# PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING MECHANISMS



### SOUTH CENTRAL WATERFRONT ADVISORY BOARD

# AGENDA

- State of the Finance Landscape
  - Public Sector
  - Private Sector
- Partnership Mechanism
  - Public Improvement Districts
  - Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones
  - Local Government Corporation Chapter 380
  - Other Tools
- Questions & Answers

# AUSTIN'S PROSPERITY ENGINE

The City of Austin's Economic Development Department (EDD) develops and leads innovative programs that increase the prosperity of all Austinites, our businesses, and our diverse communities.



# Public Perspective of Financing Infrastructure

- Increasing population places greater demand on existing infrastructure
- Current condition of public infrastructure not that great
- Public resources to replace, renovate or construct new public facilities face funding constraints (local, state, federal)
- Emphasis on "resilient development" appropriate density, environmental stewardship and public amenities
- Up-tic in backfilling, renovating and constructing new private real estate – both residential and commercial (sales tax and property tax revenues)

Source: ASCE, Texas Chapter (2017)

**Grading Elements:** capacity, condition, funding, future need operation/maintenance, public safety and resilience

Category	2004	2008	2012	2017	National		
Aviation	C+	C+	C+	B-	D		
Bridges	C-	B-	B-	В	C+		
Dams	D-	D-	D-	D	D		
Drinking Water	D	D	D-	D+	D		
Energy	B+	B+	B+	-	D+		
Flood Control	D-	D-	D	D	-		
Hazardous Waste	С	С	-	-	D+		
Inland Waterways	Not e	evaluated by A	ASCE Texas Se	ection	D		
Levees	Not e	evaluated by A	ASCE Texas Se	ection	D		
Ports (Navigable Waterways)	D	D	С	-	C+		
Public Parks and Recreation	Not e	D+					
Rail	Not e	evaluated by A	ASCE Texas Se	ection	В		
Highways and Roads	C-	D	D	D	D		
Schools	D-	D-	D-	-	D+		
Solid Waste	В	В	B+	-	C+		
Transit	С	С	C+	-	D-		
Wastewater	C-	C-	C-	D	D+		
GPA	C-	C-	С	C-	D+		
Cost to Improve <sup>1</sup>	Cost to Improve <sup>1</sup> \$2.0T						



# Private Perspective for Financing Infrastructure

Highest risk

Hardest to fund with OPM

Upfront critical path

Revenue at the back end

OPM = other people's money

### Debt (most risk averse):

- Lenders lessen risk by requiring more equity, personal guarantees, signed contracts or leases
- Banks face regulatory constraints on the amount of construction lending

### Equity (most expensive):

- Greater equity requirements than prerecession (30-40%)
- Most expensive source of funds for utilities that go in first with long term indirect payout
- Return is only from that development although public infrastructure wider benefit
- ➤ The market limits how much in rent, home prices, fees and taxes that can repay equity





# Public-Private Partnerships through Development

- Public Improvement Districts ("PIDs")
- Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones ("TIRZs")
  - Spread risk
  - Align interests (control)
  - Lessen the total cost of capital
  - Capture created future value



# PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

# **Public Improvement Districts**

Authority: Local Government Code Chapter 372 (1987/ 2011 revisions)

Entity: City or County creates the District

District managed by governing board of jurisdiction

Type: Bonds: Upfront, Reimbursement (Development PID) OR

Pay-as-you-go (Operations PID)

Uses:

- Public safety and security services;
- Streets and sidewalks;
- Water, wastewater, health and sanitation, and drainage facilities;
- Acquisition of rights-of-way;
- Art;
- Creation of pedestrian malls; and,
- Erection of fountains.

- Landscaping and other aesthetics;
- Library facilities;
- Mass transit;
- Park, recreation and cultural facilities;
- Parking facilities; and,
- Acquisition, renovation and/or construction of affordable housing.

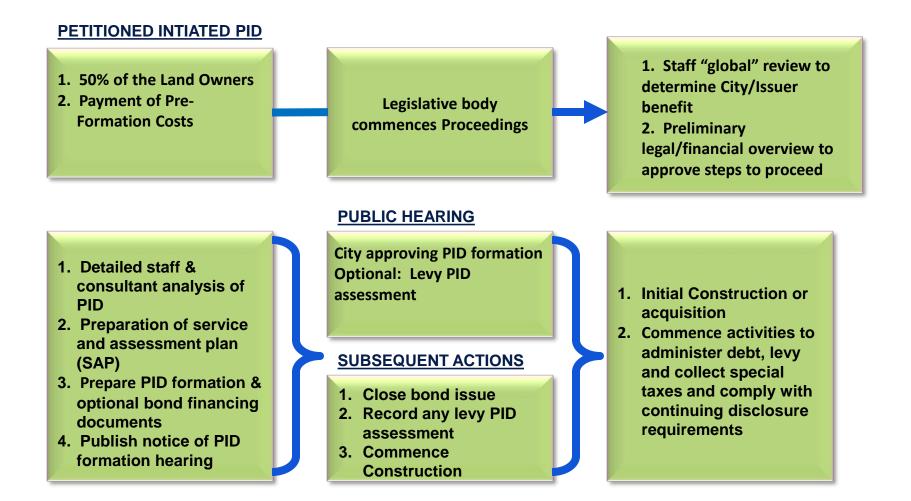


# Dollars & Sense: Funding the Public Realm Vision



15-19

### Typical Steps in Formation



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City Action		me	Key Partners	
	0-1 yr	2+ yr	City	Other
Initiate Public Improvement District evaluation  To evaluate the feasibility of a Public Improvement District, the City will need to engage property owners in a similar process to the tax increment study. The process should:  Engage with private property owners and the Downtown Austin Alliance. Since part of the area is already within a PID, the City will need to 1) assess the benefits and costs of expanding the PID or creating new one.  Identify potential PID eligible projects and programs and conduct detailed PID projections on	х		Economic Development, Finance	Coordinate with taxing jurisdictions, Downtown Austin Alliance. Potential consultant
<ul> <li>project/program costs.</li> <li>Identify assessments required to achieve PID goals</li> <li>Complete the steps required for PID adoption, detailed in the Local Government Code Chapter 372. Improvement Districts in Municipalities and Counties (http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.372.htm)</li> </ul>				support
Initiate Development Corporation / Authority Evaluation  Evaluate potential structures for a South Central Waterfront Development Authority	Х		Economic Development, Finance, Legal	Potential consultant support
<ul> <li>Transfer of Development Rights.</li> <li>Evaluate the potential of a TDR ordinance that defines TDR areas and develops a sender and reciever structure. The structure would address among other factors:</li> <li>How to value development rights.</li> <li>How the development rights can be used by the receiving entity (e.g., more FAR and/ or height as well as other conditions such as possible affordable housing commitment either on site or a fee-in-lieu).</li> <li>Who is eligible to buy the rights (e.g., private property owners and developers, the City, non-profits). There are several possible "sender" properties. Three of these could include One Texas Center (related to affordable housing), the Cox properties (related to the waterfront park), and the Crockett properties (related to the plaza).</li> </ul>	Х		Legal, CodeNEXT	Potential consultant support
Develop a Regulating Plan  The City should aim to set up regulatory conditions that lead to changes in the entitlements to the area over time.		Х		rith caff
<ul> <li>Incorporate incentives and form-based code provisions to privide clarity for public realm and urban design intentions</li> </ul>				SCW Plan 111





# Public Improvement Districts

### Two Types

### **Bond (Development)**

- Construction Bonds Up front proceeds secured by a lien on the benefitted land as is but entitled and improved with proposed public improvements
- Reimbursement Bonds Secured by lien on the benefitted project at the time of bond issuance
- Debt service of the bonds paid through an assessment (not a tax!)
   allocated fairly across the benefitted property owners

### Pay-as-you-go (Operation)

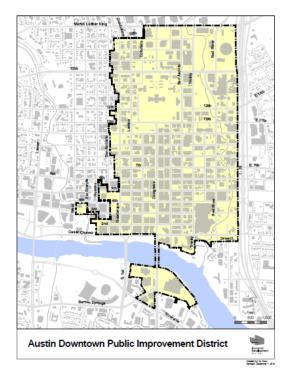
- Assessment based on share of front foot, value or other
- Primarily for maintenance and beautification
- PID enters into contracts to carry out the work

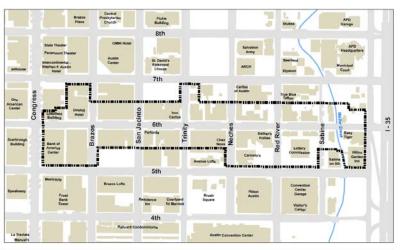




## **Existing Operations PIDs**

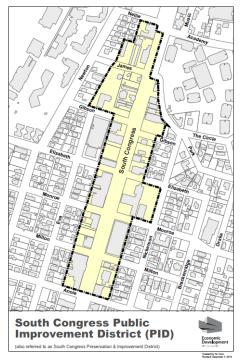
Name	Established	stablished Term (years)	FY 2018 Assessment			Renewal
Name	ESTADIISHEA	Term (years)	Rate (per \$100 in AV)		Revenue	Reflewal
Downtown	1992	10	\$0.10	\$	7,470,860	2022
E. Sixth Street	2004	5	\$0.19	\$	124,380	2019
S. Congress	2014	5	\$0.20	\$	140,332	2019





East 6th Street Public Improvement District (PID)





Operations PID – Pay-as-you-go

Risk: Foreclosure on lien due to nonpayment of assessment

Control: City appoints the Board, approves PID petition

City oversight and Council approval of annual budget, assessment and service

and assessment plan

Management entity performs day-to-day tax of carrying out work on behalf

of the City

Capital Cost: Minimal ability to pay for significant upfront capital improvements

Maintenance of public capital infrastructure

Value Capture: Benefited property owner pays an assessment (not a tax)



### Existing Development (Bond) PIDs

Name	Established	Bond Amt.	Expire
Whisper Valley	2010	\$ 40,477,000	2041
Indian Hill	2010	\$ 2,860,000	2026
Estancia	2013	\$ 12,600,000	2028

### Whisper Valley PID (WV)

- 2,060 acres; Limited purpose annexation in the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction
- Single family (2,800 units); Multi-Family (4,700 units); Office (1.3 mil sq. ft.); Commercial (1.3 mil sq. ft.) PUD Zoning with Affordable housing
- Extension of Braker Lane
- Major extension of water infrastructure (48" and 24" water transmission mains)
- Major wastewater interceptor and remote wastewater treatment facilities (up to 10 MGD)
- 600-acre public park

### Indian Hills PID (IH)

- 240 acres; Limited purpose annexation in the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction
- Multi-Family (1,500 units); Office (1.6 mil sq. ft.); Retail (60,000 sq. ft.); R&D (473,000 sq. ft.);
   Industrial (275,000 sq. ft.) PUD Zoning with Affordable housing
- Extension of Decker Lake Road
- Major extension of water infrastructure (48" water transmission main)

### Estancia Hill Country

- 593 acres; Limited purpose annexation in the City's ETJ
- Single family (386 units); Multi-family (440 units); Commercial (813,000 sq.ft.) PID Zoning
- Water/wastewater extensions
- Major spine road construction
- Relocation of TxDOT exit ramp









### Development PID - Bond Finance

Risk:

- Non-recourse to the Developer and City/County
- Conservatively underwritten (3:1 value to lien)
- Assessment lien (superior to mortgage) on the land POLITICAL RISK
- No pledge needed for City/County to credit enhance bonds
- No reduction in City/County bonding capacity
- Only benefitted property owners pay assessment
- Magnitude of assessment fairly constant for property owner
- Assessment does not increase as value increases

Control:

City/County appoints the Board, approves PID petition and issuance of bonds No public bidding requirements

Capital Cost:

Tax-exempt bonds

No pre-payment penalty for early pay off of assessments

Can be combined with other economic development incentives

Value Capture:

Benefited property owner pays an assessment (not a tax)



# Public Improvement Districts

Development PID - Bond Finance (cont.)

### Aligns Interests:

- The development area requiring the infrastructure pays for the infrastructure
- Within the development area, only those that benefit from the improvements pay for the improvements
- The more a property owner benefits, the more the property owner pays
- The real estate is what benefits. Payments run with the land, not with the property owner.
- Long-term utility assets are financed through long-term fix-rate financing
- Up-front funds can be available to construct the upfront infrastructure

### **Property Owner:**

- Different types of property owners pay different amounts of assessment levy based on proportional amount of benefit (methodology)
- Special assessment is in addition to other property taxes
- As of July, Travis County will carry out City's PID assessment & collections
- Nonpayment of special assessment treated link nonpayment of property tax
- Delinquency and foreclosure from one property owner only impacts that property owner – no "area" default
- Assessment amount does not change with property value





# **Public Improvement Districts**

Development PID - Bond Finance (cont.)

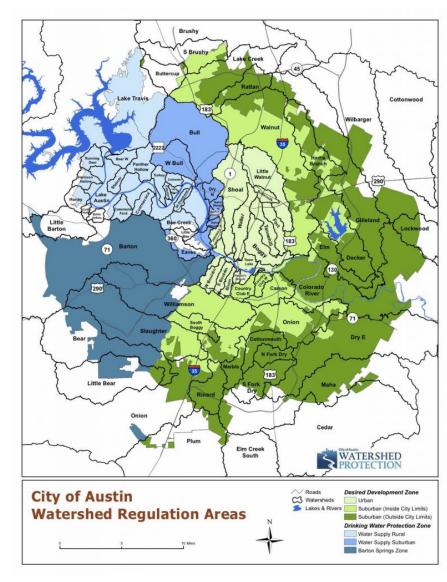
- Land as collateral (assessment lien)
- Appraised value as vacant by entitled
- Value-to-Lien about 3:1 (depends!!)
- Conservatively underwritten
  - What is the track record the developer?
  - What is the market demand for the land uses called for in the development program?
  - Can the market support the presence of special assessments in addition to property tax burden?
  - Does the deal make sense?

<b>Bond Issuance Year</b>	2015
Estimated Unimproved Land Value	\$ 17,571,876
Plus: City Funded Infrastructure	\$ 3,600,000
Net Construction Proceeds Funded	\$ 4,014,106
Estimated Post Bond Sale Valuation	\$ 25,185,982
Projected PID Gross Bond	
Amount/Assessment	\$ 5,955,000
Reserve Fund	\$ 595,500
Capitalized Interest	\$ 826,294
Underwriter Discount	\$ 119,100
Costs of Issuance	\$ 400,000
Infrastructure Bond Net Proceeds	\$ 4,014,106
Equivalent Tax Rate	\$ 0.1370
Projected Value to Lien Ratio	4.23
Total Qualified Construction Costs	\$ 8,597,011
City Funded Infrastructure	\$ 3,600,000
Total Non-Qualified Construction Costs	\$ -
Net Construction Proceeds	\$ 4,014,106
(Shortage)/Surplus	\$ (982,906)



**Current City Policy** 

- Resolution 20081218-069
- Follows Statute for Operating PIDs
- Outlines Council issues to consider for Development PIDs
  - > Superior development
  - Extraordinary benefit
  - Desired Development Zone
  - Comply with Green Building Program
  - Accompanied by development agreement
  - > Financially self-sustaining; and,
  - Petitioners should constitute 100% of the land owners of an "undeveloped land" PID
- City working team is drafting a revised policy for Council adoption





# TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONES

## Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones

Authority: Tax Code Chapter 311

Entity: Created by City or County local government

Managed by Board of Directors

Uses: Purchase of land for public infrastructure

Relocation of public utilities

Water, watewater, drainage systems

Transit facilities

Parks and landscape

Public roads and buildings

Façade improvements (public – easement or dedication)

Environmental remediation

Demolition of existing structures

Debt service reserve, capitalized interest, cost of issuance

Administration fees and marketing

Affordable housing in or out of the zone (by agreement)

Provisions: New development or redevelopment

Proof of blight

"But for" or petition

Residential and appraised value limitations





# Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (cont.)

Types: Upfront (bonds) – Increment pays for bond debt service

Pay-as-you go – Increment pays for the cost when incurred

Bond Risk: Collateral is the TIF Fund

Increment not sufficient to pay debt service

Change in City/County participation

City/County pledges to pay if increment falls short

Reimb. Risk: Increment not sufficient to pay as developer anticipates

Control: City/County - appoints the Board, approves plan, delegates authority to Board,

approves the issuance of bonds

TIF Board – recommendations to City/County, carries out plan

Capital Cost: Bonds: Tax-exempt bonds; Upfront bonds usually requires credit enhancement

Pay-as-you-go: Interest rate (if any) and length of reimbursement period



# Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (cont.)

### **Formation**

Findings of facts

- □ **But for** the TIRZ subsidy, economic development would not occur at proposed level solely from private investment in reasonably foreseeable future
- Limitations on TIRZ impact
  - □ No more than 30% of zone total assessed value is residential, excluding publicly owned property
  - □ No more than 25% of tax base may be in the zone
- Initiated by City or by land owner petition
  - □ Petition: at least 50% of proposed TIRZ appraised value
- Council adoption of TIRZ boundaries, Project and Finance Plan, Public Hearing
- Council vests power and duties of TIRZ Board of Directors



City Action	Timefra	me	Key Partners	
	0-1 yr	2+ yr	City	Other
Evaluate the feasibility of Tax Increment Financing in the SCW	Х		Transportation,	Coordinate
Prepare a TIF/TIRZ feasibility study that builds on the preliminary projections in the SCW			Economic	with taxing
ramework plan.			Development, Finance	jusridictions Potential
clarify that the area meets statutory blight requirements			Tillance	consultant
assess projected absorption potential for varying product types				support.
factor in possible sales tax increment in addition to property tax				
evaluate alternative boundaries				
make assumptions about projects that may be tax-exempt				
<ul> <li>identify desired TIF eligible projects and programs</li> <li>Additional information on the process to set up a TIRZ are summarized in the Local</li> </ul>				
Economic Development Handbook.[1]				
Evaluate the potential of a Parking Management District.	X		Transportation,	
	^		Economic	
The City should evaluate the potential for investment in district parking options that can provide public parking to support area uses.			Development,	
novide public parking to support area uses.			Finance	
efine affordable housing implementation strategy	Х		NHCD, Real	Potential
This includes refining MFI target goals, identifying phased opportunities for site acquisition			Estate	affordable
and implementation of various product types. Identify key partners and lead roles for each				housing
component of the toolkit.				partners.
nitiate conversations with potential philanthropic donors.	Х	Х	City Council,	
The City has had initial discussions with existing foundations and trusts such as The Trail			Departments	
Foundation, and the St. Davis Foundation about potential partnership. As part of continuing			TBD	
conversations, the City will discuss the feasibility of developing a South Waterfront				
Conservancy.				

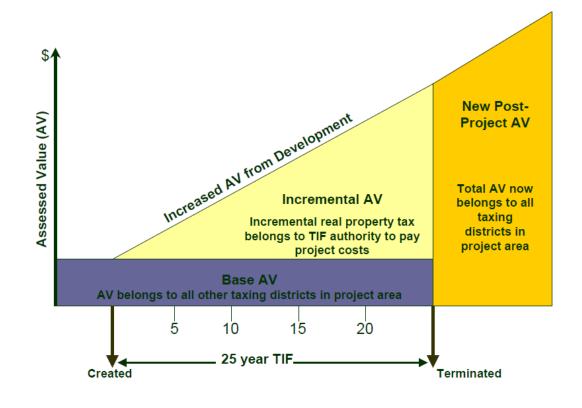
SCW Plan 112



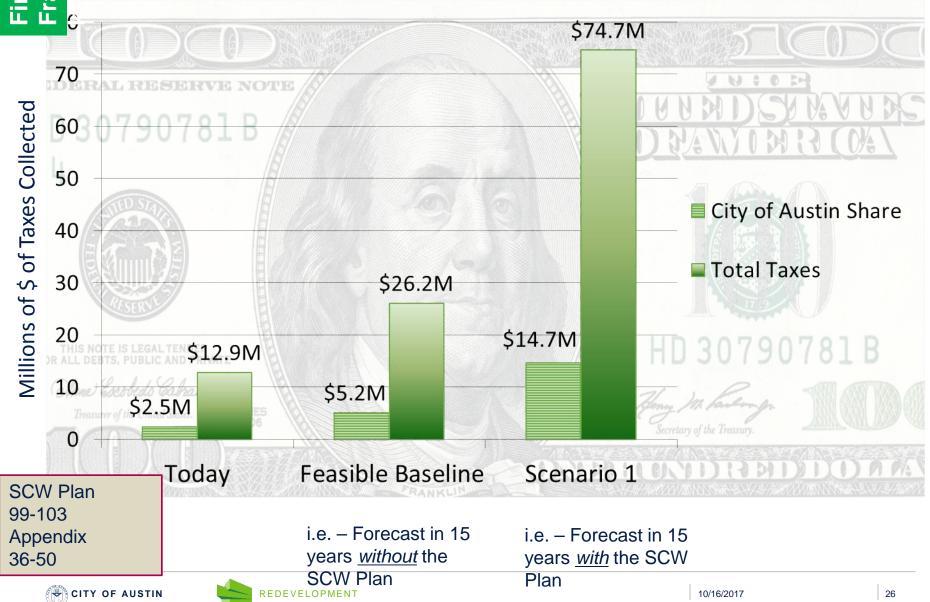


# Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (cont.)

- Value capture or increment
- Future real property tax revenue from zone assessed value growth in excess of zone base assessed value "frozen" at creation
- When zone term ends, all real property tax revenue (base + increment) returns to local government for its general purpose



# Making Density Work: Testing Tax Increment



# Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (cont.)

### **Current City Policy**

- Financial Policy approved in FY 1996
- TIF zones established where revenues will recover public cost of debt with adequate safety margin
- No more than 5% of City's tax base will be in TIF zones
  - > To preserve City's tax base and General Fund revenue sources
  - > Currently, 1% of assessed valuation in existing TIF zones
- Remainder of policy addresses Capital & Debt Management
  - Covers TIFs and Public Improvement Districts (PIDs)
  - > All projects carefully evaluated for credit worthiness
  - Debt service coverage requirement and additional bonds test
  - Use PID/TIF bonds only after considering other options



# Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (cont.)

	Mueller (TIF #16)	Waller Creek (TIF #17)	Seaholm (TIF #18)
	Redevelop 700 acres of former Airport site	Construct flood-control tunnel allowing for redevelopment of 28 acres	Preserve and redevelop Power Plant historic building and adjacent sites
Base Year	2004	2007	2008
TIF Duration	Through 2032	Through 2038	Through 2042
Base Assessed Value (AV)	\$0	\$236.2 million	\$0
Current AV (Tax Yr 2012)	\$452.2 million	\$458.4 million	\$0
Projected AV at End of TIF	\$1.2 billion	\$3.0 billion	\$407 million
COA Capture %	100%	100%	100%
Other Entity Participation	n/a	Travis County @ 50%	n/a
Other Participation	Yes / Developer	Yes / Conservancy	Yes / Developer
Estimated Project Cost to be covered by TIF Debt	\$50 million	\$106 million	\$20 million
O&M to be covered by TIF	No	No	No

- TIF #15 provides \$100,000 annually for maintenance of Block 2 & 4 per contractual agreement with CSC (Base Year 2000)
- In compliance with City's Financial Policy currently, 1% of AV in TIF zones
- All TIFs were initiated by the City





# Other Public Financing Mechanisms

- Density bonuses
- Parking partnerships
- Other types of tax exempt development bonds
- Infrastructure participation agreements
- Federal grants (through public agency)
- Others ..... Subject to City Council policy

Whatever it takes to fill the "gap" in the capital stack



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