

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF FORT MILL  
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF FORT MILL; CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE IV, FINANCE AND TAXATION; DIVISION 4, DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES; SO AS TO UPDATE THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES FOR THE TOWN AS MANDATED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ACT

WHEREAS, the Fort Mill Town Council originally adopted development impact fees by Ordinance 2015-12 on August 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Development Impact Fee Act (the "Act"), as more fully set forth in Section 6-1-910, et seq, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended, requires that the plans, studies, and ordinances relating to development impact fees be updated at least once every five years; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Mill Town Council updated its development impact fees by Ordinance 2020-17 on June 8, 2020, to comply with Section 6-1-950, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976) and Section 2-315 herein; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2024, the Fort Mill Town Council adopted resolution directing the Fort Mill Planning Commission to conduct the necessary studies to update again the town's development impact fees and to make their recommendations to Town Council on or before June 8, 2025, in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2025, the Fort Mill Planning Commission adopted a resolution to recommend in favor of approval of this updated development impact fee ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Mill Town Council finds that the continued use of development impact fees would be in the best interest of the Town of Fort Mill;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution and the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF FORT MILL:

SECTION I. Updated Reports. The Fort Mill Town Council hereby adopts the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, the *Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, in support of this Ordinance.

SECTION II. The Code of Ordinances for the Town of Fort Mill; Chapter 2, Administration; Article IV, Finance and Taxation; Division 4, Development Impact Fees; is hereby amended to read as follows:

**DIVISION 4. DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES**

**Sec. 2-300. Title**

This ordinance shall be referred to as the “Development Impact Fee Ordinance for the Town of Fort Mill, South Carolina.”

**Sec. 2-301. Authority**

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to and in compliance with the authority of the South Carolina Development Impact Fee Act, Code of Laws of South Carolina, Title 6, Article 9, Chapter 1 (the “Act”), and is to be interpreted in accordance with such Act, or as it may be amended in the future.

**Sec. 2-302. Findings**

The Fort Mill Town Council hereby declares that:

- (a) Adequate parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, and municipal facilities and equipment are vital and necessary to the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of the Town and its citizens. Substantial growth and new construction are taking place within the Town and is anticipated to continue. This growth creates substantial need for new infrastructure capacity. Meeting these needs is very costly; however, failure to do so will result in an inadequate system of facilities and equipment to accommodate anticipated demand. This would make the Town a less desirable place to live and do business and be detrimental to the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of the Town and its citizens.
- (b) To the extent that future growth and new construction in the Town place demands on parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, or municipal facilities and equipment, those demands and needs should be met by shifting a portion of the capital costs for providing new capacity to serve new development, which creates, in whole or in part, these demands and needs.
- (c) By Resolution adopted on December 9, 2024, the Town Council directed the Planning Commission to conduct the necessary studies to review and update the development impact fee ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the Act.
- (d) The Planning Commission recommended to Town Council a *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, a *Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and a *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, each of which have been adopted by the Town Council, as modified.
- (e) This ordinance is enacted to implement the findings and recommendations of the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and endorse the list of capital projects eligible for impact fee funding in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein .
- (f) The impact fees prescribed in this ordinance are equitable, do not impose an unfair or disproportionate burden on developers and new construction, and are in the best interests of the general welfare of Fort Mill and its citizens.
- (g) New facilities or equipment eligible for development impact fee funding will benefit all new

development or redevelopment in Town limits. Therefore, it is appropriate to treat the entire town as one service area for calculating, collecting, and spending development impact fees.

- (h) This ordinance provides the procedures for timely processing of applications for determination of appropriate development impact fees applicable to all development inside Town limits subject to the impact fees, and for the timely processing of applications for individual assessment of development impact fees, credits, or reimbursements allowed or paid.
- (i) The maximum allowable parks and recreation impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, have been reduced by ten percent (10%) for the General Development Impact Fee Schedule summarized in Exhibit A of this ordinance, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amounts to provide a reasonable fee for residential investment and to ensure that the impact fees collected do not exceed the cost to provide capital facilities that accommodate new development.
- (j) The maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, have been reduced by ten percent (10%) for the General Development Impact Fee Schedule summarized in Exhibit A of this ordinance, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amounts to provide a reasonable fee for residential and non-residential investments and to ensure that the impact fees collected do not exceed the cost to provide capital facilities and equipment that accommodate new development.
- (k) The maximum allowable municipal facilities and equipment impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, have been reduced by ten percent (10%) for the General Development Impact Fee Schedule summarized in Exhibit A of this ordinance, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amounts to provide a reasonable fee for residential and non-residential investments and to ensure that the impact fees collected do not exceed the cost to provide capital facilities and equipment that accommodate new development.
- (l) Property for which a valid building permit has been issued prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall be subject to the rules, procedures, and dollar amounts for development impact fees enacted by the Town on June 8, 2020.

### **Sec. 2-303. Definitions**

The following definitions apply within this ordinance consistent with the provisions set forth in the South Carolina Development Impact Fee Act, or as it may be amended in the future. Where terms are not defined, the definitions used in the Town of Fort Mill Code of Ordinances shall apply.

- (a) Affordable Housing. Housing that is affordable to families whose incomes do not exceed eighty (80%) percent of the median income for the service zone established for the Town of Fort Mill.
- (b) Building Permit. A permit issued by the Town permitting the construction of a building or structure within Town limits.
- (c) Capital Improvement. Improvements with a useful life of five years or more, by new construction or other action, which increase the service capacity of the public facility. Public

facilities for the purpose of this ordinance include parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, and municipal facilities and equipment.

- (d) Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). A multi-year planning tool used to identify capital projects and coordinate financing and implementation. The Plan also identifies capital improvements for which impact fees may be used as a funding source.
- (e) Certificate of Occupancy. A certificate allowing the occupancy or use of a building and certifying that the structure or use has been constructed or will be used in compliance with the Town of Fort Mill Code of Ordinances and all other applicable regulations.
- (f) Credits. Impact fee deductions allowed to a fee payor for eligible off-site capital improvements funded by the fee payor.
- (g) Developer. An individual, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity undertaking new development.
- (h) Development. Construction or installation of a new building or structure, or a change in use of an existing building or structure, any of which creates additional demand and need for public facilities (i.e., parks and recreation, fire protection, or municipal facilities and equipment). A building or structure shall include, but not be limited to, modular buildings and manufactured housing. Development does not include alterations made to existing single-family homes.
- (i) Development Impact Fee. A financial payment made by a developer to a local government as a condition of development approval to pay a proportionate share of the cost of system improvements needed to serve the people utilizing the improvements. The term does not include:
  - (1) A charge or fee to pay the administrative, plan review, or inspection costs associated with permits required for development;
  - (2) Connection or hookup charges;
  - (3) Amounts collected from a developer in a transaction in which the local government has incurred expenses in constructing capital improvements for the development if the owner or developer has agreed to be financially responsible for the construction or installation of the capital improvements;
  - (4) Fees authorized by Article 3 in the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended.

Development impact fees (or “impact fees”) are collected by the Town for parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, and municipal facilities and equipment.

- (j) Fee Payor. A developer that pays or is required to pay a development impact fee.
- (k) Fire Protection Impact Fee. A payment of money imposed as a condition of approval to pay a proportionate share of the cost for improvements to the fire protection system identified to serve new development.
- (l) Municipal Facilities and Equipment Impact Fee. A payment of money imposed as a condition

of approval to pay a proportionate share of the cost for improvements to the municipal facilities and equipment system identified to serve new development.

- (m) Off-Site Improvements. Capital improvements located outside of the boundaries of a development that are required to serve the development's demands and needs.
- (n) Parks and Recreation Impact Fee. A payment of money imposed as a condition of approval to pay a proportionate share of the cost for improvements to the parks and recreation system identified to serve new development.
- (o) Public Facilities. Improvements to and/or construction of capital improvements identified in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein, and as described in Section 2-304 hereof. Public facilities for the purpose of this ordinance shall include parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, and municipal facilities and equipment.
- (p) Square Feet (s.f.). As referred to in Exhibit A of this ordinance, means the sum (in square feet) of the area of each floor level, including cellars, basements, mezzanines, penthouses, corridors, lobbies, stores and offices, that are within the principal outside faces of exterior walls, not including architectural setbacks or projections. Included are all areas that have floor surfaces with clear standing head room (measured 6 foot, 6 inches minimum) regardless of their use. If a ground-level area of a building, or part thereof, within the principal outside faces of the exterior walls is not enclosed, this square footage definition considers it part of the overall square footage for the building. However, unroofed areas and unenclosed roofed-over spaces, except those contained within the principle outside faces of exterior walls, should be excluded from the area measurement. The area of any parking garage within a building shall not be included in the area measurement.
- (q) System Improvement. A capital improvement to a public facility which is designed to provide service to a service area.
- (r) System Improvement Costs. The costs incurred for construction and reconstruction of system improvements, including design, acquisition, engineering, and other costs attributable to the improvements, and also including the cost of providing additional public facilities needed to serve new growth and development. System improvement costs do not include:
  - (1) Construction, acquisition, or expansion of public facilities other than capital improvements eligible for development impact fee funding that are identified in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein;
  - (2) Repair, operation, or maintenance of existing or new capital improvements;
  - (3) Upgrading, updating, expanding, or replacing existing capital improvements to serve existing development in order to meet stricter safety, efficiency, environmental, or regulatory standards;
  - (4) Upgrading, updating, expanding, or replacing existing capital improvements to provide better service to existing development;

- (5) Administrative and operating costs of the governmental entity; or
- (6) Principal payments and interest or other finance charges on bonds or other indebtedness except financial obligations issued by or on behalf of the governmental entity to finance capital improvements eligible for impact fee funding that are identified in the *Town of Fort Mill Capital Improvements Plan*.

#### **Sec. 2-304. Supporting Documentation**

This ordinance is based upon the conclusions and recommendations presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, the *Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein, prepared consistent with the provisions set forth in the Act and adopted by ordinance of Town Council on May 19, 2025. All three documents are and shall remain on file in the Town Planning Department and are hereby incorporated into this ordinance by reference.

All development impact fees collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be used to implement any or all of the public facilities deemed eligible for impact fee funding identified in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein.

#### **Sec. 2-305. Jurisdiction**

A development impact fee shall apply to all new development or redevelopment located within Town limits.

#### **Sec. 2-306. Application and Exemptions**

The provisions of the ordinance shall apply to all new development or redevelopment within Town limits for which a building permit or development approval is required except for the following:

- (a) Rebuilding the same amount of floor space of a structure that was destroyed by fire or other natural catastrophe;
- (b) Remodeling or repairing a structure with the same land use that does not result in an increase in the number of service units or place new demand on parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, or municipal facilities and equipment;
- (c) Replacing a residential unit, including a manufactured home, with another residential unit on the same lot, if the amount of traffic generated by the new residential unit does not increase;
- (d) Placing a construction trailer or temporary office on a lot during the period of construction on the same lot;
- (e) Construction of an addition to a residential structure that does not increase the number of service units generated by the same land use;
- (f) Adding uses that are typically accessory to residential uses, such as a tennis court or a

clubhouse, unless it is demonstrated clearly that the use creates new demand for parks and recreation facilities, fire protection, or municipal facilities and equipment;

- (g) All or part of a particular development project if:
  - (1) The project is determined to create affordable housing; and
  - (2) The exempt development's proportionate share of system improvements is funded through a revenue source other than development impact fees.
- (h) Constructing a new elementary, middle, or secondary school; and
- (i) Constructing a new volunteer fire department.

### **Sec. 2-307. Provisions for Affordable Housing**

Because all or part of any particular development project may be exempt from development impact fees for affordable housing, the following sets forth the administrative standards for determining what constitutes affordable housing and the procedures for exemption from one or more development impact fees.

#### (a) Median Household Income

Affordable housing is based upon eighty percent (80%) of the median household income for residents living within the Town of Fort Mill. Median household income shall be determined once a year utilizing the following procedure:

- (1) The most recently available figures from the US Census Bureau American Community Survey, Five-Year Estimates data set will serve as the base year for this evaluation;
- (2) Each subsequent year will be adjusted once annually thereafter during January of the calendar year based upon the previous year's published Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase, until the next US Census Bureau data set is published and this procedure is replicated.

#### (b) Maximum Expenditure

The maximum expenditure for housing costs shall correspond to the Fannie Mae Foundation Mortgage Calculator multiplier of thirty percent (30%) of gross household income as used in the *Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025. Affordable housing based upon eighty percent (80%) of median household income is:

- (1) Multifamily rental dwelling units of which the gross monthly rent cost does not exceed thirty percent (30%) of eighty percent (80%) of the gross median household monthly income.
- (2) Fee simple ownership dwelling units of which the cost of homeownership for the dwelling unit do not exceed thirty percent (30%) of eighty percent (80%) of the gross median household monthly income as reflected in the sales price using the Fannie Mae Foundation

Mortgage Calculator (or comparable methodology) assuming a 20% down payment and a specified interest rate. The specified interest rate shall be determined by selecting the lowest 30-year fixed mortgage rate reported by area lending institutions at the time of building permit application.

(c) Procedures for Exemption from Development Impact Fees

- (1) A developer seeking exemption from one or more development impact fees for the construction of affordable multifamily rental dwelling units must identify the alternate source of funds for the impact fee and, unless the alternate source is from Town resources, post a financial guarantee suitable to the Town prior to the issuance of a building permit. The amount of the financial guarantee shall reflect the amount of development impact fees due for all affordable housing units as if they were not affordable housing units. No Certificate of Occupancy for any of the units may be issued until the impact fees for the affordable housing units have been paid by the alternate source or from the proceeds of the financial guarantee.

If the alternate source of funds for impact fees is from Town resources, prior to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy by the Town, the developer shall record an agreement approved by the Town restricting the monthly rental cost of each affordable housing unit for a period of six (6) years. Upon delivery of the recorded rent control agreement, the Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued.

- (2) A developer seeking exemption from one or more development impact fees for construction of a fee simple ownership dwelling unit shall identify the alternate source of funds for the impact fees and, unless the alternate source is from Town resources, post a financial guarantee suitable to the Town prior to the issuance of a building permit. The amount of the financial guarantee shall reflect the amount of development impact fees due for all affordable housing units as if they were not affordable housing units. No Certificate of Occupancy may be issued for the affordable housing dwellings until the impact fees have been paid by the alternate source or from the proceeds of the financial guarantee.

If the alternate source of funds for impact fees is from Town resources, prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy by the Town, the developer shall file with the Town a closing statement for the dwelling unit indicating an arm's length sales price no greater than that allowed for affordable housing at the time of final sale and a recorded covenant, approved by the Town, restricting the sales price of the dwelling, for a period of six (6) years, to the original sales price, adjusted annually for inflation.

**Sec. 2-308. Determination of Fees**

(a) General Provisions

- (1) The Town Planning Department shall determine, assess, and collect all development impact fees administered within the Town limits.
- (2) Upon the effective date of this ordinance, development impact fees shall be charged to new development or redevelopment in accordance with the procedures set forth in this ordinance. The fees to be collected for a development will be determined at the time of application for a building permit. If the development is one that does not require a building

permit, the impact fee for the development will be determined at the time of development approval. No building permit or development approval shall be issued for any development requiring the payment of development impact fees until the fees have been assessed by and remitted to the Town Planning Department, or in the case of affordable housing, the appropriate financial guarantees have been filed with the Town Manager. At the Town Planning Director's discretion, any development impact fees assessed at the time of permitting may be remitted after the issuance of a building permit, but in all instances, the development impact fees must be remitted to the Town Planning Department prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. Payment of such fees shall not relieve the developer from obligations to comply with any other applicable Town ordinances, regulations, or requirements including, but not limited to, the "Zoning," "Subdivisions," or "Buildings and Building Regulations" Chapters of the Town of Fort Mill Code of Ordinances prior to receiving a Certificate of Occupancy.

- (3) All monies paid by the fee payor pursuant to this ordinance shall be identified as development impact fees and promptly deposited in the appropriate development impact fee trust fund described under Section 2-309 of this ordinance.
- (4) For the purpose of calculating development impact fees, the land use types assumed in the General Development Impact Fee Schedule of this ordinance (i.e., Exhibit A) shall be defined in accordance with the definitions contained in the Institute of Transportation Engineers' *Trip Generation Manual*, Tenth Edition.
- (5) Payment of development impact fees according to the General Development Impact Fee Schedule (i.e., Exhibit A), or independent impact fee calculation study reviewed and approved by the Town Planning Director, shall constitute full and complete payment of the new development's proportionate share of public facilities costs.
- (6) A developer may negotiate and contract with the Town to provide facilities or services in lieu of payment of development impact fees in accordance with Section 6-1-1050 of the Act.

(b) Parks and Recreation Impact Fees

(1) Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Formula

Parks and recreation impact fees collected within Town limits shall be in accordance with the following formula:

Impact Fee = (NNDU) x (P/HH) x (COST) x (TDR) Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate published by the US Census Bureau for various dwelling unit categories (see the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, Appendix C).

COST = The cost per capita for providing improvements to parks and recreation facilities based on information presented in the *Development Impact*

*Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$598.44.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable parks and recreation impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

(2) Determining Park and Recreation Impact Fees

The amount of parks and recreation impact fees attributable to a specific development shall be determined through the following process:

- a. Verify the type and number of new residential dwelling units for which the building permit is being sought;
- b. Determine whether any of the proposed residential dwelling units qualify as "affordable housing" and, if so, the number and type of such units;
- c. Determine the applicable residential dwelling unit category set forth in Exhibit A (as applicable) of this ordinance; and
- d. Multiply the discounted development impact fee rate for the residential dwelling unit category by the number of net new units within the development and the average persons per household estimate.

(3) Independent Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Calculation

In the event that a fee payor or Town staff contend that the land use for which the building permit is being sought is not within those land uses identified in Exhibit A, or if the fee payor contends that the Exhibit A calculations are not accurate for its intended use, then the Town's Planning Director, or its designee, shall make a determination as to the most comparable land use category to assume for calculating parks and recreation impact fees. If the fee payor disagrees with the determination of the Town Planning Director or if the Town otherwise deems it appropriate, an independent impact fee calculation may be performed to quantify the fair share of system improvement costs attributable to the development. Preparation of an independent impact fee calculation will immediately halt the building permit application process until such time that the necessary calculation is deemed complete by the Town Planning Director. If an independent calculation is requested, it must accompany the building permit application and be prepared in accordance with the following provisions:

- a. Independent calculations for the determination of parks and recreation impact fees must be performed by a certified professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, planner or other duly qualified and licensed professional approved by the Town Planning Director.
- b. The independent calculation shall be subject to review and approval by the Town Planning Director, or its designee. In the event that the Town Planning Director elects to contract with a third party to review the independent calculation, the cost of this

review shall be borne by the applicant based on the cost of the third-party review, plus a ten percent (10%) administrative fee.

- c. The Town Planning Director shall either approve or provide in writing the reasons for disapproval of the independent calculation study within thirty (30) days of its submittal for review.
- d. Prior to commencing the study, the developer's hired professional and the Town Planning Director, or its designee, shall agree upon the relevant factors and values that will be utilized in the independent calculation of impact fees.
- e. The maximum allowable parks and recreation impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) for the purposes of completing an independent impact fee calculation, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amount.
- f. The independent impact fee calculation shall be based on the following formula:

$$\text{Impact Fee} = (\text{NNDU}) \times (\text{P/HH}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate approved by the Town Planning Director.

COST = The cost per capita for providing improvements to parks and recreation facilities based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$598.44.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable parks and recreation impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill*.

(c) Fire Protection Impact Fees

(1) Fire Protection Impact Fee Formula

Fire protection impact fees collected within Town limits shall be in accordance with one of the following formulas:

a. Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = (\text{NNDU}) \times (\text{P/HH}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate published by the US Census Bureau for various dwelling unit categories (See *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, Appendix C).

COST = The cost per capita for providing fire protection services based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$201.63.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

b. Non-Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = ((\text{NNSF})/1,000) \times (\text{ESR}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNSF = The amount of net new square footage generated by the proposed development. In instances where a variable other than square footage is used in determining the ESR (such as hotel rooms, hospital beds, etc.), then that variable shall be used in lieu of square footage, and such variable shall not be divided by 1,000 in the formula above.

ESR = Average employee space ratio developed using information published in the Institute of Transportation Engineers *Trip Generation, Tenth Edition* (see *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, Appendix C).

COST = The cost per employee for providing fire protection services is based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per employee is \$259.59.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

(2) Determining Fire Protection Impact Fees

The amount of fire protection impact fees attributable to a specific development shall be

determined through the following process:

- a. Verify the type and number of new residential dwelling units or the type and intensity of new non-residential square footage or other land use measuring criteria for which the building permit is being sought;
- b. For residential development, determine whether any of the proposed residential dwelling units qualify as "affordable housing" and, if so, the number and type of such units;
- c. Determine the applicable land use type and impact fee per unit set forth in Exhibit A (as applicable) of this ordinance; and
- d. Multiply the discounted development impact fee rate for the specified land use category by the number of net new units or net new square footage within the development (as applicable) and the average persons per household or employee space ratio estimate (as applicable).

(3) Independent Fire Protection Impact Fee Calculation

In the event that a fee payor or Town staff contend that the land use for which the building permit is being sought is not within those land uses identified in Exhibit A, or if the fee payor contends that the Exhibit A calculations are not accurate for its intended use, then the Town Planning Director, or its designee, shall make a determination as to the most comparable land use category to assume for calculating fire protection impact fees. If the fee payor disagrees with the determination of the Town Planning Director or if the Town otherwise deems it appropriate, an independent impact fee calculation may be performed to quantify the fair share of system improvement costs attributable to the development. Preparation of an independent impact fee calculation will immediately halt the building permit application process until such time that the necessary calculation is deemed complete by the Town Planning Director. If an independent calculation is requested, it must accompany the building permit application and be prepared in accordance with the following provisions:

- a. Independent calculations for the determination of fire protection impact fees must be performed by a certified professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, planner or other duly qualified and licensed professional approved by the Town Planning Director.
- b. The independent calculation shall be subject to review and approval by the Town Planning Director, or its designee. In the event that the Town Planning Director elects to contract with a third party to review the independent calculation, the cost of this review shall be borne by the applicant based on the cost of the third-party review, plus a ten percent (10%) administrative fee.
- c. The Town Planning Director shall either approve or provide in writing the reasons for disapproval of the independent calculation study within thirty (30) days of its submittal for review.
- d. Prior to commencing the study, the developer's hired professional and the Town

Planning Director, or its designee, shall agree upon the relevant factors and values that will be utilized in the independent calculation of impact fees.

- e. The maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) for the purposes of completing an independent impact fee calculation, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amount.
- f. The independent impact fee calculation shall be based on one of the following formulas:

1. Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = (\text{NNDU}) \times (\text{P/HH}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate approved by the Town Planning Director.

COST = The cost per capita for providing fire protection services based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$201.63.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

2. Non-Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = ((\text{NNSF})/1000) \times (\text{ESR}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNSF = The amount of net new square footage generated by the proposed development. In instances where a variable other than square footage is used in determining the ESR (such as hotel rooms, hospital beds, etc.), then that variable shall be used in lieu of square footage, and such variable shall not be divided by 1,000 in the formula above.

ESR = Average employee space ratio approved by the Town Planning Director.

COST = The cost per employee for providing fire protection services

based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per employee is \$259.59.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable fire protection impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

(d) Municipal Facilities and Equipment Impact Fees

(1) Municipal Facilities and Equipment Impact Fee Formula

Municipal facilities and equipment impact fees collected within Town limits shall be in accordance with one of the following formulas:

a. Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = (\text{NNDU}) \times (\text{P/HH}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate published by the US Census Bureau for various dwelling unit categories (See *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, Appendix C).

COST = The cost per capita for providing municipal facilities and equipment based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$335.29.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable municipal facilities and services impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

b. Non-Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = ((\text{NNSF})/1000) \times (\text{ESR}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNSF = The amount of net new square footage generated by the proposed development. In instances where a variable other than square footage is used in determining the ESR (such as hotel rooms, hospital beds, etc.), then that variable shall be used in lieu of square footage, and such variable shall not be divided by 1,000 in the formula above.

ESR = Average employee space ratio developed using information published in the Institute of Transportation Engineers *Trip Generation, Tenth Edition* (see *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, Appendix C).

COST = The cost per employee for providing municipal facilities and equipment based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per employee is \$288.52.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable municipal facilities and equipment impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

## (2) Determining Municipal Facilities and Equipment Impact Fees

The amount of municipal facilities and equipment impact fees attributable to a specific development shall be determined through the following process:

- a. Verify the type and number of new residential dwelling units or the type and intensity of new non-residential square footage or other land use measuring criteria for which the building permit is being sought;
- b. For residential development, determine whether any of the proposed residential dwelling units qualify as "affordable housing" and, if so, the number and type of such units;
- c. Determine the applicable land use type and impact fee per unit set forth in Exhibit A (as applicable) of this ordinance; and
- d. Multiply the discounted development impact fee rate for the specified land use category by the number of net new units or net new square footage within the development (as applicable) and the average persons per household or employee space ratio estimate (as applicable).

## (3) Independent Municipal Facilities and Equipment Impact Fee Calculation

In the event that a fee payor or Town staff contend that the land use for which the building permit is being sought is not within those land uses identified in Exhibit A, or if the fee payor contends that the Exhibit A calculations are not accurate for its intended use, then the Town Planning Director, or its designee, shall make a determination as to the most comparable land use category to assume for calculating municipal facilities and equipment impact fees. If the fee payor disagrees with the determination of the Town Planning Director or if the Town otherwise deems it appropriate, an independent impact fee calculation may be performed to quantify the fair share of system improvement costs attributable to the development. Preparation of an independent impact fee calculation will immediately halt the building permit application process until such time that the necessary calculation is deemed complete by the Town Planning Director. If an independent

calculation is requested, it must accompany the building permit application and be prepared in accordance with the following provisions:

- a. Independent calculations for the determination of municipal facilities and equipment impact fees must be performed by a certified professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, planner or other duly qualified and licensed professional approved by the Town Planning Director.
- b. The independent calculation shall be subject to review and approval by the Town Planning Director, or its designee. In the event that the Town Planning Director elects to contract with a third party to review the independent calculation, the cost of this review shall be borne by the applicant based on the cost of the third-party review, plus a ten percent (10%) administrative fee.
- c. The Town Planning Director shall either approve or provide in writing the reasons for disapproval of the independent calculation study within thirty (30) days of its submittal for review.
- d. Prior to commencing the study, the developer's hired professional and the Town Planning Director, or its designee, shall agree upon the relevant factors and values that will be utilized in the independent calculation of impact fees.
- e. The maximum allowable municipal facilities and equipment impact fees determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) for the purposes of completing an independent impact fee calculation, setting the fees at ninety percent (90%) of the maximum amount.
- f. The independent impact fee calculation shall be based on one of the following formulas:

1. Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = (\text{NNDU}) \times (\text{P/HH}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNDU = The number of net new dwelling units generated by the proposed development.

P/HH = Average person per household estimate approved by the Town Planning Director.

COST = The cost per capita for providing municipal facilities and equipment based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per capita is \$335.29.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to

charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable municipal facilities and equipment impact fee determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

## 2. Non-Residential Development

$$\text{Impact Fee} = ((\text{NNSF})/1000) \times (\text{ESR}) \times (\text{COST}) \times (\text{TDR})$$

Where:

NNSF = The amount of net new square footage generated by the proposed development. In instances where a variable other than square footage is used in determining the ESR (such as hotel rooms, hospital beds, etc.), then that variable shall be used in lieu of square footage, and such variable shall not be divided by 1,000 in the formula above.

ESR = Average employee space ratio approved by the Town Planning Director.

COST = The cost per employee for providing municipal facilities and equipment is based on information presented in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, and adopted by Town Council on May 19, 2025. The cost per employee is \$288.52.

TDR = For the purpose of this calculation, it is Town Council policy to charge only ninety percent (90%) of the maximum allowable municipal facilities and equipment impact fee determined in the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025.

### (e) Special Cases

The Town Planning Department shall take the following special cases into account when calculating development impact fees for a building permit application:

- (1) When an application for a building permit has been made that contains two or more land uses in any combination, including two or more land uses within a single building or structure, the total development impact fee assessment shall be the sum of the products, as calculated above, for each land use unless an independent impact fee calculation is performed, and approved for use by the Town Planning Director, or its designee, consistent with subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section.
- (2) In the case of a change, redevelopment, or modification of a land use which requires a building permit, and which is not exempted from development impact fees under Section 2-306 of this ordinance, the impact fee calculation shall be based upon the net increase in new or proposed land use as compared to the existing or previous land use.
- (3) In the case of a demolition or termination of an existing use or structure, development impact fees for future redevelopment shall be based upon the net increase in development

impact fees for the new or proposed land use as compared to the existing actual active previous land use since its original occupancy. Credit for the prior use shall not be transferable to another location.

- (4) Before a building permit application may become eligible for the provisions set forth in paragraphs (2) and (3), a developer shall provide reasonably sufficient evidence that a previous land use had been actively maintained on the site within twelve (12) months of the date of application for a building permit. Such evidence may include proof of utility records, records for the use sought to be shown, or other documentation.
- (5) Any claim of existing or previous use must be made no later than the time for application of a building permit. Any claim made after such time shall be deemed invalid.

### **Sec. 2-309. Impact Fee Trust Funds**

Development impact fees collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be kept separate from other revenue of the Town. There shall be one trust fund established for each development impact fee category depicted in Exhibit A of this ordinance: parks and recreation, fire protection, and municipal facilities and equipment. All development impact fees collected shall be properly identified by property address noted on the approved building permit and by the appropriate trust account.

Any funds on deposit not immediately necessary for expenditure shall be maintained in an interest-bearing account prior to expenditure on recommended projects. Interest earned on development impact fees in deposit must be considered revenue to the trust fund account for which income is earned and must be subject to all restrictions placed on the use of development impact fees pursuant to this ordinance.

### **Sec. 2-310. Limitation on Expenditures of Funds Collected**

#### **(a) Eligible System Improvement Costs**

Funds from development impact fee trust accounts shall be expended only for the public facilities and system improvements identified as eligible for impact fee funding in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended and prioritized therein, , and incorporated herein by reference. No funds shall be used for administrative or operating costs associated with imposing any of the development impact fees. Eligible components of a public facility may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Design and construction plan preparation;
- (2) Right-of-way acquisition;
- (3) Construction of new facilities, structures, or amenities that provide additional capacity;
- (4) Purchase of new equipment (>\$100,000 purchase price) that provide additional capacity;
- (5) Construction of new bridges;

- (6) Construction of new drainage facilities associated with capital improvements;
- (7) Purchase and installation of traffic signalization;
- (8) Construction of new curbs, medians, and shoulders;
- (9) Relocating utilities to accommodate new capital improvements; and
- (10) Principal payments, interest and other finance charges on bonds or other indebtedness issued by or on behalf of the Town for financing any or all public facilities.

(b) Rational Nexus Test

The Town Finance Director, or its designee, shall make an annual report to the Town Council and publish this report for access by the general citizenry showing where development impact fees have been collected and what projects have been funded with these revenues. The Council shall consider this report and whether the fees are being spent for the benefit of new development within Town limits. If the Council determines that this is not the case, then it shall adjust the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, and other projected capital expenditures to correct the condition.

(c) Expenditure of Funds

Development impact fee funds shall be expended in the order in which they were collected. The disbursement of such funds shall require approval of the Town Council, upon recommendation of the Town Manager or its designee.

(d) Reimbursement

Impact fee funds not obligated for expenditure within three (3) years of the date that they are scheduled to be expended in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, shall be returned, with actual interest earned, to the record owner of the property for which the fees were collected, on a first-in, first-out basis.

**Sec. 2-311. Credits / Reimbursements**

(a) General Provisions

- (1) A developer shall be entitled to a credit against development impact fees assessed pursuant to this ordinance for Town-approved monetary or in-kind contributions toward some or all of the public facilities included in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, that are eligible for impact fee funding.
- (2) Development impact fees shall not be imposed on a fee payor or developer who has entered into an agreement with the Town for certain contribution, payment, construction, or dedication of land up to the cash value of the specific improvements identified within

the agreement. Any difference between total development impact fees due for the development and the cash value of the executed agreement remain eligible for collection pursuant to the rules and requirements of this ordinance.

(b) A fee payor shall be reimbursed for contributions of land or facilities that exceed their proportionate share of the cost of public facilities when such excess contribution is made at the request of the Town.

(c) Application for Credit Agreement

(1) The determination of the amount of any credit shall be undertaken through submission of an Application for Credit Agreement, which shall be submitted through the Town Planning Department for review by the Town Planning Director, or its designee.

(2) The Application for Credit Agreement shall include the following information:

a. The following documentation must be provided if the proposed application involves a credit for any cash contribution:

1. A certified copy of the development approval in which the contribution was agreed; and
2. Proof of payment (if already made); or
3. Proposed method of payment (if not already made).

b. The following documentation must be provided if the proposed application involves credit for dedication of land:

1. A drawing and legal description of the land;
2. The appraised fair market value of the land at the date a building permit application is sought for the land use(s), prepared by a professional Real Estate Appraiser who is a member of the member Appraisal Institute (MAL) or who is a member of Senior Residential Appraisers (SRA); and
3. A certified copy of the development permit in which the land was agreed to be dedicated (if applicable).

c. The following documentation must be provided if the proposed application involves credit for construction:

1. The proposed construction documents of the specific construction project prepared and certified by a duly qualified and licensed engineer in the State of South Carolina;
2. The projected costs for the suggested improvements, which shall be based on local information for similar improvements, along with the construction schedule for the completion of said improvements. Such estimated cost shall include construction

or reconstruction of the project, the cost of labor and materials, the cost of all lands, property, rights, easements, and franchises acquired, financing charges, interest prior to and during construction and for one (1) year after completion of construction, costs of plans and specifications, surveys of estimates of costs and revenues, costs of professional services, and

3. all of the expenses necessary or incidental to determining the feasibility or practicability of such construction or reconstruction.
- (3) Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the proposed Application for Credit Agreement, the Town Planning Director, or its designee, shall determine if the application is complete. If it is determined that the proposed agreement is not complete, the Town Planning Director shall send written notification to the applicant outlining the deficiencies. The Town Planning Director shall take no further action on the proposed Application for Credit Agreement until all such deficiencies have been corrected or otherwise settled.
- (4) Once the Town Planning Director determines that the proposed Application for Credit Agreement is complete, it shall be reviewed within thirty (30) days by a committee of designated staff composed of the Town Manager, Town Finance Director, Town Code Enforcement Officer (Plans Submittal Official), and Town Engineer (together known as the Credit Review Committee).
- (5) If the Application for Credit Agreement is approved by the Credit Review Committee, a Credit Agreement shall be prepared and signed by the applicant and the Town Manager. It shall specifically outline the contribution, payment, construction, or land dedication, the time by which it shall be complete, dedicated, or paid, and any extensions thereof, and the dollar credit the applicant shall receive for the contribution, payment, or construction against development impact fees. The agreement may also include provisions for rescinding the credit and issuing stop work orders if the dedication and/or work and/or construction are not timely accomplished.
- (6) A fee payor affected by the decision of the Credit Review Committee regarding credits may appeal such decision pursuant to Section 2-313(a) of this ordinance.

### **Sec. 2-312. Penalties**

Town Council shall have the following remedies, which may be exercised individually or collectively, for collecting development impact fees. The failure to pursue any remedy at any time shall not be deemed as a waiver of Town rights to pursue any remedy at such other time as may be deemed appropriate.

- (a) Interest and Penalties. The Town may, at its discretion, add to the amount of calculated development impact fees due prior to award of a Certificate of Occupancy, reasonable interest and penalties for non-payment or late payment of required funds. Penalties for unpaid development impact fees shall be administered consistent with Chapter 1 (General Provisions), Section 1-6 in the Town of Fort Mill Code of Ordinances, which declares the violation a penalty subject to a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days. Each day of violation shall be deemed a separate offense.
- (b) Withholding Certificate of Occupancy. The Town may withhold a Certificate of Occupancy

until full and complete payment has been made by the developer of development impact fees due for the development.

- (c) Withholding Utility Service. The Town may withhold the provision of utility services to a development until the required development impact fees have been paid in full.
- (d) Lien. The Town may impose a lien on the developer's property for failure of the developer to pay required development impact fees in full.
- (e) Other. The Town may pursue the collection of the development impact fees, including interest, by way of civil process in the Court of Common Pleas for York County.

### **Sec. 2-313. Appeal Process**

A developer shall have the following rights for appeal of development impact fees imposed by the Town on their development pursuant only to this ordinance:

#### (a) Administrative Appeal

- (1) A developer may file an administrative appeal with the Town Manager regarding the payment of development impact fees, independent calculation of impact fees, or credits or reimbursements by filing a written Notice of Appeal. Said Notice shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the decision sought to be appealed. The filing of an appeal will immediately halt the building permit application process, unless the developer posts a bond or submits an irrevocable letter of credit for the full amount of the development impact fees as calculated by the Town to be due. All Notices of Appeal shall include a full explanation of the reasons for the appeal, specifying the grounds therefore, and containing any documentation that the developer desires to be considered. The appeal shall contain the name and address of the developer filing the appeal and shall state their capacity to act as a representative or agent if they are not the owner of the property to which impact fees or credits pertain.
- (2) Within thirty (30) days following receipt of the written Notice of Appeal, the Town Manager will review the Appellant's written report, supporting documentation and departmental staff reports. The thirty (30) day review period may be extended if additional information is needed from the Appellant in order to render a decision. Upon completion of the administrative review, the Town Manager will provide a written response to the Appellant constituting a final administrative determination.
- (3) Any person desiring to appeal the final administrative determination of the Town Manager regarding payment of development impact fees or credits shall file a written Notice of Appeal to the Town Council. Said Notice of Appeal to Town Council shall be filed with the Clerk of Town Council within fifteen (15) days following receipt of the final administrative determination. Receipt shall be construed to have occurred when the final administrative decision is deposited in the United States mail postage prepaid to the person whose name and address is identified in the original Notice of Appeal.
- (4) The Town Clerk of Council will schedule all impact fee appeals for the first Town Council meeting following ten (10) days from receipt of the Written Notice of Appeal to the Town Council. Postponements of the Town Council appeal date may be granted by the Town

Manager if they are requested in writing at least ten (10) days in advance of the scheduled Town Council meeting date.

- (5) When an Appeal is scheduled for oral presentation before the Town Council, the Appellant and Town staff shall each be given ten (10) minutes at the oral argument to present the Appeal and to discuss the submitted written record.

(b) Payment Under Protest

A fee payer may pay development impact fees under protest. Payment under protest does not preclude the developer from filing an administrative appeal nor is the fee payer estopped from receiving a refund of an amount considered to have been collected illegally. A fee payor, at its option, may also post a bond or submit an irrevocable letter of credit for the amount of development impact fees due instead of making a cash payment under protest, pending the outcome of an appeal.

(c) Mediation

Town Council shall provide for mediation by a qualified independent party, upon voluntary agreement by both the developer and the Town, to address a disagreement related to development impact fees calculated by the Town. Neither a request for, nor participation in, mediation shall preclude a fee payor from pursuing other developer rights or remedies otherwise available by law.

**Sec. 2-314. Refunds**

(a) General Provisions

Funds not obligated for expenditure within three (3) years of the date that they are scheduled to be expended in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, shall be refunded to the record owner of property for which the impact fees were paid, with actual interest earned, on a first-in, first-out basis. For the purpose of determining whether fees have been spent or encumbered, the first money placed in a trust fund account shall be deemed to be the first money taken out of that account when withdrawals have been made.

(b) Refund Process

- (1) The owner of property eligible for a refund of one or more development impact fee payments shall submit to the Town Planning Director a notarized sworn statement that the person is the current owner of the property for which a refund is due, a certified copy of the latest recorded deed, and a copy of the most recent ad valorem tax bill for the property.
- (2) When a right to a refund exists, the Town shall send a refund to the current owner of record within ninety (90) days after it is determined by Town Council that a refund is due.
- (3) All refunds shall include the pro rata portion of the interest earned while on deposit in the specific development impact fee trust account.
- (4) A record owner of property for which one or more development impact fee refunds are due has standing to sue for such refund pursuant to Section 6-1-1020(D) of the Act if there has

not been a good-faith effort towards a timely payment of a refund pursuant to this section.

**Sec. 2-315. Review**

- (a) Town Council shall be responsible for preparing and publishing an annual report describing the amount of development impact fees collected, appropriated, and spent during the preceding fiscal year.
- (b) Planning Commission shall be responsible for a holistic review and update of the *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, the *Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, and the *Development Impact Fee Ordinance for the Town of Fort Mill*. The next holistic review and update shall be completed within five years of the effective date of this Ordinance.

**Sec. 2-316. Termination of Development Impact Fees**

Development impact fees for the Town of Fort Mill shall be terminated within ten (10) years after the effective date of this ordinance, or when sufficient fees have been collected to fund all of the projects eligible for development impact fee funding that are identified in the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* dated March 31, 2025, as amended, whichever shall first occur, unless:

- (a) Town Council adopts a revised *Development Impact Fee Study Update Report for Fort Mill and a Housing Affordability Analysis in Support of the Development Impact Fee Study Update Report in Fort Mill*, or amends the *Capital Improvements Plan for Projects Eligible for Development Impact Fee Funding in Fort Mill* for a subsequent amount of time; or
- (b) Town Council adopts an updated *Development Impact Fee Ordinance for the Town of Fort Mill* pursuant to the substantive and procedural requirements set forth in the South Carolina Development Impact Fee Act, as amended.

**Sec. 2-317. Liberal Construction**

The provisions of this ordinance shall be liberally construed to effectively carry out its purpose in the interest of further promoting and protecting public health, safety, welfare, and convenience.

SECTION III. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court, such section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance shall be deemed to be a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance nor impair or nullify the remainder of these provisions which shall continue in full force and effect.

If the application of any provision of this ordinance to any new development is declared to be invalid by a decision of any court, the intent of Town Council is that such decision shall be limited only to the specific new development expressly involved in the controversy, action, or proceeding in which such decision of invalidity was rendered. Such decision shall not affect, impair, or nullify this ordinance as a whole or the application of any provision of this ordinance to any other new development.

SECTION IV. Conflicting Ordinances. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION V. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective from and after June 1, 2025.

**SIGNED AND SEALED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, having been duly adopted by the Town Council for the Town of Fort Mill on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

First Reading:  
Public  
Hearing:  
Second Reading:

TOWN OF FORT MILL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guynn H. Savage, Mayor

LEGAL REVIEW

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barron B. Mack, Jr, Town Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Virginia Burgess, Town Clerk