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## Impact Fee On New Homes Proposed For Funding Street Improvements

One option on the table to pay for street improvements in Killeen is an impact fee that would be assessed on homebuilders for each newly developed lot in a subdivision, a fee that likely would be passed on to buyers.

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New Home Impact Fee Proposal



KILLEEN (June 2, 2010)—Killeen officials say several roads including Stagecoach and Cunningham Roads need upgrades as a result of growth in the area and one option on the table to pay for the work is an impact fee on homebuilders for each newly developed lot in a subdivision.

Killeen City Councilman pitched the idea at Tuesday night's council meeting.

"What that fee would be, I don't know," he said.

"How much it would add to the lots, I don't know."

But homebuilders we talked to Wednesday weren't keen on the idea of the fee.

Don Farek, President of Cameo Homes in Killeen said, "I think it's a bad idea."

He said the impact fee wouldn't be fair to homebuilders or homebuyers, who likely would end up paying it through higher home prices.

"The people are paying for the streets in front of their house, plus they're paying their city taxes that go for road maintenance and to tack on another fee on that for a road that'd be used by everyone, I just don't think that's quite right. I think the idea is a double taxation," Farek said.

Cole, however, while stressing that the impact fee is just an option, counters that somebody has to pay for the roadwork.

"Are (homebuilders going to say 'no streets'?) he said.

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