



# FLAGSTAFF POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief of Police  
Kevin D. Treadway

**MEMO #: 20-032**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Planning Director Tiffany Antol

**FROM:** Chief Treadway and Deputy Chief Musselman

**DATE:** May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**SUBJ:** Development Fees related to the Police Department

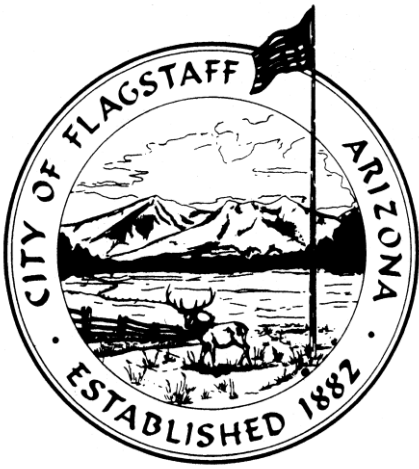
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The Flagstaff Police Department prides itself on the high level of service we provide to the community. Our agency goes the extra mile in many areas to help serve our citizens. Some of these services include funeral escorts, private property collision reports, standing by to keep the peace, and motorist assists. We have reviewed the most recent Land Use Assumptions, Infrastructure Improvements Plan, and Draft Development Fee Report dated April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. That report projects that our community will continue to grow. It looks at our current facility space, number of vehicles in use, and amount of communications equipment we are using to support our current level of service.

Based on the study and projected growth over the next ten years, we will need an additional 14 vehicles, 6,400 square feet of facilities and 37 more pieces of communication equipment, just to maintain our current level of service. The cost for these additional needs is estimated at 3.4 million dollars over the next ten years. We would like to advocate for setting appropriate fees to help cover the cost of this growth. Consider the following points:

-Growth will happen and if we do not have impact fees, to assist with the cost of growth, our current level of service for existing citizens will be diminished as the officers and resources are spread thinner and thinner to cover more newer developments and new neighborhoods.

-These impact fees lessen the burden on our general fund. The demand will still come in the ten-year period, and we will still need the space, equipment. Without development fees we will be relying entirely on the general fund to pay for these resources.



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-Development fees cannot pay for employee salaries and likely we will need new staff positions to maintain our existing level of service with the new growth. New positions would be paid for out of the general fund, so in effect the existing pre-growth tax base will still be somewhat subsidizing growth through these additional positions.

-In the past we have used development fees to pay to expand our evidence storage, due to population growth and needing more space for evidence. We have purchased vehicles out of impact fees when we add positions that are tied to growth, most recently for our Police Aide Program.

-We received less support this year in our needed budget requests than we did in the previous year, from the general fund, and we have some big projects on the horizon which will need larger financial resources. Our Axon Body-worn camera contract, LEAF facility capital improvements (new HVAC units, Roof Seal), and re-paving our parking lot are all estimated to cost several hundred thousand dollars.

-We are currently in need of expanding our dispatch center and our evidence vault, both of which we will be seeking to use development fees to pay for.

In conclusion we would like to advocate that growth (via appropriately set development fees) pay for the estimated public safety capital expenses related to the growth itself. This will free up some capacity in our general fund for our day to day ongoing expenses we are dependent on the general fund to cover.