Thursday, February 17, 2011

Planning and Development Review RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 30

Subject: Approve a resolution establishing a policy and general criteria under which the City Council will consider requests to create municipal utility districts.

For More Information: Virginia Collier, 974-2022; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Within the last several years, a number of owners of undeveloped land in the City of Austin's extraterritorial jurisdiction have submitted petitions to the City proposing to create special districts to fund capital improvements for the initial development of their land.

In December 2008, the City Council adopted a policy regarding the City's consideration of a request to create a Public Improvement District (PID). By contrast, the City Council's most recent policy resolution with respect the creation of a Municipal Utility District (MUD) was adopted in 1984. Since then, significant changes have taken place in state law, and the city's population has doubled.

City staff has drafted a policy with criteria for the City Council to use when requested to consent to the creation of a MUD. The attached resolution would establish City Council policy regarding MUDs and is not intended to limit the authority of the City Council to consider or approve any particular request.