

To: Kelly Michaels, City Clerk

From: Ron Smith, City Councilmember

Subject: Agenda item request 2 for 9-10-24 meeting

Date: August 30, 2024

I would request that an item be placed on the 9-10-24 council agenda.

I would like an item under Council Discussion/Action that would read: Discuss the need for a survey or study of the current fees charged by the city planning department

Background: Recently the city was sued for charging too much in Building Department fees. That suit resulted in the city paying out approximately \$6 million in refunds and attorney fees. As part of the materials provided to the council during the litigation it was noted that the city was overcharging for building fees but undercharging for planning fees. We have paid back the building fee overcharges but have not begun to address the planning fees issue.

Action requested: Direct the staff to implement a survey/study of planning department fees and report back to the council for any necessary further action

This item really involves all of our strategic goals including:

Goal 2: Provide Efficient, Responsive Government with High-Quality Services

Goal 6: Preserve the Venice Quality of Life through Proper Planning