

**Council Meeting  
February 23, 2023  
Agenda Item #06**

**Resolution No. 23-863, establishing a  
Comprehensive Economic Development Policy  
and Program for economic development  
activities for the City**

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**Background information attached as follows:**

**Resolution: Updated February 21, 2023**

**CITY OF HUMBLE, TEXAS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-863**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HUMBLE, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE CITY AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 380.001, TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Humble seeks to adopt a comprehensive set of policies and procedures to enhance its economic development efforts pursuant to Chapter 380, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to promoting and attracting high quality development within the City boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to improving the quality of life of its citizens and community as generally described in the City Comprehensive Plan, as it may be amended from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously developed economic development programs and incentives designed to encourage high quality business and commercial interests to locate, remain and expand in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to enhance its economic development efforts to attract and retain high quality development and jobs by establishing these Chapter 380 Economic Development Program Policies and Procedures; and

WHEREAS, any agreement between the City and an applicant pursuant to these policies and procedures shall ensure that the public interest is protected and that a public benefit is received in exchange for any public funds, assets or services invested by the City to stimulate economic development in the City; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUMBLE, TEXAS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1: Purpose and General Information**

These policies and procedures are established in an effort to develop and expand the local economy by promoting and encouraging development and redevelopment projects that enhance the City's economic base and economic diversity, and expand job opportunities. The goal and public purpose of a program established pursuant to these policies and procedures is to promote state or local economic development and to stimulate commercial activity in the municipality.

In furtherance of these objectives, the City will, on a case-by-case basis, give consideration upon request to providing economic incentives to applicants in accordance with these policies and procedures, as authorized by Chapter 380 of the Texas Government Code, as may be amended from time to time. These policies and procedures are not intended to obligate the City to provide economic incentives to any applicant. The decision whether to approve or deny economic incentives for any applicant shall be at the discretion of the Council; no program or agreement is effective unless and until it is approved by the Council.

Nothing in these policies and procedures, the application process, or the negotiation process creates any property, contract or other legal right in any person to have the Council consider or grant incentives. Nothing in these policies and procedures, the application process or the negotiation process creates any vested right in any person.

A failure on the part of the City to strictly comply with these policies and procedures shall not be the basis for invalidating a program or agreement approved by the Council. These policies and procedures are intended as guidelines for negotiation purposes.

Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code does not define the term “program.” The City defines the term “program” to include any project that receives incentives, singularly or in some combination, pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code, as embodied in an agreement between the City and applicant. The term “program” includes these policies and procedures.

## **SECTION 2: Minimum Program Requirements**

To be considered for incentives as a Chapter 380 Economic Development Program under these policies and procedures, a project must meet the following minimum requirements:

- (1) Either the project
  - (a) will result in an increased taxable value for the City in real and business personal property taxes, increased sales and use tax and/or inventory and supplies;
  - (b) is determined by the City Council to bring benefit to the City in that it will make a unique contribution to the development efforts in the City, due to its magnitude, significance to the community or aesthetic quality; or
  - (c) will result in increased jobs in the City.
- (2) Incentives established under a program will be provided only to the extent that the public benefit or amount of revenue realized by the City and attributable to a program is commensurate with the value of any incentives granted in the agreement.

## **SECTION 3: Additional Considerations**

Additional factors to be considered by the City Council in determining whether to approve an agreement for incentives for a Chapter 380 Economic Development Program may include:

- (1) the amount of property tax and sales and use tax generated;
- (2) the number and types of jobs to be created or retained;
- (3) enhancement of public roads and/or other public infrastructure desired by the City;
- (4) substantial compliance with current ordinances when otherwise possibly exempt;
- (5) voluntary agreement to annex the project or substantial portions thereof;
- (6) applicant waives any rights it may have to develop under prior development agreements or grandfathered ordinances;
- (7) the financial capacity of the applicant to undertake and complete the proposed program;
- (8) other incentive programs for which the applicant has applied, qualified for or received;
- (9) the market conditions and growth potential for the business;
- (10) any other factors the Council finds helpful and relevant to accomplishing the City's economic development objectives as stated herein or as stated in other City resolutions, policies, rules, regulations or ordinances.

#### SECTION 4: **Application Process**

- (1) A written application for consideration as a program shall be submitted to the City Manager and the Chief Economic Development Officer of Partnership Lake Houston acting in their capacity as a representative of the City. An applicant shall be required to provide additional information, beyond what is provided in the application, to show compliance with minimum program requirements. If the City Manager and Chief Economic Development Officer determines the application meets the minimum program requirements, the application shall be presented to the City Council.
- (2) The Council may appoint a negotiation team consisting of the Mayor, City Manager and Chief Economic Development Officer to negotiate a proposed agreement with the applicant. During the course of negotiation, the City Manager shall keep the Council informed as to the progress of negotiations.
- (3) The Council may consider the proposed agreement and may take action on the proposal as it deems appropriate. The Council is in no way bound by the terms negotiated by the team and included in the proposed agreement. No item negotiated by the team may bind the City.

- (4) Any agreement negotiated by the team shall not be effective unless it is approved by the City Council.

#### **SECTION 5: Agreement Terms and Conditions**

An agreement established for a program may include any or all of the following:

- (1) a list of the kind of improvements or development that the program will include and a related timetable;
- (2) conditions to assure the program meets or exceeds the City's requirements pertaining to property values and revenues, which in no event shall be less than the minimum program requirements established herein;
- (3) a complete description of the location of the proposed program;
- (4) a description of the kind and amount of property values, sales and use taxes, revenues, incomes or other public benefits the program will provide and a related timetable;
- (5) a provision establishing the term or duration of the agreement;
- (6) a provision identifying the method for calculating and the source of funding for any incentives provided by the City in the agreement, as well as the legal authorization for the expenditure or action;
- (7) a provision establishing a method for measuring whether the applicant and any related parties have met their obligations under the agreement;
- (8) a provision providing for access to and inspection of applicant's property, business or financial records by City employees or agents in order to determine compliance with the agreement;
- (9) a provision for suspension or cancellation of the agreement and/or nonpayment or proration of incentives if the program is determined to be in noncompliance with the agreement;
- (10) a provision for early payment of the agreement once complete compliance has been established;
- (11) a provision for recapturing City incentives including, but not limited to, grants, rebates and loans, if the applicant does not comply with the terms of the agreement;
- (12) a provision that applicant will comply with all ordinances in effect at the time of the agreement, unless otherwise provided in the agreement, as allowed by law and/or City ordinance;
- (13) any other provision the Council deems appropriate; and
- (15) annexation, if the program is outside the corporate limits of the City.

#### **SECTION 6: Recitals**

The Council hereby finds that the statements set forth in the recitals of this Resolution are true and correct, and the Council hereby incorporates such recitals as part of this Resolution.

#### **SECTION 7: Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED AND RESOLOVED this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2023.

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Norman Funderburk, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Maria Jackson, City Secretary