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Revamped Road Fees Set For Final Commission Vote

Called mobility fees, the assessments would lower what the county charges new construction to offset the cost of roads.

By [Neil Johnson](#) | [Email the author](#) | July 12, 2011 | [Print](#) | [0 Comments](#)

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Pasco County commissioners could lop thousands of dollars from the cost of building a new home in hopes development.

Commissioners are scheduled to take the last of two votes today to enact a new set of road fees that would

The measure comes up at 1:30 p.m. on the commission schedule in the Dade City commission chambers, starts at 10 a.m.

The new charges, called "mobility fees," would be lower than the impact fees they're replacing and offer slight relief. Money mobility fees raise can also pay for elements of public transportation, pedestrian and bicycle trails and other amenities. Commissioners agreed in general on June 21 to the new fee schedule but Commissioner Ted Schrader [wants](#) to raise fees for houses in rural areas.

The initial proposal called for an increase from \$10,302 under the old impact fee to an \$11,525 mobility fee for rural areas. Commissioners gave a tentative nod to [modified fees](#) during a workshop June 28 that dropped the assessment for rural areas. To slice the rural levy, the assessment for homes in areas designated urban and suburban rose slightly. The assessment for suburban areas rose to \$8,650.

The difference in fees is intended to encourage development in areas already populated such as New Port Richey, where homeowners to places where municipal services cost less to provide for each home and prevent sprawl.

Areas such as Land O' Lakes fall in the middle as suburban.

Commissioners a week ago also flirted with changing fees levied against commercial, office and industrial developments.

One aspect of the new fee structure is charging nothing for some developers of office space or light industrial developments. Commissioner Jack Mariano.

He supported higher fees for rural areas because people who move to those parts of the county may want to pay more for services.

Schrader wanted the commission to consider a modest charge for retail and light industry in urban zones, and a charge for commercial areas, mainly eastern Pasco.

Ultimately, commissioners decided to leave the retail and industrial fee unchanged.

For any developers who face higher costs from the changed fees, commissioners provided an option to pay the fees over three years.

The new rules would create an even larger discount for places designated as town centers where development density is reduced.

The lowest fee for a single-family home in a town center would be \$1,425 and the highest, \$2,881.

Cities would have the option of embracing the new fee structure or staying with the original fee framework.

The new fee ordinance would let the county allocate some of the money raised to bicycle and pedestrian paths and mass transit such as park-and-ride lots, buses and shelters.

A total of 4 percent of the fee would go to pedestrian and bicycle improvements and .25 of 1 percent would go to mass transit proposal.

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