

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Newton and others

Subject: Local government, financing parks, trails and recreational facilities

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Overview

This bill permits a city, county or town to adopt a plan for parks, trails, and other recreational facilities, and impose a fee as provided in the plan to acquire and improve property needed to implement the plan. Effective for fees payable in 2014 and after.

Section

1 Parks, Trails, and Recreational Facilities; Financing Options.

Subd. 1. Definitions.

Subd. 2. Authorization. Permits a city, county or town (governmental unit) to construct, improve, operate and maintain recreational facilities inside and outside the boundaries of the governmental unit. Permits a governmental unit to acquire property, including by eminent domain, for recreational facilities, but only pursuant to an adopted plan.

Subd. 3. Financing. Permits a fee to be charged equally on all properties or based on value of the property. Requires the money collected to be kept in a dedicated account and only used as provided in the plan.

Subd. 4. Collection of fee. Provides for the fee to be collected in the same manner as special assessment, through the property tax collection process, and appear on the property tax statement as a recreational facilities fee.

Subd. 5. Local options. Permits the facilities plan to be adopted by ordinance after

Section

public hearing or by voter approval.

Subd. 6. Excess net revenues. Requires excess revenues in one year to offset charges in the next year.

Subd. 7. Other revenue sources. Permits other sources of funding for facilities.