

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
VERNON APPROVING AND ADOPTING AN UPDATED GENERAL
FEE SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2014, the City Council of the City of
Vernon adopted Resolution No. 2014-42 approving and adopting a General
Fee Schedule; and

WHEREAS, by memorandum dated August 5, 2014, the Fire Chief
has recommended the City Council adopt an updated General Fee
Schedule, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by
reference (the "Updated General Fee Schedule"), to set the existing
false security alarm fee for the second emergency response within a
fiscal year to be \$0; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to approve the updated General
Fee Schedule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VERNON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of Vernon hereby
finds and determines that the above recitals are true and correct.

SECTION 2: The City Council of the City of Vernon finds
that this action is not subject to the California Environmental
Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section
15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that
may have an effect on the environment, because this merely relates to
an administrative item.

SECTION 3: The City Council of the City of Vernon hereby
approves and adopts the updated General Fee Schedule as set forth in
Exhibit A.

SECTION 4: The provisions of Resolution No. 2014-42 not consistent with or in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed; in all other respects, Resolution No. 2014-42 shall remain in full force and effect, without amendment.

SECTION 5: The City Clerk, or Deputy City Clerk, of the City of Vernon shall certify to the passage, approval and adoption of this resolution, and the City Clerk, or Deputy City Clerk, of the City of Vernon shall cause this resolution and the City Clerk's, or Deputy City Clerk's, certification to be entered in the File of Resolutions of the Council of this City.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of August, 2014.



Name: W. Michael McCormick

Title: Mayor / ~~Mayor Pro-Tem~~

ATTEST:



Ana Barcia
~~City Clerk~~ / Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Scott Porter, Deputy City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, **Ana Barcia** , ~~City Clerk~~ / Deputy City Clerk of the City of Vernon, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution, being Resolution No. 2014-50, was duly passed, approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Vernon at a regular meeting of the City Council duly held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, and thereafter was duly signed by the Mayor or Mayor Pro-Tem of the City of Vernon.

Executed this 7 day of August, 2014, at Vernon, California.



Ana Barcia
~~City Clerk~~ / Deputy City Clerk

(SEAL)

EXHIBIT A

GENERAL FEE SCHEDULE



City of Vernon

Schedule approved by City Council on July 1, 2014
Revised August 5, 2014

CITY OF VERNON
GENERAL FEE SCHEDULE

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ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	
COPIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS/INFORMATION	
Copies of identifiable Public Record	\$0.15 / page
Certified copies of identifiable Public Record	\$1.75 / record
SUBPOENA FEE	
Safety Personnel	\$275 / appearance
Miscellaneous Personnel	\$150 / appearance
STAFF TIME – Special Projects Beyond Normal Course of Business	
<p>As provided for in the California Public Records Act, City’s staff time spent on extraordinary or infrequent requests that are large in scope or require development of information to satisfy such requests will require the requestor to reimburse the City for its actual direct cost. Actual direct cost will include the City staff’s fully burdened hourly rate which includes PERS and Medicare. Outsourced consultant and attorney fees will be at cost billed to the City. A deposit, based upon an estimate to fulfill a request, will be collected prior to commencement.</p>	
CREDIT CARD	
<p>City’s direct cost to process credit card transactions for the convenience of the credit card user shall be collected from the credit card user as part of the transaction.</p>	
MISCELLANEOUS	
Returned Checks	\$20.00
OTHER	
Administrative Citations	See Resolution No. 2011-195
Civil Penalties	See Resolution No. 2011-195

BUILDING, PLANNING, AND ENGINEERING FEES	
PERMIT FEES	Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Heating, Ventilating, Cooling, Refrigeration, and Fire Prevention Permits
VALUATION	FEE
\$1.00 to \$2,000.00	\$86.40
\$2,001.00 to \$5,000.00	\$86.40 for the first \$2,000.00 plus \$4.32 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$5,000.00
\$5,001.00 to \$25,000.00	\$216.00 for the first \$5,000.00 plus \$10.80 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$25,000.00
\$25,001.00 to \$50,000.00	\$432.00 for the first \$25,000.00 plus \$8.10 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$50,000.00
\$50,001.00 to \$100,000.00	\$634.50 for the first \$50,000.00 plus \$5.94 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$100,000.00
\$100,001.00 to \$500,000.00	\$931.50 for the first \$100,000.00 plus \$4.32 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$500,000.00
\$500,001.00 and up	\$2,659.50 for the first \$500,000.00 plus \$3.34 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
<p>Plan Check Fee when required, shall be equal to 65% of the Permit Fee. Plan Check Energy Fee 25% of the Permit Fee. Permit Energy Fee 10% of the Permit Fee.</p>	

BUILDING, PLANNING, AND ENGINEERING FEES	
PERMIT FEES (CONT'D)	
DESCRIPTION	FEE
Green Building Standards Plan Review Mandatory Provisions	\$1,020.00
Green Building Standards Plan Review Tier 1 Provisions	\$2,040.00
Green Building Standards Plan Review Tier 2 Provisions	\$3,060.00
Green Building Standards Inspection Mandatory Provisions	\$1,000.00
Green Building Standards Inspection Tier 1 Provisions	\$1,975.00
Green Building Standards Inspection Tier 2 Provisions	\$2,950.00
Grading Plan Review Fee (First 3 sheets)	\$1,035.00
Grading Plan Review Fee Each Additional Sheet	\$225.00
Grading Inspection Fee	\$220.00
NPDES LID Plan Review	\$2,157.00
NPDES LID Inspection	\$942.00
Residential Solar Panel Installation	\$500.00 plus \$15.00 per kilowatt for each kilowatt above 15kW
Commercial / Industrial Solar Panel Installation	\$1,000.00 plus \$7.00 per kilowatt for each kilowatt above 50 kw to 250 kW and \$5 per kilowatt for each kilowatt above 250kW
Water Efficient Landscape Plan Review and Inspection fee	\$645.00
Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Application Review fee	\$140.00
Sanitary Sewer Flow Study fee	\$1,640.00
Green Building Standards Administration Special Revolving fee	\$1.00 for every \$25,000 or portion thereof of valuation
Penalty Fees	
Work commencing prior to the issuance of a permit shall be subject to an additional fee equal to the permit fee. (Authorized by California Building Code § 109.4.)	

BUILDING, PLANNING, AND ENGINEERING FEES	
CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FEES	
AFFECTED FLOOR AREA	FEE
Inspection Fee	
Less than 5,000 square feet	\$300.00
5,001 to 50,000 square feet	\$689.00
50,001 to 100,000 square feet	\$815.00
Over 100,000 square feet	\$940.00
Issuance of a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy	
Less than 5,000 square feet	\$300.00
5,001 to 50,000 square feet	\$689.00
50,001 to 100,000 square feet	\$815.00
Over 100,000 square feet	\$940.00

BUILDING, PLANNING, AND ENGINEERING FEES	
INSPECTION AND OTHER FEES	
DESCRIPTION	FEE
Permit inspection outside of normal business hours (minimum charge four hours)	\$190.00/hr; Minimum of \$760.00
Inspections for work not requiring a permit	\$131.00/hr
Re-inspection fee	\$131.00/hr
Additional structural plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to the plans submitted or determination if an existing structure can accept additional loads	\$250.00/hr
Additional non-structural plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to the plans submitted	\$131.00/hr
Certified Access Specialist (CASp) Review fee	\$106.00/hr
Trailer Permit	\$395.00/trailer
Trailer Permit for subsequent years	\$395.00
Final map, parcel map, or tentative map which contains four or less parcels or lots	\$4,350.00
Final map, parcel map, or tentative map which contains five or more parcels or lots	\$8,650.00 paid at the time of submittal plus any County surveyor & County Clerk filing fees & Fish & Game Section 711.4 fees
Conditional Use Permit	\$12,950.00 plus applicant is responsible for cost to retain a consultant to prepare the environmental document for the project plus a 25% administration fee, plus any County Surveyor and County Clerk filing fees & Fish & Game Section 713 fees
Zoning Variance and Zoning Amendment	\$8,625.00
Building Code Variance	\$3,800.00
Release of Building Drawings	\$50.00
Covenant and Lot Merger Review Fee	\$730.00
Certificate of Compliance Fee	\$790.00
Lot Line Adjustment Fee	\$2,260.00
Grant/Easement Deed Review	\$1,125.00
Zoning Verification	\$215.00

ENCROACHMENT, LICENSE & FRANCHISE FEES		
DESCRIPTION		FEE
PERMIT ISSUANCE FEE		\$125.00
PERMIT INSPECTION AND PLAN CHECK FEES		RATE
	REGULAR TIME (7:00 A.M.- 5:30 P.M.)	\$129.000/HR.
	OVERTIME-FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, HOLIDAYS AND NIGHTS (4 HRS. MINIMUM)	\$190.00/HR.
	ANNUAL PERMIT FEE FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE (NO STREET CUTS)	\$450.00
RECONSTRUCTION FEES FOR WORK COMPLETED BY CITY	RATE	MINIMUM
ALL OTHER DIRECT COSTS TO THE CITY RESULTING FROM THE PERMITEE'S ACTIVITY, CALCULATED AT ACTUAL COST PLUS 25% ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS		

ENCROACHMENT, LICENSE & FRANCHISE FEES		
DESCRIPTION	ISSUANCE	ANNUAL FEE
FRANCHISES AND LICENSES (ISSUANCE & ANNUAL RENEWAL)		
RAILROAD CROSSINGS, CONVEYOR BRIDGES, AND TUNNELS ACROSS A STREET	\$25,000.00	\$2,500.00
RAILROAD TRACKS, PIPELINES OR CONDUITS ALONG A STREET	\$25,000.00 FOR EACH ONE-HALF (1/2) MILE OR PORTION THEREOF	\$2,500.00 FOR EACH ONE-HALF (1/2) MILE OR PORTION THEREOF
FOR PIPELINES OR CONDUITS ACROSS A STREET OR A METERING MANHOLE IN THE STREET	\$12,500.00	\$1,250.00
FOR BUILDING FOOTINGS AND APPENDAGES, TRAFFIC SENSORS, SIGNS, MONITORING WELLS AND ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTIONS	\$5,000.00	\$500.00
<p>The fee for any encroachment not specifically listed in the table shall be the same fee for the most similar structure listed in the table as determined by the City.</p>		

ENCROACHMENT, LICENSE & FRANCHISE FEES

ENCROACHMENT PERMIT FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE BOND OR CASH DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS

The amount of an encroachment permit cash deposit, certified or cashier's check, surety bond, or letter of credit shall be determined by multiplying the quantity of asphalt paving, concrete paving, sidewalk, concrete curb, monuments and trench excavations proposed to be removed, disturbed or opened by the rate shown in the table below, the sum of the totals shall establish the minimum amount of the bond or deposit, except that in no case shall the faithful total security be less than \$5,000. Authorized by Vernon Municipal Code § 22.47.

TYPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED	RATE
ASPHALT PAVEMENT	\$17.75/SQ. FT.
CONCRETE PAVEMENT AND DRIVEWAY	\$19.75/SQ. FT.
CONCRETE SIDEWALK	\$10.25/SQ. FT.
CONCRETE CURB & GUTTER	\$52.50/LIN. FT.
TRENCH EXCAVATIONS	\$7,500.00/EACH OPEN EXCAVATION
MONUMENT REPLACEMENT	\$3,000.00/MONUMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL FEES	
PERMIT TYPE	FEES
FOOD PERMITS:	
CATERER (1625) - ANNUAL	\$283
CATERER (1625) - DAILY	\$94
COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (1677)	\$161
COMMISSARY (1650)	\$577
FOOD PROCESSING (1655): <= 2,000 SQ. FT.	\$405
ESTABLISHMENT (1656): > 2,000 SQ.FT.	\$843
FOOD VENDING MACHINE BUSINESS (1644)	\$33/ MACHINE
FOOD WAREHOUSE (1647)	\$324
RESTAURANT (1622-1623): 0-30 SEATS	\$324
RESTAURANT (1622-1623): 31 SEATS & OVER	\$642
RETAIL FOOD MARKET (1611)	\$314
RETAIL FOOD PRODUCTION ESTABLISHMENT (1615)	\$314
TEMPORARY EVENT ORGANIZER (1660)	\$235
TEMPORARY FOOD FACILITY (1670)	\$91
FOOD VEHICLES:	
MOBILE FOOD FACILITY (1638 Fruit & Veg)	\$175
A. WHOLE PRODUCE (RFVV) (1636 Packaged food)	\$175
MOBILE FOOD PREP UNIT (HOT TRUCK) (1635) - ANNUAL	\$430
MOBILE FOOD PREP UNIT (HOT TRUCK) (1635) - DAILY	\$145
WHOLESALE FOOD VEHICLE (1637)	\$95
RETAIL FOOD VEHICLE (COLD TRUCK) (1634)	\$95

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL FEES	
PERMIT TYPE	FEES
NON-FOOD:	
GARMENT MANUFACTURING (3130)	\$308
LAUNDRY FACILITY (N/A IF FACILITY IS NOT A VERNON BUSINESS) (7822)	\$244
LAUNDRY VEHICLE (7823)	\$95 PER VEHICLE
WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY (7437)	\$357
WASTE TRANSFER STATION (7444)	\$244
WASTE COLLECTION BUSINESS (7422)	\$1,193
WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE (7423)	\$207
WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE YARD (7442)	\$260
RENDERING PLANT BUSINESS (7456)	\$423
RENDERING PLANT VEHICLE (7462)	\$207
WASTE DISPOSAL SITE (7433)	\$244
WATER SUPPLY UTILITY (7611)	\$8 / SERVICE CONNECTION
LIQUID WASTE PUMPING BUSINESS (7241)	\$207
LIQUID WASTE PUMPING VEHICLE (7244)	\$181
OFFAL BUSINESS (7424)	\$207
OFFAL VEHICLE (7425)	\$181

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL FEES	
PERMIT TYPE	FEES
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS:	
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FACILITY (4110)	\$975 / FACILITY
ANNUAL TANK OPERATING PERMIT (4100)	\$637 / TANK
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:	
APPLICATION FEE	\$255
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PERMIT	
CLASS A (4201)	\$380
CLASS B (4202)	\$429
CLASS C (4203)	\$1,590
CERTIFICATE OF CLOSURE LETTER (4252)	\$268
Hazardous Material Closure:	
Small	\$244
Medium	\$488
Large	\$732
Ex-large	\$976
WELL PERMITS:	
DRILLING A WATER WELL (7368)	\$505
DESTROYING OR CONVERTING AN EXISTING WATER WELL (7369)	\$505
DRILLING A MONITORING WELL < 50 FT. (7365)	\$455
REPAIRING / MODIFYING A WELL (7371)	\$372
ABOVEGROUND PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK FACILITY PERMIT	
Category 4001 - ≥ 1320 gallons and < 10,000 gallons	\$210
Category 4002 - ≥ 10,000 gallons and < 100,000 gallons	\$420
Category 4003 - ≥ 100,000 gallons and < 1,000,000 gallons	\$800
Category 4004 - ≥ 1,000,000 gallon	\$1,600
GENERAL PLAN CHECK	
1-5 sheets	\$426
6-10 sheets	\$792
11-25 sheets	\$1,036
Additional sheets	\$181

FIRE FEES	
FIRE PREVENTION	FEE
Annual Business Fire Inspection (based on building size)	
0 to 5,000 sq. ft.	\$217
5001 to 9,999 sq. ft.	\$248
10,000 to 24,999 sq. ft.	\$279
25,000 to 50,000 sq. ft.	\$310
50,001 to 99,999 sq. ft.	\$341
100,000 to 249,999 sq. ft.	\$372
250,000 sq. ft. and greater	\$403
Annual Business Fire Re-Inspection* (after 2nd re-inspection)	
1 st re-inspection	\$0
2 nd re-inspection and additional inspections beyond	\$322 ea.
Fire Department Permit (Required Operational Permits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerosol Products • Combustible dust operations • Combustible fiber storage • Explosives (fireworks only) • Flammable & combustible liquids • Hazardous materials • High-piled storage • Miscellaneous combustible storage • Ovens – industrial baking & drying • Repair garages • Special events (assemblies >50 people) • Spraying and dipping • Tents & temporary membrane structures (>400 sq. ft.) • Waste handling • Woodworking plants 	\$107.00/hr.

FIRE FEES	
FIRE PREVENTION (CONT'D)	FEE
Fire Department Permit (Required Construction Permits)	
Construction permits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic fire-extinguishing systems • Battery Systems • Compressed gases • Cryogenic fluids • Emergency responder radio coverage system • Fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment • Fire pumps and related equipment • Flammable and combustible liquids • Hazardous materials • Industrial ovens • LP-gas • Private fire hydrants • Solar photovoltaic power systems • Spraying or dipping • Standpipe systems • Temporary membrane Structures and tents 	
VALUATION	
\$1.00 to \$2,000.00	\$157.60
\$2,001.00 to \$5,000.00	\$157.60 for the first \$2,000.00 plus \$7.88 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$5,000.00
\$5,001.00 to \$25,000.00	\$394.00 for the first \$5,000.00 plus \$19.70 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$25,000.00
\$25,001.00 to \$50,000.00	\$788.00 for the first \$25,000.00 plus \$14.78 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$50,000.00
\$50,001.00 to \$100,000.00	\$1157.50 for the first \$50,000.00 plus \$10.84 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$100,000.00
\$100,001.00 to \$500,000.00	\$1699.50 for the first \$100,000.00 plus \$7.88 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$500,000.00
\$500,001.00 and UP	\$4851.50 for the first \$500,000.00 plus \$6.11 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof
Plan Check Fee when required, shall be equal to 65% of the Permit Fee. The minimum Plan Check Fee for Automatic Fire Sprinkler Hydraulic Calculations shall be \$250.00.	

FIRE FEES	
FIRE PREVENTION (CONT'D)	FEE
Constructions permit inspection outside of normal business hours (minimum charge four hours at a rate of \$160.50 per hr.)	\$642.00
Inspections for work not requiring a permit	\$107.00/hr.
Construction and operational permit re-inspection fee	\$107.00/hr.
Additional plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to the plans submitted	\$107.00/hr.
Additional plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to the plans submitted to the outside fire consultant	\$99.00/hr.
Penalty Fees - Work commencing prior to the issuance of a construction permit shall be subject to an additional fee equal to the construction permit fee. (See California Building Code § 109.4)	
Fire Protection Systems	
Back flush - Five year sprinkler system testing (per system)	\$150
Fire Alarm Systems	
Fire alarm registration (initial)	\$54
Fire alarm registration (annual)	\$27
False Security Alarm (no charge for the first two within a fiscal year)	
3rd false security alarm with emergency response	\$749
4th false security alarm with emergency response	\$874
5th false security alarm with emergency response	\$999
6th false security alarm with emergency response, and each additional security alarm thereafter	\$1,124
Public Education	
Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) (supplies)	\$0
CPR training (supplies)	\$100 per person
Evacuation planning & drill	\$0
Fire extinguisher training – Max. 30 students	\$50/ea. session

FIRE FEES	
FIRE PREVENTION (CONT'D)	FEE
State Mandated Fire Inspections	
Apartments and schools	\$161
Other Fees	
After-hours fire inspection (based on 4 hour minimum)	\$696
Apparatus and crew charge (hourly) – Per CAL OES State Fire Program	\$200 hr.
Fire code appeals (not refundable)	\$239
Film Permit	\$214
Inspection charge (special events)	\$107
Standby service (4 hour minimum per man hour)	\$98

POLICE FEES	
General:	Fees
Vehicle release fee - standard	\$40.00
Vehicle release fee - driving under the influence	\$115.00
Fee to release complete copy of arrest reports, traffic accident reports, incident reports	\$20.00
Fee to release complete copy of arrest reports, traffic accident reports, and incident reports (certified)	\$25.00
Fee to release certified traffic citation	\$1.75
Repossession fee for vehicles repossessed in Vernon (Government Code 41612)	\$15.00
VIN verification fee	\$35.00
Citation sign-off fee	\$35.00
DUI Emergency Response	City's cost
False Security Alarms: (no charge for the first 3 within a fiscal year)	
4th false security alarm	\$134.00
5th false security alarm	\$165.00
6th false security alarm	\$196.00
7th false security alarm, and each additional security alarm thereafter	\$227.00
Subpoenas and Discovery Motions:	\$195.00
Basic Police background investigation	\$15.00
Video tape copy (blank tape provided by requester) (VHS)	\$15.00
Video tape copy (blank tape provided by requester) (digital)	\$15.00

TRANSMITTAL COMMUNICATION

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 7, 2014

TO: Daniel Calleros, Police Chief
Kristen Enomoto, Deputy City Administrator
Carlos Fandino, Director of Gas & Electric
William Fox, Finance Director/City Treasurer
Leonard Grossberg, Director of Health & Environmental Control
Masami Higa, Assistant Finance Director
Alex Kung, Economic Development Manager
Joaquin Leon, Deputy City Treasurer
Teresa McAllister, Director of Human Resources
Lisette Michel, Sr. Human Resources Analyst
Hema Patel, City Attorney
Mark Whitworth, City Administrator
Michael Wilson, Fire Chief
S. Kevin Wilson, Director of Public Works, Water & Development Services

FROM: Deborah Juarez, Records Management Assistant 

RE: Resolution No. 2014-50 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vernon
Approving and Adopting an Updated General Fee Schedule

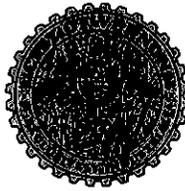
Transmitted herewith is a copy of Resolution No. 2014-50 referenced above, which was approved by City Council on August 5, 2014.

Thank you.

Attachment

c: Resolution No. 2014-50

STAFF REPORT



RECEIVED

JUL 30 2014

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

STAFF REPORT
FIRE DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2014

CITY ADMINISTRATION

DATE: August 5, 2014
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Michael A. Wilson, Fire Chief *MW*
RE: Revision to the General Fee Schedule in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 2014-42 regarding the False Security Alarm Fees

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve a resolution to, among other things, amend Exhibit A of the City's General Fee Schedule to remove the existing false security alarm fee for the second false alarm response within a fiscal year. The lack of a fee for the first false alarm would continue, and the fees for third and each subsequent false alarm response would remain unaffected. The resolution would also find that the revision to the false security alarm fee is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment.

Background

On July 1, 2014 the City of Vernon City Council approved and adopted a city-wide General Fee Schedule via Resolution No. 2014-42. Among other things, the General Fee Schedule included a fee to defray a portion of the Vernon Fire Department's costs of responding to false security alarms.¹ The General Fee Schedule states that Vernon is to charge nothing for the first false security alarm within a fiscal year, with fees for each subsequent violation.

¹ Vernon Municipal Code Section 114.1(r) defines False Alarm as "the wilful and knowing initiation or transmission of a signal, message or other notification of an event of fire when no such danger exist, or the activation of any fire alarm system due to malfunction, mechanical or electrical defect, improper operation or procedure by any person, or a false oral, or written report to any department of the City of Vernon that an emergency exists requiring immediate or emergency response by the Vernon Fire Department".

The Department recommends the schedule be revised as follows:

False Security Alarm (no charge for the first <u>two</u> within a fiscal year)	
2nd false security alarm with emergency response	\$624
3rd false security alarm with emergency response	\$749
4th false security alarm with emergency response	\$874
5th false security alarm with emergency response	\$999
6th false security alarm with emergency response, and each additional security alarm thereafter	\$1,124

The Vernon Fire Department recommends that the fee of \$624 for second false alarms be deleted to better track with the requirements of, Section 104.12 of the California Fire Code² which authorizes fees of *three* or more false alarms per year, rather than two:

“The fire code official is authorized to assess a service charge, as set forth by resolution, against the person owning or responsible for an alarm system when a fire department response occurs as a result of the third false alarm at the same address or location within any twelve month period, and for each subsequent false alarm thereafter, or against any person who intentionally, or in violation of the law reports, or causes to be reported, a false alarm to any department of the City of Vernon that an emergency exists requiring immediate or emergency response by the City of Vernon Fire Department”.

Fiscal Impact

The recommended action would decrease revenue to the City by approximately \$20,000 in the first year, and somewhat less in subsequent years, as the City expects some businesses will respond to the new fees by taking actions to limit the number of false alarms.

² This section of the Building Code was amended pursuant to Vernon Municipal Code § 7.12(b).