

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 03/09/2009		Item Number: A-7	
AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Fee Waiver/Reduction Requests from A 1 Hardware.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Jeff Eastman, Fire Department		Phone Number: (310) 253-6000	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (03/04/09); Representatives of: A-1 Hardware (by telephone – 03/04/09).			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (03/04/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/04/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (03/04/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (03/05/09)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council consider fee waiver/reduction requests from A 1 Hardware and direct staff as deemed appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City Council adopts various fees and charges for the City as part of the budget process. In 2007, the City Council authorized a comprehensive review of all of the City's fees. As part of that process, a consultant was selected to perform a comprehensive update to the City's fees and charges. Effective for Fiscal Year 2007/2008, the updated fees and charges, many of which had increased as a result of inflation and a higher level of cost recovery, were adopted by the City Council. Pursuant to the newly adopted fees and charges, staff has been informing various groups and individuals of the fees and charges now applicable.

DISCUSSION:

At a recent Council meeting, A-1 Hardware requested a fee waiver.

A-1 Hardware (Mr. Iqbal Ahmed)

During budget discussions in 2007, staff recommended a change in process to improve collection of the fire inspection fee. Under this recommendation, the fire inspection fee would be included in the annual business tax renewal notice. Prior to this proposal, the business inspection fee was billed separately. The City Council

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approved this recommendation and collection of the fire inspection fee was coordinated with the business tax renewal notice.

Mr. Iqbal has approached both staff and the City Council requesting a waiver of the \$148.00 indicating that the current economic climate has significantly impacted his business. Mr. Iqbal had mentioned he would pay the fee prior to March 2, 2009 to avoid the late fee. If this has occurred, Mr. Iqbal requests a fee refund.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The revenues projected for Fiscal Year 2008/2009 and those to be projected for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 have been based upon the fees and charges included in the adopted fees and charges schedule. Therefore, each fee waiver/reduction granted would lower the amount of revenues received by the City. Given the current deficit estimated at \$500,000, every reduction in revenue would require either an increase in revenue in another General Fund area or a further reduction in expenditures above the \$500,000 in reductions already needed to end Fiscal Year 2008/2009 with an operating surplus.

Should the City Council grant the fee waivers/reductions as requested, the following revenue impacts would be realized:

ORGANIZATION	FY 2009/2010	FY 2010/2011
A-1 Hardware	\$148	\$148

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Business Tax Renewal Notice for A-1 Hardware

MOTION:

That the City Council:

- (1) Approve the fee waiver request as presented; OR
- (2) Approve the fee waiver request in the amount of \$_____ resulting in a revised fee of \$_____; OR
- (3) Deny the fee waiver request (thereby leaving the current fee in the fee and charges schedule applicable);

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AND

(4) (If motion 1 or 2 is adopted) Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents including the amended fee amounts authorized by the City Council; and,

(5) (If motion 1 or 2 is adopted) Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.