



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Jennifer Andrews, Director

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MEMO

To: Finance Committee, Common Council
From: Jennifer Andrews, Community Development Director
Date: March 9, 2015
Re: Building Fees

Please find attached my recommendation for the modification of the Building Inspection fee schedule. Attached documents include:

1. Chart showing our current fees, proposed fees and comparisons to the Building Inspectors Association of SE WI (BIASEW) recommended fees and 4 other communities in the SE WI area.
2. A demonstration of how the new fees would impact various types of projects as well as a comparison to 4 other communities is SE WI and the BIASEW.
3. An analysis of the potential impact to department revenues.

The building fees have not been updated since 2006 (9 years). The cost to operate the department has increased about \$225,000 in the last nine years and this adjustment to the fee schedule will help offset that increase in costs. You will see that the proposed fees fall in line with the recommended fee schedule published by the BIASEW and other communities in the region.

In addition, there is a recommendation to eliminate the following permits and associated fees:

1. Residential cabinetry
2. Residential residing
3. Residential window and door replacement
4. Occupancy permits for residential remodeling

The elimination of these permit requirements and associated fees will reduce the costs of making alterations to existing homes in the City and therefore be a financial benefit to homeowners.

I feel that the new schedule will provide revenue that more closely reflects the actual cost of conducting plan reviews and inspections while still keeping the City in line with other communities in the area in terms of fees. These costs should be the responsibility of the individuals consuming the services instead of the general taxpayer and these changes assist in accomplishing that.

