

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	<b>Item ID</b>	26968	<b>Agenda Number</b>	34.
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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	8/22/2013	<b>Department:</b>	Planning and Development Review
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**Subject**

Approve an ordinance waiving development fees for the construction of accessible ramps for existing single-family and duplex residential dwelling units built by qualifying non-profit entities for income-eligible individuals.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

**Fiscal Note**

**Purchasing Language:**

**Prior Council Action:**

August 8, 2013 - Council approved Resolution No. 20130808-060 initiating a code amendment to exempt ADA-compliant ramps from setback requirements, and directing the City Manager to review and make recommendations for reducing or eliminating fees and establishing an expedited review process for accessibility ramps.

**For More Information:**

Don Birkner, 512-974-1952.

**Boards and Commission Action:**

**MBE / WBE:**

**Related Items:**

**Additional Backup Information**

On August 8, 2013, Council approved Resolution No. 20130808-060 initiating a code amendment to exempt ADA-compliant ramps from setback requirements, and directing the City Manager to review and make recommendations for reducing or eliminating fees and establishing an expedited review process for accessibility ramps. The resolution included direction to consider reducing or eliminating fees for the construction of accessible ramps built by non-profit organizations that use 100% volunteer teams at no financial cost to the ramp recipient and would only apply to existing single family and duplex residential dwelling units.

Building permit fees are currently based on square footage for new construction. Staff is in the process of developing an expedited review process for the referenced project type that would include a change to the calculation of building permit fees based on the valuation of the project.

Plan review fees under the expedited (Express) process are a flat fee of \$4 for applications and a development services

surcharge fee of 4% is applied to the total fees combined.

Under the current fee schedule and according to the cost to construct an accessible ramp as provided in the City Council resolution, the fees would be as follows:

Plan Review Fee	= \$ 4.00
Building Permit Fee	= \$51.00 (for job valuation \$501 to \$2,000)
Development Surcharge =	<u>\$ 2.20</u>
Total Fees	= \$57.20

Staff recommends a full waiver from the current fee schedule.