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Arapahoe County Commissioners suspend transportation fee *Temporary fee waiver to help homebuyers during these tough economic times*

LITTLETON, CO --- Developers building homes within the County's Regional Transportation Impact Fee District are getting a temporary reprieve from a fee used to improve major arterials and construct new traffic signals in fast growing areas of unincorporated Arapahoe County.

Last May, the Board of County Commissioners approved a six-month suspension of the transportation fee that is collected at the time building permits are issued on new development (primarily single-family homes) within the RTIF district, which is located in an unincorporated area of Arapahoe County bounded by Parker Road on the west, Hampden Avenue on the north, Gun Club Road on the east and the Arapahoe/Douglas County line on the south.

On Nov. 10, the Board of County Commissioners voted to extend the suspension of the fee through May 15, 2010 and said the fee will be reestablished once the housing market rebounds.

"We are living in unprecedented economic times," said Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld, who represents District 3 and whose district includes the RTIF district. "The Board of County Commissioners felt it was important to temporarily suspend this fee to help the homebuilding industry sell homes, which ultimately will be passed on to potential home buyers who are looking to live in unincorporated Arapahoe County."

The Regional Transportation Improvement Fee program originally was approved by the Board of County Commissioners in March 1995 to assist in funding arterial infrastructure in rapidly developing areas of unincorporated areas of the County.

The fee is matched dollar for dollar with the County's Capital Improvement Project, or CIP funds and has been used for projects, such as improvements to south Buckley Road, south Liverpool Street, Smoky Hill between Versailles Parkway to Gun Club Road and the Copperleaf Boulevard and Picadilly Road intersection.

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