Public Hearing
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 68
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/01/2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

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 2005-2006 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: Cassandra Alexander, 974-1492; Joyce Pulich, 974-9789; Mike Ihnat, 974-7035

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

This action requests City Council to conduct a public hearing to hear public comments on the fee increases proposed in the 2005-2006 Proposed Budget. This increase is the fifth 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 ERU charge for Fiscal Year 2006 is $7.15 (an increase of $.41 from the current rate of $6.74). The proposed commercial ERU charge for Fiscal Year 2006 is $176.66 per acre of impervious cover (an increase of $28.74 from the current rate of $147.92).

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 29, August 14 and August 24.

Council is scheduled to adopt the budget on September 12, 13 and 14, 2005.