

Response to Questions on the FY 2013 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Cook

Question: Is there an alternate way to work with the Engineers and Surveyors Institute (ESI) to more efficiently continue the peer review process in order to save funding resources? Is there a better way to utilize County and developer time so the process goes more smoothly?

Response: Land Development Services (LDS) has been working with ESI this fiscal year to change to a pay-as-you-go basis. ESI now provides a Minimum Submission Review (MSR) and a Team Peer Review (TPR), which replaces the current peer review program and will be applicable to all plan applications of the following types: site plans (SP), subdivision plans (SD), public improvement plans (PI), preliminary plats (PL) and final pavement design plans.

The pay as you go program requires engineers to pay ESI directly for the peer review component based upon the number of hours required to review a plan. LDS still pays ESI a fixed monthly cost to maintain the program and cover the program overhead. The annual cost to the County is \$150,000 resulting in savings of \$100,000.

LDS identified the budgeted appropriation of \$250,000 in their FY 2013 reduction package for ESI, as this was before they had finalized negotiations on the pay as you go program with ESI.