

EL PASO COUNTY DRAINAGE BASIN PLANNING STUDY SYSTEM

DRAINAGE BASIN FEE SYSTEM

Developers in unincorporated El Paso County currently pay for the cost of regional drainage projects required to accommodate the increased drainage from new development by paying a drainage basin fee. The DBPS identifies the needed public drainage infrastructure, estimates the costs to construct it, and calculates a Drainage Fee for each projected impervious acre in the basin. (The City of Colorado Springs uses a different calculation.) The Drainage Basin Fees are deposited into an escrow account for each basin. When a developer constructs one of the public drainage facilities identified as reimbursable through the DBPS, he/she may be reimbursed 100% from these basin funds. (See City of Colorado Springs/El Paso County Drainage Criteria Manual.) <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=2336>

The Drainage Basin Fees were estimated based on best available information or restudies, and are typically too low to recoup a significant portion of the costs for the improvements leaving additional costs for the County.