

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	18396	Agenda Number	146.
Meeting Date:	9/27/2012		Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment
Subject				
Conduct a public hearing and approve a resolution reauthorizing the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District for a period of ten years in accordance with Chapter 372, Texas Local Government Code. Related to Item # 22				
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 Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA) memberships.				
Fiscal Note				
There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	April 15, 1993: Council approved the creation of the PID and set assessment rate. August 19, 1993: Council approved a management agreement with the Austin Downtown Management Organization (DMO, Inc. (now the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA))). 1997 – 2007: Council re-authorized the Austin Downtown PID on October 23, 1997, October 24, 2002, and October 18, 2007. 1998 – 2007: Council approved extending the management contract with the DAA on March 12, 1998, October 24, 2002, and October 18, 2007 1994 – 2012: Council approved annual Service Plans and Budgets.			
For More Information:	Michael Knox, Downtown Officer / EGRSO, 974-6415; Jacqueline Cullom, City Attorney / Law Department, 974-2918			
Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

This proposed resolution reauthorizes the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District ("PID") for a period of ten years. Petitions signed by property owners requesting reauthorization have been submitted as required by Chapter 372, Texas Government Code, and verified by the City Clerk. This action is required to prevent the expiration of the PID on October 18, 2012. The public hearing has been published in the newspaper as required by state law and each affected property owner has been notified of the public hearing and proposed reauthorization by mail.

The City Council initially approved the creation of the Austin Downtown PID in April of 1993. The Council reauthorized the PID for five year periods on October 23, 1997, October 24, 2002, and again on October 18, 2007. The petitioners are seeking to reauthorize the PID for a ten year term. The proposed assessment, the amount the affected property owners will pay each year, is proposed to remain \$.10 per \$100 in value. The City contributes \$150,000 annually toward the management of the PID.

The City contracts with the Downtown Austin Alliance ("DAA") to manage the PID. The DAA has continued to provide enhanced downtown Austin services since the initial formation of the PID in 1993. The services provided include enhanced 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 PID/DAA annual budget approved by Council in November of 2011 is \$2,877,369. As required by Chapter 372.013, Texas Local Government Code, the DAA has prepared a ten year service plan (Exhibit B). The ten year service plan summarizes programs of the DAA and includes ten year expenditure projections, proposed revenues, and assessment rates. The plan will be reviewed and updated annually, as part of the annual PID budget process.

The PID boundaries have been expanded in the recent petition to include territory west to Lamar Boulevard, as shown on the Austin Downtown PID Map (Exhibit A). All exemptions to the payment of an assessment remain the same as in earlier reauthorizations including homestead property and property owned by governmental entities. All properties in the PID are exempted from paying an assessment for the first \$500,000 in value of the property.