

Fire Department Fees

FIRE DEPARTMENT FEES

The Fire Department will present information related to potential fees and charges for a variety of services. This topic was one of the items discussed during the February Budget Retreat as a possible method of increasing revenue. There was some interest at the time on the part of Council to further explore this concept. The Fire Department will provide comparative data from surrounding communities along with some examples of different fee amounts. Staff will be seeking direction from City Council on which fees, if any, should be considered for future adoption and taken to the public for comment and feedback.



Potential Fire Department Fees

City Council Work Session
June 13, 2011



Fee Categories

- **Emergency Response**
- **Non Emergency Response**
- **Operational Permits**



Emergency Response

Fire Response

- Fires inside of Structures
- Residential Structure Fires
- Commercial Structure Fires
- False Alarms

**** Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
not included in potential fees**



Emergency

					Hours needed	Hourly Rate	Cost Estimate	Potential Fee
Fees for Emergency Response						Personnel		
						plus		
						Apparatus		
Fire in building other than structure (9 firefighters, 2 apparatus)					1.5	\$430	\$645	\$500
Residential Structure Fire, working fire (13 firefighters, 4 apparatus)					2	\$710	\$1,420	\$500
Commercial Structure Fire, working fire (25 firefighters, 6 apparatus)					4	\$1,710	\$6,840	\$500
Cooking fire contained to container (4 firefighters, 1 apparatus)					1	\$200	\$200	\$150
False Alarm Responses (4 false alarms in 30 days)					0.5	\$400	\$200	\$100



Emergency Response Overview

- **Potential revenue of \$20,000**
- **Surrounding communities do not have similar fees**
- **Most insurance policies cover response to fire incidents**
- **Not everyone carries insurance**
- **Will count as claim for policy holder**
- **Billing/collecting process**
- **Public perception**



Non Emergency Response

Non Emergency Services:

- Annual Business Inspections
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Exit Plan development
- Medical facility lift assist
- EMS or Fire Standbys



Non Emergency

Non Emergency Fees				Potential Fee	EL Paso	Santa Fe	Albuquerque	Rio Rancho
				80% Recovery				
Fire Extinguisher classes				\$32	146	\$25	25	\$25
Evacuation Plan				\$32	71		25	\$25
Lift Assist (assisting another medical provider)				\$80				
Business Inspections								
Up to 1500 sq feet				\$32		\$20	\$30	\$30
1501-3000 sq feet				\$48		\$40	\$60	\$60
3001-6000 sq feet				\$64		\$75	\$110	\$110
6001-9000 sq feet				\$80		\$100	\$160	\$160
9001-15000 sq feet				\$96		\$150	\$210	\$210
15001 sq feet and above				\$112		\$150		\$500
Re-Inspect (third inspection or more)				\$50		\$50		\$50
Standby Fees								
Firefighter/EMT				\$30				
Apparatus				\$80				



Non Emergency Overview

- **Potential annual revenue of \$54,000**
- **Other jurisdictions have similar fees**
- **Additional cost for local businesses**
- **Direct benefit to person or entity**
- **Billing and collection concerns**
- **Public perception**



Operational Permits

- **2006 International Fire Code allows the Fire Department to issue operational permits**
- **Operational Permit-allows applicant to conduct an operation or business for which a permit is required for a prescribed period or until renewed or revoked**
- **46 permits that can be required**



Operational Permits

Operational Permits				Potential Fee	EL Paso	Santa Fe	Albuquerque	Rio Rancho	Bernalillo County
				100% Recovery					
Carnival and Fairs				\$100			\$100	\$100	\$100
Open Burning (Burn Permit)				\$10	\$71	\$10	\$25	\$25	
Pyrotechnics use or display				\$140	\$103		\$100	\$100	\$100
Temporary Membrane Structures, tents and canopies									
		up to 400 square feet		\$40	\$141	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
		401 to 1500 square feet		\$60	\$141	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$100
		1501 to 3000 square feet		\$80	\$141	\$50	\$150	\$150	\$150
		3001 to 6000 square feet		\$100	\$211	\$50	\$200	\$250	\$200
		6001 to 9000 square feet		\$120	\$211	\$50	\$250	\$500	\$250
		9001 square feet and above		\$160	\$281	\$50	\$300	\$1,000	\$300



Operational Permit Overview

- **Potential annual revenue of \$5,600**
- **Currently inspect carnivals, tents, and pyrotechnic displays**
- **Generally associated with more of a special/temporary use**
- **Two primary permits issued currently**
 - Burn permits
 - Tent permits
- **Possible increase in non-permitted activity**
- **Common fee in many communities**
- **Billing and collection issues**



Questions

