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# Clay close to impact fee decision

By **BETH REESE CRAVEY**,  
*The Times-Union*

The Clay County Commission could take action Tuesday on a controversial road impact fee, four months and multiple revisions after the new revenue source was first proposed.

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The fee, which would be imposed on all new residential and nonresidential development, would help fund \$450 million of road improvements needed by 2020, particularly in the heavily populated and growing northeast area of the county.

In the most recent draft, the single-family residential fees ranged from \$4,341 in the southwest part of the county to \$5,814 in the northeast.

The latest draft ordinance has lower fees than proposed last October. Also, commissioners may discuss delayed implementation, imposing the fees in 2009 rather than this year, officials said.

The building community remains opposed, said Matt Carlton, chairman of the Clay Builders Council. Builders recognize the county's road funding needs, he said, but want a more broad-based solution, rather than burdening new home buyers and businesses in an already slowing construction market.

beth.cravey@jacksonville.com,

(904) 359-6381

This story can be found on Jacksonville.com at [http://www.jacksonville.com/tu-online/stories/022308/met\\_249889491.shtml](http://www.jacksonville.com/tu-online/stories/022308/met_249889491.shtml).

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