



## Cape Coral council passes road impact fee waiver

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A waiver allowing some businesses to dodge a road impact fee when they move into a building was approved tonight by the Cape Coral City Council.

The vote allows the to waive the difference in transportation impact fees when the business use of a building changes and will increase traffic. The purpose is to spur economic development by helping businesses expand or relocate and to fill empty commercial space in Cape Coral.

“This is only for existing structures when a more intense use comes in,” said former Mayor Joe Mazurkiewicz, who urged passage of the ordinance.

“We have many properties right now that are begging for tenants,” said Councilman Kevin McGrail.

Last year the city collected \$90,000 to \$100,000 from impact fees triggered by the change of use for a building, according to a memo from Assistant City Manager Carl Schwing said.

That’s money that has to be made up in the next budget, said Councilman Chris Chulakes-Leetz.

The impact is on the money available for new roads, Councilman Bill Deile said. “It’s the roads that are going to suffer,” Deile said.

Impact fees pay for new infrastructure such as roads that are needed to meet the demands of growth. impact fees cannot be used for road resurfacing programs.

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