Willows will likely be less after the City Council approves a development impact fee schedule.

The first reading of a resolution that revises the existing impact fee schedule was read by title only and approved unanimously by the four members present.

As City Manager Steve Holsinger explained it, the new fee schedule came about during revision of the existing ordinance, when a "minor" calculation error was noticed relating to park impacts.

A correction was made, which reduces the previously approved fee schedule by about \$882. The new fee for a single-family residence will be \$10,840. The fee approved last year was \$11,722.

The council also approved the first reading of the revised ordinance governing development impact fees.

In reviewing the history behind the ordinance, Holsinger said the council initially approved a study related to development impact fees in May 2008.

After that approval, staff had to create a map of exempt areas within the city, revise the outdated ordinance to implement a new fee structure and expand the existing fee zones to incorporate all of the city.

Staff delayed presenting the revised ordinance until now because it updated all the municipal codes for placement on the city's Web site. Holsinger said.

Both the ordinance and resolution will go before the council once more for approval before the new fees are effective.