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Impact fee controversy is back on the agenda tonight

April 6, 2:59 PM • Raleigh City Buzz Examiner • Dan Holly

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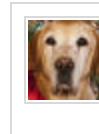
RALEIGH – Impact fees are always controversial in Wake County and this hearing this evening promises to be no different.

The City Council tonight will hold a public hearing on a proposal to raise impact fees increase for water and sewer development fees by \$700.

The hearing will be on a proposal at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers at the Avery C. Upchurch Municipal Complex, 222 W. Hargett Street in downtown Raleigh. The group contends that county fee average is \$3,623, while Raleigh's is just \$2,710, and that higher fees are needed in Raleigh in order for developers to pay more of the costs of improvements necessitated by development.

[WakeUp Wake County](#), a nonpartisan group that advocates for quality of life issues, is urging county residents to attend the meeting and make their voices heard in favor of higher impact fees.

“Growth should pay for growth, including costs for water and sewer hookup,” states an email the group is sending out to county residents. “Given Raleigh's budget crisis, increasing water and sewer development or capacity fees on developers will lessen the burden on taxpayers. Under current policy, new development does pay part of the costs for the water and sewer fees, however, taxpayers are bearing a substantial part of the burden for growth.



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[The Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County](#) has vehemently opposed higher impact fees in the past, saying they would be passed on to homebuyers and hurt home construction and home sales. The group's web site has not information about the current impact fee proposal, and calls to the group to determine what were not immediately returned.

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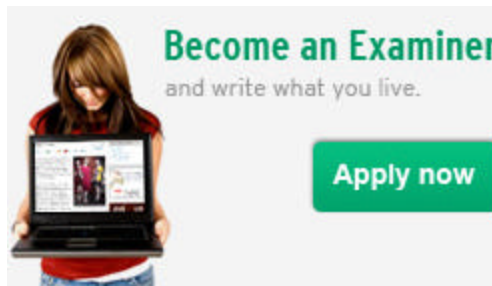
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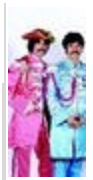
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