Grandfathering Policy related to fee increase

The proposed resolution as amended states that the revised fee schedule shall take effect "on the first for the month at least 30 days after enactment." That would typically be about 55 to 60 days after Board approval.

The building permit fees are set on the date that an application for building permit is filed. (If the board desires a grace period they could change the effective date of the ordinance.) In order to qualify for the current fee structure, an applicant can apply for a building permit prior to the date that the new fees go into effect. Permit must be issued within 180 days from the application filing date and construction must commence thereafter, or the new fees will be due and payable. In general, before applying for a permit a project should be "permit ready"; the project should have a complete set of plans (architectural, mechanical, structural, electrical, plumbing, fire protection and site plans) that have been approved by all necessary city/state departments.

Any request for an extension of the permit beyond 180 days, shall result in using the new fees.

Any amendments to the scope of work shall result in using the new fees. Any waiver of such fee change must be in writing, have a "justifiable cause", and be authorized by the Director of Operations. A "justifiable cause" shall be a force majeur - unforeseeable circumstances that prevent someone from commencing construction.

The Building Department will contact all applicants in its View Permit system and those with approved zoning / planning board applications within the past three years; to advise them that building permit fees will increase once the resolution is enacted.