

RESOLUTION 2014-03-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY REQUESTING THE JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL TO (1) AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE RETAIL ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES; (2) APPROPRIATE \$750,000 FROM THE DOWNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE PROGRAM GUIDELINES; AND (3) AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AND THE DIA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ON BEHALF OF THE DIA TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAM GUIDELINES.

WHEREAS, the Downtown Investment Authority (“DIA”) has been designated by the City of Jacksonville as the Community Redevelopment Agency (“CRA”) for community redevelopment areas within the boundaries of Downtown pursuant to Ordinance 2012-364-E; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City of Jacksonville to create a vibrant and dynamic downtown and in doing so has, pursuant to the Act, charged the DIA to envision and formulate a community redevelopment area plan for downtown which among other things shall conform to the City’s comprehensive plan and be sufficiently complete so as to indicate any proposed land acquisition, demolition, affordable housing, redevelopment, improvements, and rehabilitation that is appropriate for the revitalization of downtown; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 55.308(b)(1), part of the DIA’s duties include the review of business investment and development priorities within downtown, including the responsibility to recommend to the Council approval of downtown development and redevelopment agreements, and ground lease agreements; and

WHEREAS, the DIA in its dual capacity as both a community redevelopment agency and as a business investment board for downtown seeks to encourage and stimulate growth within downtown and incentivize quality of life and quality of growth planned projects coupled with a well-planned and viable infrastructure system; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Retail Enhancement Grant Program (the “Program”) is designed to create momentum in the critical task of recruiting and retaining restaurant and retail businesses and creative office space in the Northbank Core Retail Enhancement Area (as defined in the Program Guidelines); and

WHEREAS, the DIA pursuant to prior Board resolutions approved the Downtown Jacksonville Retail Enhancement Plan and amendments thereto; and

WHEREAS, the DIA desires to further amend the Downtown Retail Enhancement Plan adopted at prior DIA meetings in accordance with the proposed Downtown Jacksonville Retail Enhancement Program Guidelines attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the “Program Guidelines”).

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Downtown Investment Authority:

Section 1. The DIA finds that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. The DIA finds that the Program Guidelines merit the City Council's consideration and approval.

Section 3. The DIA respectfully submits and requests the City Council to: (1) approve the Program Guidelines; (2) appropriate \$750,000.00 from the Downtown Economic Development Fund for the purposes set forth in the Program Guidelines; (3) authorize the Mayor, or his designee, and the DIA Chief Executive Office on behalf of the DIA to execute grant agreements and any other necessary documents in accordance with the Program Guidelines.

Section 4. This resolution shall become effective upon its approval by the DIA this 21st day of March, 2014.

WITNESS:

DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY


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Oliver Barakat, Chairman

VOTE: In Favor: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstained: _____

FORM APPROVAL:



Office of General Counsel