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Council to extend fees to finish library

BY JASON KOSENA
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City Council members said they would extend impact fees to finish construction of the over. The fees are set to expire at the end of the year.

The impact fee extension will continue until the end of the new library's construction, at whi issue again.

The city has already collected nearly \$6 million from the current impact fee, which has almost exclusively been used to fund construction of the southeast branch, a second-floor library located at the new Front Range Village shopping center. The branch is expected to open next summer.

All impact fees collected in Fort Collins would be used for capital projects at Fort Collins libraries.

Library board members told the council Tuesday that, if the city wants to continue its pursuit of a top-of-the-line, sustainable library for the city's south side, the extension of the impact fee is crucial.

"We have no money to pay for our capital needs, and we need the help of City Council to help pass an impact fee to help pay for the shortfall," said board member John Knezovich, adding the district plans to ask for a similar request of Larimer County and possibly Timnath.

City officials couldn't say how much additional funding the project will require because they contract through Bayer Properties where a final price is not determined until construction is

Mayor Doug Hutchinson said the project is over budget primarily because of rising construc

"I haven't heard of any other substantial reasons for the cost overruns," Hutchinson said.

"We didn't vote on it; we didn't pass anything. We just agreed to let the impact fees run unt and then we will take the issue up again."

Knezovich, a former Fort Collins mayor, said he believes the district will need additional mc after that time. He said they are asking the council to continue the impact fee because nea been used to build the southeast branch. He added that, by the end of 2009, they would ha enough money to deal with capital needs.





The capital needs include renovations to existing libraries and other equipment upgrades.

Formal adoption of an intergovernmental agreement between the library district and the city council's Nov. 20 meeting.

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STORYCHAT

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Comments by: Diggs Brown Posted: Thu Nov 08, 2007 8:06 am
Hi Steve and Gnat,

The fees that were discussed are the currently collected impacted fees on new construction. It works out to about \$550 per new home. This fee has always gone to the library. Once the library is completed we will relook these fees. I, for one, will vote against what I consider a double taxation on citizens.

Thank you.

Comments by: gnatgnat Posted: Thu Nov 08, 2007 8:00 am
Collecting "fees" and then passing them on to the new Library District sounds like an addition to library taxes which, in that hasn't been approved by the voters, is in violation of State (Constitutional) law?

Comments by: Steve Sycks Posted: Thu Nov 08, 2007 7:22 am
How does the city collect fees for an independent taxing entity: the Library District? Where are all the fees collected prior to the district forming? The voters were told this new library price was covered, why not now? How can they agree to build a library without any idea what the hell it going to cost?

The Library tax was collected RETRO_ACTIVE, they don't know what the price of the new library and they want the city to collect "fees" for them while the council just goes along smiling.

I think this thing is starting out of control and the voters need a new "board" voted in, not appointed by friends and family within the city.

Get my point..... 😊

Comments by: rklautz Posted: Thu Nov 08, 2007 5:55 am
It's terrific that the new Library Board and council is fighting to extend the impact fees in order to insure the proper capital funding for the second library on the south side of Fort Collins.

My question concerns the needs of the citizens on the north side of the city. What are their plans for building a new library on the north west side of the city? Or is there NO plan?

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