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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Gary Schmidt, County Administrator

FROM: Dan Johnson, Director – Transportation and Development

DATE: March 9, 2021

RE: Wildfire Building Permit Fee Reduction

Immediately following the wildfire event staff engaged the Board of County Commissioners to assess how the Department of Transportation and Development could help those who experienced structural losses due to the fires. Damage assessments to date suggest approximately 62 residential structures (stick built and manufactured homes) and 200 accessory structures (garages, shops and outbuildings) were destroyed in Clackamas County.

At the time, staff presented a number of options to the Board and it was determined that our focus would be on establishing a community concierge and expedited permit review to ensure those who were displaced could have a direct point of contact to get information, and rapid permitting to get rebuilding underway as soon as possible.

Recently staff received a request from an individual impacted by the wildfires to waive County collected building permit fees. With the change in the Board staff felt it was appropriate to raise this request and see if the Board concurs with the prior direction or if you would like to implement some additional relief related to building permit fees.

The following provides an assessment of fee impacts should the Board wish to advance the conversation about fee waivers:

Structure	# (Estimated)	County BP Fee	100% Waiver: Budget Impact	50% Waiver: Budget Impact
Single Family	50	\$4,500	\$225,000	\$112,500
Manufactures Homes	12	\$850	\$10,200	\$5,100
Outbuildings	200	\$475	\$95,000	\$47,500
Estimated Fee Impact			\$330,200	\$165,100

Other thoughts to consider:

- Varying approaches – Marion County waived fees, Jackson County did not
- Building Services collects pass through fees which we do not have the ability to waive

- This represents building fees only
- A full waiver of fees would result in an estimated \$330,200 in lost revenue and \$165,100 at 50%
- In the previous conversation we had with the Board it was noted that the fees are covered in insurance settlements, and with building being a fee for service/dedicated fund, the impact could not be offset by other funds. This was the factor behind the Board not approving waivers.
- Some people are already through permitting so we would need to refund fees.