

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTING NEW USER FEES OR
REVISING EXISTING USER FEES
(GOV. CODE SECTION 66018)**

On April 25, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at the Solano County Administration Center, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California, the Solano County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to adopt by resolution new and deleted user fees or revised existing user fees as described in the staff report and summarized below:

1. Development Project Fees

a. The Department proposes to revise some fees to reflect an increase of \$8, or approximately 6%, in the productive hourly rate for environmental health programs, \$1 or approximately 1% in site mitigation programs, and \$4, or approximately 3%, for hazardous materials programs. Environmental health programs fees for septic system site evaluations, preliminary site review, city garbage exemption reviews and temporary body art facilities will increase from 5% to 6%, or approximately \$8 to \$25. No change is proposed for most of the remaining environmental health fees, except the direct hourly rate charged for some services, such as additional plan review time and inspection time beyond that covered by the permit fee, is increased by \$8, or 6%. Site Mitigation program fees are increasing up to 1%, or a range of \$1 to \$24. Hazardous Materials program fees are increasing up to 3%, or a range increase of \$2 to \$45.

The Department proposes to add four new environmental health fees in Program 16-Consumer/Food and one new fee in Program 44-Solid Waste. The new proposed fees in Program 16-Consumer/Food are Catering Registration, Mobile Food Facility-One event fee, Mobile Food Facility-Seasonal mobile event, and Special Event Organizer > 20 booths. These fees are proposed to address emerging business patterns, to streamline the permitting process related to catering and mobile food operations at temporary events, and to provide better cost recovery for time spent permitting and inspecting large temporary events. The new fee proposed fee in Program 44 is Solid Waste Facility-Notification Tier to address a requirement in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 17403.3.1 that requires certain recycling businesses to now be regulated and inspected.

The Department also proposes to delete the Program 41-Waste Tire Enforcement category since CalRecycle has modified the method of computation for hourly rates allowed for reimbursement of state grants associated with waste tire enforcement activities, making this category inapplicable at this time.

Addition of these new fees along with the proposed increased fees will allow continued cost recovery given the time required to perform all environmental health and hazardous materials related inspections and services.

b. The FY2017/18 Planning Service fees reflect a 3% increase for all fees over FY2016/17 as a result of increases in operating costs. This results in an increase ranging between \$3 to \$244 for various fees and services. While most of the fee increases are less than the actual cost to provide the services, the department believes that they are justifiable and reasonable to support the land use policy and foster further economic growth.

The Department is recommending the establishment of a new permit and corresponding fee for a minor use permit amendment. Presently, there is a permit for a minor use permit and a minor revision to a minor use permit. However, there is not a permit or mechanism for extensive changes to an existing use approved through a minor use permit. This new permit will allow for review and approval of major changes to a use that is operating according to the conditions of approval of a minor use permit without the requirement for a new minor use permit.

c. The Department recommends that the County fee table Exhibit IIIC reflects the State of California code fee table references as revised by the International Code Council in February 2017. It is anticipated that the average increase in fees due to this new table for a standard 3,000 square foot residential home will be approximately \$52 and the average increase for a standard 10,000 square foot building will be \$78. In addition, there is an approximately 5% increase for most building supplemental inspection fees and other fees as a result of increases in operating costs and the time required to perform inspection services. This results in a \$5 to \$75 increase for most fees. This increase will improve cost recovery for services while still being reasonable to support development.

The hourly rate for code compliance is increasing by \$102 or 70% and re-inspection fees are increasing by \$79 or 36% due to the current operating costs. These costs reflect increased Extra Help staffing and legal assistance to improve code compliance.

d. The Department proposes a \$4 increase in the productive hourly rate for Engineering Technician, and decreases in productive hourly rates of \$1 for Civil Engineers and \$7 for the County Surveyor to reflect changes in operating costs. As a result of the changes in the productive hourly rates and the time required to perform the inspection or service, permit fees and service hourly rates are proposed to increase up to \$95, or 9%, with the median increase being \$18.50, or 4%. These proposed fee increases include surveyor map check fees, assembly permit, encroachment permit, grading permit fees, road signage and road vacation fees, fees associated with land development and land use review, such as those for subdivisions and building envelope reviews.

The department proposes a new fee for Permit Non-Compliance Investigation to recover the hourly investigation costs associated with confirmed cases of permit non-compliance. This fee includes the costs associated with generating and mailing the notice(s) of violation and abating non-compliance issues.

2. General Government Fees

a. The Department of the Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures proposes a 5.1% to 5.6% decreases to various fees that are based on the cost recovery for the services provided.

b. The Office of the Assessor/Recorder proposes a 3% to 7% adjustment to fees that are based on the cost recovery for the services provided. It also proposes a new fee for \$1 which is set by Statute relating to Electronic Delivery Service.

c. The Public Guardian (a program in Health and Social Services) proposes adjustments in fees to recover a larger portion of the cost for providing the services.

d. The Office of the Tax Collector/County Clerk proposes a range of \$1 to \$5 increases in seven fees to reflect the increase in cost of providing services.

e. The Office of the Auditor/Controller proposes a fee schedule that reflects decrease of \$3 for property tax services and increase of \$.16 to \$4 range for three of their fees. The adjustments are based on full cost recovery for the services provided.

f. The Registrar of Voters proposes an increase to five of their fees that are based on the cost recovery for the services provided.

g. The Clerk of the Board proposes increases in the hourly rate for its services.

h. County Counsel proposes an increase in the hourly rate for its services.

i. The Health and Social Services Department proposes fee adjustments and new fees for its Behavioral Health Services and Public Health Services.(including primary care clinic, injections, dental programs and laboratory).

j. The Sheriff's Office proposes to increase 31 existing fees to recover actual administrative and/or service related costs as allowed by State statutes or regulations. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office proposes to decrease 5 existing fees due to lower anticipated operational costs. It also proposes to delete Public Records Act Research Fees in support of the Sheriff's statewide agreement.

k. Parks and Recreation does not propose any revision to their existing fees but proposes the addition of two fee exemption periods to reflect fee waivers to various groups. This move shall memorialize Board's direction to honor veterans and active military, and to promote youth activities at the county parks.

l. The Sheriff's Animal Care Services (a division under the Sheriff's Office) proposes to add five new fees. Three of these fees proposes a fee lower than the actual cost. It also proposes to increase 31 existing fees to recover actual administrative, and/or service related costs; and to decrease five existing fees to reflect lower operational costs. In addition. It also proposes to delete one fee related to the service dog tag or replacement. The department seeks to establish an annual license amnesty program for a designated short period of time.

m. The Department of General Services proposes fee adjustments ranging from 4% to 7% to the Nut Tree Airport's fees based on the cost recovery for the services provided.

If the Board of Supervisors adopts these fees, they will become effective on July 1, 2017. Supporting documentation for all these fees is available for public review in the County Administrator's Office, 675 Texas Street, Suite 6500, Fairfield.

Dated: April 13, 2017

BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: -----
Jeanette Neiger, Chief Deputy Clerk