



MONADNOCK
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Jaffrey charges non-residential developers an impact fee

By Alyssa Dandrea

Monadnock Ledger-Transcript

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

(Published in print: Thursday, March 28, 2013)

JAFFREY — The town will charge an impact fee on non-residential developments for the first time, after voters approved changes to the town's existing Impact Fee Ordinance at the polls on March 12.

The town will conduct impact fee assessments on commercial and industrial uses, in addition to ongoing assessments on residential uses, as a result of the vote. Monday, the Select Board approved the Planning Board's recommendation of a fee schedule that establishes the cost to a new, non-residential developer.

When asked Wednesday about the cost to developers, Jo Anne Carr, the town's director of planning and economic development, said the amount varies greatly depending on the total square footage of a building and its primary use.

In conjunction with updates to the Impact Fee Ordinance, Carr said the Planning Board has spent the past couple of months reviewing the fee schedule.

"The reality is you can't charge one segment of the development community and not the other," she said. "But that's how the town adopted the fee schedule in the late 1990s and it's something that hasn't been addressed since."

An impact fee is a fee that is imposed by a town on a new or proposed development project to pay for all or a portion of the costs of providing public services to that development, in an effort to reduce the economic burden on taxpayers.

There are no impact fee assessments for recreation, open space, water or sewer, which are each handled separately.

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