

Sweet Home School District No. 55

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Ray Towry
City Manager
City of Sweet Home
1140 12th Avenue
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Dear Ray:

The Sweet Home School District is diligently reviewing every bill for the Sweet Home Junior High School renovation project to make sure that taxpayers receive their money's worth.

We were surprised to receive an \$83,009.92 charge from the City of Sweet Home for the project's building permit fee, structural plan review and fire/life safety review.

Our architect said this amount is roughly double the cost of other projects of similar size. He also said that the straight fee calculation is not really appropriate for larger projects. Instead, a negotiated fee is often used.

The negotiated fee approach seems reasonable to us. Shawn Eaton with Northwest Code Professionals told us that he expects to visit the job site approximately 100 times during construction. The current fee works out to \$830 per visit. Assuming one hour per visit, this charge seems excessive.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tom Yahraes