



Request for Council Action

Originator Building and Inspection	Item Remove Plumbing Registration Requirement and Increase the Plan Review Fee Pre-payment Threshold
Agenda Section ORDINANCE	Date 12/7/2015

Description

Building & Inspection's review determined the administrative costs for registering plumbers outweighs the public benefit and fee collected. The Building & Inspection Division recommends removing the plumbing registration requirement from the City Code.

In the past, Bloomington issued a license for plumbing contractors because there was no state license. The state now licenses these companies and individuals. After the plumbing registration is removed from the code, B&I can verify on the Department of Labor and Industry site that plumbing contractors are licensed and process their applications just as we do with state-licensed electrical and building contractors. Average City plumbing registration fees have been \$9,300 per year. Staff time saved by not issuing the 310 annual licenses will be about 160 hours per year.

Building & Inspection also recommends increasing the threshold when pre-payment of plan review fees is required. Currently the Code requires a prepaid plan review fee for all projects exceeding \$1,000. Staff recommends this be increased to \$10 million to reduce the administrative costs and contractor inconvenience associated with pre-payment for smaller projects.

Requested Action

Building & Inspection recommends that the Council adopt the attached resolution to remove the requirement for plumbing registration and increase the threshold amount for collecting a pre-paid plan review fee.

Attachments:

Approve proposed resolution.