



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1544, Agenda Item #: 5.

4/21/2022

Posting Language

Approve a resolution amending Resolution No. 20210729-170 regarding the Service and Assessment Plan and Budget of the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District to include maintenance of three downtown public toilets and security services at Brush Square.

Lead Department

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note

This has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

On July 29, 2021, Council approved Resolution 20210729-170 adopting the Service and Assessment Plan and Budget of the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District; approved Resolution 20210729-171 increasing the apportionment of costs between District and Municipality to \$360,000; conducted a public hearing; and adopted Ordinance 20210729-129 to set assessment rate and approving the 2022 assessment roll for Downtown Public Improvement District.

On June 10, 2021, Council approved Ordinance No. 20210610-014 setting the assessment rate and proposed assessment roll for the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District and approved to set a public hearing on July 29, 2021 to consider the 2022 proposed assessment.

On October 11, 2012, Council reauthorized the Austin Downtown Public Improvement District and authorized negotiation and execution of a new management contract with Austin DMO, Inc., doing business as Downtown Austin Alliance, to provide management services of the District (Resolution 20121011-115).

For More Information:

Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131 and Margaret Shaw, Economic Redevelopment Program Manager, 512-974-6497.

Additional Backup Information:

At direction of City Council in 2016 (Resolutions 20160128-067, 20160623-079) staff explored options and locations for providing safe, durable, free 24-hour public toilets in downtown Austin in coordination with the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA) and to expand public access to outside bathrooms at City Hall. Based on the results of the pilot program with DAA, the City purchased three prefabricated public restrooms ("Portland Loo" model) in 2018, which were installed in 2020 at 403 ½ Trinity Street, 507 ½ Brazos Street and 716 ½ East 6th Street, Austin Texas 78701. In April 2020, the City engaged DAA to provide daily cleaning, oversight, and maintenance of the units after not receiving any bids on a competitive solicitation. This interim contract expires April 30, 2022.

This Council action will approve the amended DAA 2022-2023 Service and Assessment Plan (SAP) as shown

in Exhibit A. This ensures these maintenance services continue after May 1, 2022, the start of DAA's FY 2022-23 fiscal year. This Council action also amends the DAA 2022-2023 SAP to include a contribution for security services at Brush Square of \$60,000. These services will be reflected annually in DAA's SAP. The City continues to own the toilet units and is responsible for major repairs, as needed. Building Services Department (BSD) oversees repairs and ensures units are open to the public, usable and stocked for 16 hours every day. Economic Development Department (EDD) which oversees Downtown Public Improvement District and its management contract with DAA will process invoices in coordination with BSD. The downtown public toilets initiative has involved staff and funding from multiple departments, including Austin Convention Center, Austin Public Health, Austin Transportation, BSD and Public Works in addition to EDD. There is evidence that recognizes the need for increased security at the Museums to keep the historic facilities from deteriorating due to vandalism and to protect staff and the public from assaults both during and after museum hours.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Health & Environment; Safety.