City of Santa Rosa



Legislation Details

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Title: PUBLIC HEARING - REVISED 2014 WATER AND WASTEWATER DEMAND FEES

BACKGROUND: Demand fees are the one-time fees charged for new service connections to the City's water and wastewater systems. The fees are intended to recover costs attributable to new development. In 2012, the City of Santa Rosa retained The Reed Group, Inc. to update the Demand Fees previously adopted in 2007. Based upon a comprehensive review and update, the Board of Public Utilities (Board), City staff, and the consultant recommend revising the fee basis to a 'System Buy In' approach. New data was incorporated based on revised building code and landscape installation standards for new development that have been adopted since 2007 to determine peak demand. These changes result in the recommended fees being significantly lower than fees established by the previous study. Because the impact of lower fees is significant for new development, the Board recommends that Council add a provision to the sewer ordinance and water resolution that persons or entities paying demand fees beginning August 7, 2014 (the date the Board determined to recommend the proposed revised demand fees) and ending when the ordinance and/or resolution take effect may apply to the Director of Utilities for an administrative adjustment of the fees in accordance with the fees established by the adopted ordinance and resolution.

In addition, changes are recommended to Table 15-1 of Chapter 15 of the City Code to incorporate current flow data into the Commercial, Industrial and Institutional demand fee calculation factors.

Finally, proposed amendments to City Code Sections 15-16.030 (C) and 15-16.050 will allow wastewater demand fees to be paid per Title 21 of the City Code per the City's Aggressive Economic Development Policy. This proposed amendment makes wastewater demand fees consistent with all other Development Impact Fees regarding time of payment.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the Board of Public Utilities and the Department of Utilities that Council, by resolution, adopt the revised water demand fees and re-adopt the annual escalator and introduce an ordinance adopting the revised wastewater demand fees, re-adopting the annual escalator and making related revisions to the City Code.

Sponsors:

Indexes: Not a Project

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Staff Report, 2. Attachment 1, 3. Attachment 2, 4. Resolution, 5. Ordinance, 6. Presentation PDF, 7.

Ordinance - Corrected

Date Ver. Action By Action Result