Thursday, December 10, 2009

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 89

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance regarding the Downtown Austin Public Improvement District (PID) 2010 assessments and levying 2010 assessments.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding at the approved 2010 assessment rate of \$0.10/\$100 valuation is estimated to produce \$2,460,368 at a 96% collection rate.

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

For More Information: Michael Knox, Downtown Officer / 974-6415; Thomas Nuckols, City Attorney / 974-2568

Prior Council Action: November 19, 2009 - Council approved 2010-2011 Downtown Austin PID Service Plan and Budget and approved the 2010 PID assessment rate (\$0.10/\$100 valuation) and proposed assessment roll.

On November 19, 2009, the City Council approved the 2010 assessment rate for the District (at the current rate of \$0.10 per \$100 valuation), and approved the proposed 2009 assessment roll. Assessments on real property fund the PID services.

State law requires a public hearing by Council to consider the proposed assessments. Approval of the assessment rate and proposed roll on November 19, 2009 allowed notices to be sent to property owners, giving them an opportunity to review the property valuations prior to the public hearing. Property owners have a right to challenge their assessment at the hearing. At the hearing, the Council must hear and pass on any objection, made orally or in writing, to any proposed assessment, prior to approval of the ordinance levying assessments and setting the method of collection and the rate of interest for late payments. Approval of the assessment roll ordinance is the final Council action required in the annual process of approving PID assessments.