

## AGENDA



Thursday, October 18, 2007

**Public Hearings and Possible Actions  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 82**

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**Subject:** Conduct a public hearing and approve a resolution re-authorizing the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District (PID).

**Amount and Source of Funding:** PID Assessments (not to exceed \$0.10 per \$100 evaluation), City of Austin annual contributions not to exceed \$150,000, and DAA memberships.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Michael Knox, EGRSO, 974-6415, David Lloyd, Law Department, 974-2918

**Prior Council Action:** Created the PID and set assessment rate on 04/15/1993. Approved a management agreement with the Austin Downtown Management Organization (DMO, Inc. (now the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA)) on 08/19/1993. Approved annual Service Plans and Budgets for 1994-1997. Re-authorized the Austin Downtown PID on 10/23/1997. Extended the management contract with the DAA on 03/12/1998. Approved annual DAA Service Plans and Budgets for 1998-2002. Set the public hearing to consider re-authorization of the PID on 10/03/2002. Re-authorized the Austin Downtown PID on 10/24/2002. Extended the management contract with the DAA on 10/24/2002. Approved annual DAA Service Plans and Budgets for 2003-2007.

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This resolution reauthorizes the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District for a period of five years. Petitions signed by property owners requesting reauthorization have been submitted.

The City Council approved the creation of the PID and set the assessment rate in April of 1993. The Council reauthorized the PID on October 23, 1997 and again on October 24, 2002. The Council also contracted with the Austin DMO, Inc. (now the DAA) to manage the PID. The Council has approved subsequent budgets, service plans, and assessment rolls for the PID. As a condition of the petition of property owners that created and continued the PID, the PID expires after five years (October 24, 2007). The City Council must reauthorize the PID if the downtown improvement district is to continue.

Since the PID was reauthorized in October of 1993, the DAA has continued to provide enhanced downtown Austin services. These services include the improved security provided by the Downtown Rangers, litter removal, promotion of the downtown arts, marketing and promotion of downtown businesses, involvement in downtown transportation issues, graffiti removal, and other approved downtown services. The current DAA annual budget approved by Council in November of 2006 is \$2,023,061.

The signed petitions generated by the DAA represented over 50% of the appraised value of all taxable real property liable for assessment under the proposed PID reauthorization and constituted over 50% of the area of all taxable real property liable for assessment under the proposal. As certified by the City Clerk, (Exhibit 1), the number of signatures is greater than the number required by Chapter 372 of the Local Government Code and meets the requirements of State Law for a petition requesting reauthorization.

The PID boundaries remain the same, as shown on the Downtown Austin PID Map (Exhibit 2). All exemptions remain the same as indicated in the resolution continuing PID services. The original petitions as executed by the property owners or authorized representatives are available for inspection by the public in the City Clerk's Office.

As required by Chapter 372.013, Texas Local Government Code, the DAA has prepared a five year service plan (Exhibit 3). The proposed service plan is both feasible and necessary to continue enhanced downtown services. The five year service plan summarizes programs of the DAA and includes five year expenditure projections, proposed revenues, and assessment rates.

The city staff has notified property owners and otherwise completed the notification requirements as outlined in 372.009 of the Texas Local Government Code.