

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Economic Development

AGENDA DATE: Introduction: May 1, 2012 (Regular); Public Hearing:
May 15, 2012 (Regular)

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Mathew McElroy, Deputy Director, 541-4193

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: 8

SUBJECT:

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance amending the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan for Tax increment Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of El Paso, Texas; Adopting said amendments as required by section 311.011(E) Texas Tax Code; (District 8) [Planning & Economic Development, Mathew McElroy, (915) 541-4193]

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 5 was adopted by City Council Ordinance No. 017081 on March 10, 2009. The document is formatted to allow for incorporation of projects eligible for TIRZ funding via an amendment process and the Plans have previously been amended to include the Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program as an eligible project. The Reinvestment Zone Board recommended increasing TIRZ funding for this program by \$100,000. The program is a matching grant program that provides funding to existing business and/or property owners to make improvements to the exterior of buildings in the Reinvestment Zone. The program was funded by the Reinvestment Zone since 2008 and the funds have been allocated to 32 projects. The Reinvestment Zone also recommended approval of project No. 4: Civic Space at Cavalryman Pocket Park for eligible project costs as described in the amending Ordinance. The project is the first civic space improvement approved by the Board. The space will include green space and a solar powered kiosk within the Downtown 2015 Plan.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan adopted by Ordinance No. 017081 on March 10, 2009 and later amended by Ordinance No. 017102 (April 7, 2009) and Ordinance No. 017239 (November 17, 2009) and Ordinance No. 017258 (December 22, 2009) and Ordinance No.017674 (November 8, 2011)

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Item will be funded from existing TIRZ Fund Account No. 502215 / 07412 / 72153041 / 72300 (TIRZ No. 5 Fund). Project No. 1 funding to be amended to add \$100,000, Project No. 4 funding to be amended to allocate \$100,000 for eligible project costs.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION:

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 5 Board unanimously approved the amendment on March 8, 2012.

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and curves, is written over a horizontal line.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FINAL PROJECT PLAN AND
FINAL REINVESTMENT ZONE FINANCING PLAN FOR TAX
INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER FIVE, CITY OF
EL PASO, TEXAS; ADOPTING SAID AMENDMENTS AS
REQUIRED BY SECTION 311.011(E) TEXAS TAX CODE; ALSO
PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

WHEREAS, by City of El Paso Ordinance No. 016528, adopted December 19, 2006, later amended by Ordinances Nos. 016803 and 016804 on December 18, 2007, the City created Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of El Paso, Texas (the "Zone") in accordance with the Tax Increment Financing Act (the "Act") for the purposes of development within the Redevelopment Districts in the Downtown 2015 Plan through the use of tax increment financing; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2009, by Ordinance No. 017081, pursuant to Section 311.011(d) of the Act, the City Council approved the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan after their adoption by the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Zone; and

WHEREAS, the Board continues to support the City in development activities for the Zone and actively participates in planning and identifying potential Zone projects; and

WHEREAS, on March 08, 2012, the Board adopted the following amendments to the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan: additional funding in the amount of \$100,000 for additional eligible project costs for Project No. 1: Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program; and approval of Project No. 4: Civic Space at Calvalryman Pocket Park in the amount of \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 311.011(e) of the Act, the Board may adopt amendments to the plans consistent with the requirements and limitations of the Act, which become effective when approved by the governing body of the municipality by a duly authorized ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the Final Project and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plans as approved by the Board, in support of community revitalization and economic development within the Zone; and

WHEREAS, it is officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public and public notice of the time, place and subject of said meeting was given all as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, as the governing body of the City, approves the amendments to the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan, as evidenced by this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan are hereby amended in the manner set forth below:

- A. The Final Project Plan is amended to incorporate the following additional costs and projects on the list of approved proposed projects eligible for tax increment finance funds of the Zone, which will be allocated to as described herein:

Project No. 1: Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program.

Original Amount: \$32,000

First Amended Amount: \$57,000

Second Amended Amount: \$98,000 (increased by \$41,000)

Third Amended Amount: \$198,000 (increased by \$100,000)

The purpose of the Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program is to provide grant funding to existing business property owners or lessees to encourage renovation and rehabilitation of the exterior of buildings in the Zone. This program aims to improve the aesthetics within the Zone as attractive building façades positively impact the marketability and perception of the area. The Program consists of a one-dollar to one-dollar match for approved improvements. Reimbursement grants will be awarded for façade improvements that restore, preserve, rehabilitate, enhance or beautify a structure. Eligible improvements include:

- Signs (new, repairs, replacement, removal)
- Grate and grate box removal or conversion of solid grates to an open mesh style
- Awnings
- Lighting
- Paint
- Removal/replacement of inappropriate or incompatible exterior finishes or materials
- Recessing/reconfiguring entrances
- Removal of extraneous elements
- Door/window replacement or repair
- Exterior cleaning
- Historical architectural elements

By separate formal action, City Council has adopted Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program requirements and guidelines that govern administration and implementation of the Program.

Project No. 4: Civic Space at Cavalryman Pocket Park
Amount: \$100,000

Description of the Project:

Located at Hendersons Triangle (near intersection of Santa Fe and Missouri Streets) El Paso, Texas, the Project consists of open space improvements by adding a solar-powered pavilion, landscaping, and expansion of the pocket park. The public infrastructure improvements include new curb, ADA compliant stamped colored concrete sidewalk, ADA ramps, landscaping, irrigation and lighting. The property is owned by the City of El Paso.

Public improvement costs that will be eligible for reimbursement through the use of tax increment finance funds of the Zone are: new curb, ADA compliant stamped colored concrete, ADA ramps, landscaping, irrigation and lighting. The tax increment funds for the project in the amount of \$100,000 are allocated to fund these public improvements, to be allocated by the City Manager or designee to the appropriate city departments or accounts for project implementation.

- B. The Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan is hereby amended to reflect the funding allocated to the projects identified in Section A.
2. That the amendments to the Final Project Plan and Final Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of El Paso, Texas, are hereby determined to be feasible and in conformity with the City's master plan and said amendments are hereby approved.
3. That the statements set forth in the recitals of this Ordinance are declared to be true and correct and are incorporated as part of this Ordinance.
4. That the provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any circumstances shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Ordinance shall nevertheless be valid.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2012.


CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

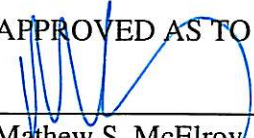
Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Marie A. Taylor
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Mathew S. McElroy, Deputy Director
Planning and Economic Development