

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Council discussion and presentation to create an impact fee program, capital improvements element and discuss the creation of the development impact fee advisory committee.

Submitted By: SaVaughn Irons-Kumassah, Principal Planner, Planning & Community Development Department

Date Submitted: July 14, 2025

Work Session Date: July 21, 2025

Council Meeting Date: July 21, 2025

Background/History:

In response to continued growth and increased demand on public infrastructure, the City is exploring the potential creation of a Development Impact Fee Program in accordance with the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act (DIFA), O.C.G.A. § 36-71-1 et seq. This program would provide a structured and legally supported method for funding capital improvements necessitated by new development, helping to ensure that growth pays for growth.

As part of this initiative, the City must prepare a Capital Improvements Element (CIE), which outlines anticipated public facility needs over a defined planning period and identifies eligible capital projects and associated costs. The CIE must be adopted as an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan and approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

In addition, DIFA requires the establishment of a Development Impact Fee Advisory Committee, consisting of stakeholders including representatives from the development community and the general public. This committee will play an advisory role in the development and implementation of the program, review annual reports, and make recommendations on updates to the fee schedule and project lists.

This discussion is intended to brief the Mayor and Council on the purpose and process of establishing an impact fee program, obtain direction on moving forward with preparation of the Capital Improvements Element, and consider appointment of members to the required advisory committee.

Cost: TBD

Budgeted for: Yes No

Financial Impact: TBD

Action Requested from Council: Provide participants for the development impact fee advisory committee