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Group fights impact fees

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LEESBURG

A political action group called for the rollback of impact fees on Wednesday and plans to address the Lake County Board of County Commissioners later this month.

Citizens for Better Government, L.L.C., headed by Leesburg businessman Donald Magruder, said the group feels strongly that the commission should also take any increases in impact fees off the agenda.

"We feel that there should be no discussion on raising impact fees," Magruder said.

The commission is scheduled to vote on a proposal to raise road impact fees for most single-family homes from \$2,189 to \$11,396 on Aug. 21.

The county has based its reasoning for the proposed increase on an impact-fee study by Tindale-Oliver & Associates and the rising construction cost of road projects.

Magruder, a lumber-company executive, opposes the increase and said the Citizens for Better Government wants officials to reduce school impact fees from \$7,055 to \$3,489 and transportation impact fees by 50 percent.

Martin E. Comas, Stephen Hudak and Katie Fretland of the Sentinel staff contributed to this report.

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