A RESOLUTION 2004-34-33

EXPRESSING THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO'S INTENT TO CONSIDER THE CREATION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) REINVESTMENT ZONE TO FINANCE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE RIDGE STONE DEVELOPMENT (CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4) BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY MEDINA BASE ROAD, TO THE WEST BY LOOP 410 SOUTH, TO THE SOUTH NEAR RAY ELLISON BOULEVARD, AND TO THE EAST BY PALM VALLEY DRIVE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING MARKET RATE HOUSING, AND OTHER AMENITIES FOR THE AREA; PROVIDING FOR A WAIVER OF THE 2004 TIF GUIDELINES FOR SECTION VI (C), USE PATTERNS AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND SECTION VI (E), LIMITATIONS OF TIF PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION OF A WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE CITY'S INTENTION TO CONSIDER THE CREATION OF THE PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE TO EACH TAXING UNIT THAT LEVIES A TAX IN THE PROPOSED ZONE; AUTHORIZING A REQUEST TO EACH TAXING ENTITY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO MEET WITH THE CITY TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT; AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO CALL AND HOLD MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH TAXING UNIT.

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WHEREAS, tax increment financing is an economic development tool authorized by the Tax Increment Financing Act, Texas Tax Code, Chapter 311 (the “Act”), used by municipalities to finance needed public improvements and enhanced infrastructure within certain areas of the municipality by leveraging private investment for certain types of development activities; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, the City of San Antonio has developed and adopted Tax Increment Financing (“TIF”) and Reinvestment Zone Guidelines and Criteria (“Guidelines”) in accordance with the requirements of the Act; and

WHEREAS, in September of 2002, the City Clerk received two applications for the use of TIF in accordance with the Guidelines from Big Fish Development Two, LLC, for the Ridge Stone and Meadow Way Projects; and

WHEREAS, City staff worked with the applicant to have the Ridge Stone Project (the “Project”) Master Development Plan, which incorporates acreage for residential and commercial developments and is adjacent to a recently constructed City park, approved in March 2003, under the requirements of the 2002 Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2003, City staff was prepared to present the Project to the City Council for action on a Resolution of Intent to consider designation of a TIF reinvestment zone, but was directed by the City Council to revise the Guidelines and place all pending projects on hold until the revisions were approved; and
WHEREAS, on January 8, 2004, by Ordinance No. 98663, the City Council adopted the 2004 Guidelines, invited all projects currently on hold to reapply under the 2004 Guidelines, and provided that the application fee be waived for said projects; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2004, the City Clerk received an application from Bigfish On Five, LP, for the use of TIF in accordance with the 2004 Guidelines, for the Project, located within City Council District 4 inside Loop 410 South near Medina Base Road, in the Secondary TIF Target Area; and

WHEREAS, the application proposes public improvements for the Project, including site work, streets, curbs, approaches, drainage/retention, sewer, water, streetlights and street signs; and

WHEREAS, in subsequent correspondence, the applicant has requested waivers of the 2004 Guidelines requirements for Section VI (C), Use Patterns and Special Districts because the Master Development Plan approved in March 2003 currently does not meet any Use Patterns or Special Districts; and Section VI (E), Limitations of TIF Program, as the applicant has submitted two TIF applications this year; and

WHEREAS, based on the timing of the previous application for the project and the subsequent Guidelines revisions, as well as the progress of the project achieved prior to the Guideline revisions, City staff supports the request of the applicant for those waivers; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires the City, prior to the creation of a reinvestment zone, to hold a public hearing on the creation of the proposed zone and its benefits to the City and the property within the proposed zone; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 311.003(e) of the Act, before holding the public hearing on the creation of the proposed zone, the governing body of the City must provide written notice of the City’s intent to consider designation of such zone to the governing body of each taxing unit that levies real property taxes in the proposed reinvestment zone, unless such notice is waived by the taxing units, not later than the 60th day before the date of the public hearing to designate the reinvestment zone; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to notify the governing bodies that levy real property taxes in the proposed reinvestment zone, of the City’s intent to consider designation of a TIF reinvestment zone; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 311.003(f) of the Act, the City Council deems it advisable to: (i) request the opportunity to make a formal presentation to the governing body of Bexar County and each school district that levies real property taxes in the proposed reinvestment zone; and (ii) notify each taxing unit that levies real property taxes in the proposed reinvestment zone of presentations to be made before the county and each school district; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 311.003(g) of the Act, the City Council deems it advisable to: (i) request each taxing unit that levies real property taxes in the proposed reinvestment zone to designate a representative from such unit to meet with the City staff to discuss the project plans and preliminary reinvestment zone financing plan for the proposed reinvestment zone; and (ii)
delegate to City staff the authority to call one or more meetings, as may be needed with the representatives of the taxing units; and

WHEREAS, approval of this resolution would authorize City staff to initiate an in-depth review of the project for consideration of designation of a TIF reinvestment zone; NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City of San Antonio ("City") hereby expresses its intent, based on preliminary review of the application of Bigfish On Five, L.P., to consider the designation, at a future time, of the area commonly known as the Ridge Stone Development Project as a Tax Increment Financing ("TIF") reinvestment zone.

SECTION 2. The City’s expression of this intent does not constitute actual designation of or an obligation to designate the Zone, but merely indicates the intent of the City for the purpose of proceeding in the process of consideration of designation of a TIF reinvestment zone, and is based on a preliminary review of the information provided in the application.

SECTION 3. City staff is hereby authorized to provide written notice of the City’s intent to each taxing unit that levies a tax in the proposed zone, request each of those taxing entities to appoint a representative to meet with City staff to discuss the proposed project, and to call and hold meetings with representatives of those taxing entities, as provided by Section 311.003 of the Act.

SECTION 4. The request of Bigfish On Five, L.P., on behalf of the Ridge Stone Project, for waivers of the 2004 Guidelines requirements for Section VI (C), Use Patterns and Special Districts, because the Master Development Plan approved in March 2003 currently does not meet any Use Patterns or Special Districts; and Section VI (E), Limitations of TIF Program, as the applicant has submitted two TIF applications this year, is hereby granted.

SECTION 5. This resolution does not preclude the City from continuing its evaluation of the TIF application of Bigfish On Five, L.P., or from requesting additional information from the applicant.

SECTION 6. This resolution shall take effect on the tenth (10th) day after passage hereof.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of September 2004.

MAYOR

EDWARD D. GARZA

ATTEST: City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: City Attorney
Description: G. A Resolution expressing the City of San Antonio's intent to consider the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Reinvestment Zone to finance public improvements in support of the Ridge Stone Development (City Council District 4) bounded on the north by Medina Base Road, to the west by Loop 410 South, to the south near Ray Ellison Boulevard, and to the east by Palm Valley Drive for the purpose of supporting market rate housing, and other amenities for the area; providing for a waiver of the 2004 TIF Guidelines for Section VI (C), Use Patterns and Special Districts and Section VI (E), Limitations of the TIF Program; authorizing and directing distribution of a written notice of the City's intention to consider the creation of the proposed reinvestment zone to each taxing unit that levies a tax in the proposed zone; authorizing a request to each taxing entity for the appointment of a representative to meet with the City to discuss the project; and delegating authority to call and hold meetings with representatives of each taxing unit.

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