

8/13/25 Item 4- Fee Schedule

CM Vela Motion 1

Cap Fee increases for homeowner inspections and residential review to 10%

I move to amend the ordinance for Item 4, authorizing fees, fines, and other charges to be set or charged by the City for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and waiving fees and other charges, by amending the proposed fee increases included in Exhibit A to that Ordinance by making the changes shown in Attachment 1 to this motion to reduce the fee increases for the listed fees to cap them at no more than 10% increases above fiscal year 2024-2025 levels.

I further move to direct the City Manager to return with recommendations for changes to these fees on or before January 30, 2026, and to bring those recommendations to Council with the other related matters pursuant to the proposed resolution Council is set to consider when it takes up Item 20 if that resolution is approved by council.

Explanation:

This amendment limits the fee increases to 10% for inspections for standalone projects, such as a homeowner replacing an electric panel, as well as fees for residential review covering projects building up to 4 units.

Fee increases tend to be regressive because fees tend to be a larger part of the cost of a project for individual homeowners and smaller residential projects than for larger projects. Fees also disproportionately impact more affordable housing types such as infill and missing middle housing. The amendment does not change fees for larger projects where process and time tend to be bigger considerations than fees. This amendment is paired with our resolution to initiate a broader and more wholistic conversation about fee structure and process.