

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kevin Thompson, Principal Planner

City of Ukiah

300 Seminary Avenue Ukiah, CA 95482

Phone: (707) 463 - 6207

CITY OF UKIAH ANNOUNCES THE INTRODUCTION OF DEFERRED WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION FEES ASSOCIATED WITH NEW BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENTS

Ukiah, CA. December 9, 2015. – The City of Ukiah is pleased to announce that, effective immediately, the development fees associated with water and sewer connections can now be deferred through the construction phase.

The Ukiah City Council recently approved a policy change allowing the payment of the water and sewer connection fees to occur just before the Certificate of Occupancy. Some of the biggest fees associated with new business & developments are often water and sewer connection fees. Previously, these fees were due upon the issuance of the building permit, which is sometimes many months prior to occupancy.

City Staff and Officials hope this will facilitate new business development by helping to "bridge" the financing for new projects. There is no additional cost associated with this policy change, and it may be applied to any project that will involve new or additional water and/or sewer connection—residential, commercial or industrial.

The project must be in the Ukiah city limits and not within the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District or another water district.

"This is an important policy change that will reduce front loaded costs for new business without any sacrifice to the sewer & water enterprise funds. It may, in fact, *improve* the outlook by attracting new local businesses to the City," explains Kevin Doble, Council Member.

For additional information, please contact Principal Planner Kevin Thompson at (707) 463-6207 or kthompson@cityofukiah.com.

Sage Sangiacomo, City Manager

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