

Cary prepares for impact hike hearing

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By: Deborah Tuff

CARY, N.C. -- Rex Bost owns Cary-Based Bost Custom Homes.

In office, he looked over plans for a luxury home he's building. But like many of the houses he's built, that one isn't in Cary.

"Bost Custom homes has only pulled one permit to build a home in Cary in the last seven years," he explained. "We've been outside the area where the developers have been kind of forced to move."

He adds that the impact fees -- a fee placed on developers to cover road, water, and sewage -- are way too high.

"If I pay a significant impact fee than obviously I have to just add that to our cost and the cost of our home just goes up," Bost said.

And now the town of Cary is considering raising impact fees again.

"We have to keep in mind the recession that we're in, we have to keep in mind the escalating cost for infrastructure and figure out exactly what the right balance is, that's what the council has been doing," said Cary spokesperson Susan Moran.

As it stands now in Cary, on a standard 2,500 sq. foot single family home, a developer will be charged \$1,684 to install water lines.



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At max if the new fees are implemented they could be charged up to \$2,406. Officials could also raise sewer development fees by 75 percent. These numbers aren't set in stone as the council waits to hear from the public.

"It's a complex situation," admitted Moran. "It's tough and that's why the council looks at it every few

Still Bost has a solution.

"If the governments ran their companies as the private sectors did, they'd be much more efficient with how they use the revenues," he said.

There will be a public hearing held on March 27 in the Cary Council Chambers.

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