



**Public Hearing  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.:** 66  
**AGENDA DATE:** Thu 09/02/2004  
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**SUBJECT:** Conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed rate fee increases for the Drainage Fee of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department as part of the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Proposed budget.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** N/A

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING** Watershed Protection and **DIRECTOR'S**  
**DEPARTMENT:** Development Review **AUTHORIZATION:** Joe Pantalion

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mike Ihnat, 974-7035; Cassandra Alexander, 974-1492; Martha Vincent, 974-3371

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** N/A

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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This action requests City Council to conduct a public hearing to hear public comments on the fee increases proposed in the 2004-2005 Proposed Budget. This increase is consistent with the Cost of Service Study recommendations that Council approved three years ago. This increase is the fourth year of implementation of the Cost of Service Study recommendations that Council approved in 2001 for implementation of the Watershed Protection Master Plan. At that time a schedule for five consecutive increases was proposed to Council. Council approved use of the new Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) methodology and the first of the five increases in Fiscal Year 2002. The proposed residential Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) charge for Fiscal Year 2005 is \$6.74 (an increase of \$.44 from the current rate of \$6.30). The proposed commercial Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) charge for Fiscal Year 2005 is \$147.92 per acre of impervious cover (an increase of \$27.51 from the current rate of \$120.41).

State law requires that proposed Drainage Fee increases be published in a newspaper of general circulation three times prior to the public hearing, the first notice of which must be on or before the 30th day before the hearing. The three notices were published for July 30, August 8 and August 25.

Council is scheduled to adopt the budget on September 13, 14 and 15, 2004.