Mesa's cultural impact fees under fire

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- By: MaryEllen Resendez

MESA, AZ - A fee in Mesa is under fire as attorneys take the city to court.

The Goldwater Institute is challenging Mesa's impact fee on new development.

"We were challenging one of those fees, a fee for cultural facilities that all of the people of Mesa should be paying for not just new homeowners," said Clint Bolick, Litigation Director with the Goldwater Institute.

Last July a Maricopa County Superior Court Judge ruled in favor of the city stating the fees were legal, but the Goldwater Institute is appealing that decision.

"The legislature has given the city very limited authority to make development pay its own way. But not to impose on new home buyers a special taxes for thing that the whole community benefits from." said Bolick, "They should be limited to things like fire protection, police protection water sewers and not be extended to things like art museums."

The Goldwater Institute argued their case today in a court of appeals, but a decision isn't expected for another 6 months.

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Nothing new for the good ole boys of Mesa, remember when they wanted "everyone else" to pay for their B-ball stadium!!

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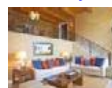
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