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To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR74 code language

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Thank you for your questions about CR74 regarding how to make the fee less prohibitive for individuals. The code says the Council must establish a fee schedule, but it does not say the fee has to be the same for every type of petition. There could be a scale, since the Council is tasked in the code with covering the County's costs, there are surely petitions that are clearly going to be contentious issues that will take up a lot more time than individual or neighborhood needs.

Alternatively, an amendment to CR74 could include allowing the Council to waive the fee after passing the ZRA legislation, if it is deemed at the end of the process to not have been costing the County much and/or having been an outcome that was seen to have been beneficial to the County (but not realized as such earlier, to sponsor).

In ALL of the fee legislation, the Council could amend the Code to allow themselves to waive or lower fees for certain types of requests. This would remove the concern about some County services ever being prohibitively expensive for individuals, yet also address the fact that business-related fees should not be overly minimal nor too long set due to County cost increases.

Thank you,
Lisa Markovitz