



AGENDA MEMORANDUM
City Council Meeting of October 15, 2019

DATE: October 11, 2019
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
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Presentation of Potential Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone on North Beach
and Related Studies

SUMMARY:

Presentation of Potential Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone on North Beach and Related Studies

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

On April 9, 2019, Nueces County Commissioner Vaughn, as the Chairperson of the North Beach Task Force, provided a report to City Council which included a recommendation to create a tax increment reinvestment zone (TIRZ) at North Beach. During this item, Councilman Roy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Garza directing the City Manager to move forward with the creation of a TIRZ at North Beach.

In Chapter 311.004 of the Tax Code, creating a TIRZ would include the following:

- a description of the zone boundaries with sufficient detail to identify the territory within the zone;
- a designation of the board of directors for the zone and an indication of the number of directors of the board;
- a provision that the zone would take effect immediately on passage of the ordinance;
- an indication of the zone termination date;
- a name for the zone as provided under Tax Code Section 311.004(a)(5);
- a provision establishing a tax increment fund for the zone;
- findings that the improvements within the zone would significantly enhance the value of the taxable property within the zone and would be of general benefit to the city or county; and
- a finding that the area meets the criteria for designation of a reinvestment zone under Tax Code Section 311.005.

City staff's initial recommendation for a North Beach TIRZ is participation at 100% for the first 10 years and at 75% for the following 10 years. At no time would the City's contributions exceed \$20,000,000. The preliminary reinvestment zone financing plan provides that portions of the ad valorem taxes of the City constituting its tax increment would be deposited into the Tax Increment Fund, and that ad valorem taxes of the other taxing units constituting their respective tax increments may also be utilized for the purposes described in the preliminary financing plan.

See below:

City's Ad Valorem Increment Percentage	Tax Year(s)
100%	2019 through 2028
75%	2029 through 2038

On July 10, 2019, the Nueces County Commissioners Court passed a Resolution supporting the City in its efforts to establish a TIRZ at North Beach. Based on conversations with the County, staff anticipates 100% participation by the County for the full length of the TIRZ. A draft Interlocal Agreement has been provided to the County and is currently under review in preparation of taking said agreement to the County Commissioner's Court for consideration.

Furthermore, Del Mar College staff are currently preparing a financial policy that will provide a road map for how the college responds to requests for TIRZ participation. This policy is expected to be presented to the Del Mar Board of Regents in October or November 2019. After adoption of a policy, Del Mar College Board and Executive Leadership will be prepared to accept a formal invitation to participate in the TIRZ #4.

The North Beach area substantially impairs the sound growth of the City and has been found to be in state of deferred infrastructure. Tourism and convention business is of extreme importance to the Corpus Christi economy, and the area within the proposed district has tremendous, unrealized potential to support tourist and convention facilities as the area includes some of the biggest tourist attractions in Corpus Christi, including the Texas State Aquarium and the USS Lexington. It is essential that this presently under-developed area be fully developed to encourage tourism to continue in the area.

In relation to the two other TIRZ's in Corpus Christi, TIRZ 2 on the Island and TIRZ 3 Downtown, this proposed TIRZ 4 at North Beach has significantly less property value and has seen little to no development over the past decade.

	TIRZ 2 (estb. 2000)	TIRZ 3 (estb. 2008)	TIRZ 4
2019 Net Taxable Value	\$513,369,642	\$439,524,182	\$60,689,500
Estimated City Contribution for life of TIRZ	\$30,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$20,000,000

Contributions to a TIRZ would not redirect funding from today's General Fund. Significant contributions to the TIRZ would only occur if increases to property values occur at North Beach which spurred by new development or enhancements to existing property.

The zone would be one of a variety of potential funding sources and programs that would be acting in concert to accomplish a transformed public environment in North Beach. By improving and maintaining public spaces with a high level of service, plus increasing density, the zone and the other programs would encourage the development of new land uses and the redevelopment or rehabilitation of existing uses. The intended result is that North Beach would become a vibrant and economically vital urban waterfront district with a variety of tourist, entertainment, residential, retail, and lodging uses.

Breakwater Barriers:

On April 24, 2018, City Council established a North Beach Infrastructure Task Force to assist the City with implementation of redevelopment plans for the North Beach area. The Redevelopment Plan for North Beach included a list of thirty-three (33) potential Capital Improvement Projects. Four of the projects were prioritized for inclusion on Bond 2018. The four projects included on Bond 2018 Proposition A are as follows:

- Beach Avenue (E. Causeway Blvd to Gulfbreeze Blvd)
- N. Beach Area Primary Access (Beach to Timon)
- N. Beach Gulfspray Avenue Pedestrian/Bike Access
- **N. Beach Coastal Protection (Breakwater Barrier)**

The North Beach Coastal Protection project proposes new breakwater barriers to mitigate beach erosion and coastal flooding protection for the North Beach coastline. The breakwater structure concept is to construct island features that would create new natural habitats as well as provide wave sheltering.

This coastal protection project would require extensive stakeholder coordination and permitting through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The initial engineering contract was a small agreement to complete a feasibility study to better define the scope of the proposed breakwater structure, identify permitting requirements and develop cost estimates.

Mott McDonald was selected for this project in May 2019 under RFQ 2019-01. City Council awarded the contract on September 17, 2019 and Notice to Proceed was sent to Mott McDonald on September 24, 2019. Final work (Preliminary Engineering Analysis) expected to be complete in approximately nine months.

Drainage Solution:

On April 9, 2019, the City Council directed staff to execute a small contract with Urban Engineering to study multiple options to significantly improve or solve the current drainage issues on North Beach. A contract was executed on June 21, 2019 and was estimated to take 13 weeks. The deliverable is currently past due but is expected to be complete by the end of October 2019.

Urban Engineering will provide services to study multiple options to significantly improve or solve current drainage issues on the North Beach peninsula. The study will include investigating current drainage conditions, multiple solutions to these conditions, the impacts those solutions will have on existing infrastructure and preliminary costs estimates for each solution.

The Analysis will include the following:

- a) Define three options that will significantly improve or solve drainage issues on the North Beach peninsula;
 1. Review and analyze a closed conduit system as proposed by the 2018 HOR study titled, "Feasibility Assessment North Beach TXDOT Culvert Flooding Mitigation Project"
 2. Analyze an open channel system with the minimum requirements to solve the drainage issues for the study area.
 3. Analyze an open channel system as proposed by the North Beach Infrastructure Committee.
- b) Develop preliminary typical cross sections, incorporating the different drainage options to be studied.
- c) Identify preliminary right-of-way acquisition requirements (if any) and illustrate on a schematic strip map.
- d) Develop preliminary requirements for utility relocations, replacements or upgrades. Coordinate with the City's Project Manager and identify Operating Departments potential project needs.
- e) Prepare preliminary opinions of probable construction costs for the options studied.
- f) Develop a Drainage Area Map showing the existing and proposed drainage basins served by the Project storm system.
- g) Conduct preliminary hydraulic analysis to quantify the storm water design of the proposed minimum open channel (Option 2) system.

Urban Engineering will have a complete drainage report at the end of October 2019 and a full presentation will be provided to City Council.

Board Appointments:

The Board members of a TIRZ are appointed by the City Council of the City. All members appointed by the Board must meet eligibility requirements, as set forth in the Act. Provided, however, notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, the City Council has the right to appoint at least 10 members of the Board, and the Board may exceed 15 members, if necessary for the City Council to make the 10 appointments. Staff's initial recommendation is for the following board composition:

- 9 City Council Members
- 1 Nueces County Representative
- 1 Community Member (Must be a resident within the TIRZ)
- 1 Developer or Business Owner (Must own property or own a business within the TIRZ)
- 1 Representative from the Texas State Aquarium
- 1 Representative from the USS Lexington

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact of the recommended North Beach TIRZ would be as follows:

- Total contributions of \$20,000,000 of City's ad valorem from the increment above the current base value;
- Or 20 years of participation at 100% for the first 10 years and at 75% for the following 10 years, whichever comes first.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	N/A
Organization/Activity:	N/A
Mission Element:	N/A
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive the briefing on the North Beach TIRZ; that the City Council hold a work session with the Nueces County Commissioners on the North Beach TIRZ; that the City Council receive an in-depth briefing on the drainage study for North Beach; and that the City Council have a first and second reading and consideration of the TIRZ.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Draft TIRZ #4 Project and Financing Plan
Feasibility Analysis
Revenue Projections