

# BIA Fees Eliminated

September  
2021

## What is the purpose of the Business Improvement Area (BIA)?

The purpose of the BIA is to aid in general economic development and neighborhood revitalization within the BIA boundary, and to facilitate the cooperation of merchants, businesses, and residential property owners for the benefit of trade, economic vitality, and livability.

## How are the BIA funds utilized?

These funds are used to help fund the Downtown Auburn Cooperative, downtown events, downtown marketing, banners on light poles, and a variety of other downtown items.



City Council Approves  
Ordinance to  
Eliminate BIA Rate

How does this impact you?

## Ordinance No. 6831 Eliminates Business Improvement Area (BIA) Fee Assessment

### What is Ordinance No. 6831?

The fundamental purpose of Ordinance 6831 is to change the method in which the BIA is funded. Instead of collecting an annual fee from businesses within the BIA boundary, Ordinance 6831 eliminated the annual fee and replaces it with an annual funding commitment that is carved out of other taxes collected by the City of Auburn.

### Does Ordinance No.6831 change the BIA size or structure of the membership?

Ordinance 6831 does not change the geographic boundary of the BIA. It does not change the purpose of the BIA and how funds are to be invested within the geographic boundary of the BIA. Funds that are overseen by the committee will continue to be spent in the same manner. And it does not change the structure of the committee, their terms, membership requirements, and method of appointment.

### When does the ordinance go into effect?

The BIA Fee is collected with your annual business license. The 2022 license renewals will be sent out in mid-October and this is when you will notice the fee is no longer included.

### If I owe previous BIA fees, will this ordinance exempt me from needing to pay those fees?

No, if you currently owe BIA fees you will still need to pay the fees that are due.

Please contact Jenn Francis with the Economic Development Division if you have any question at 253-215-8744 or [jfrancis@auburnwa.gov](mailto:jfrancis@auburnwa.gov).