

ORDINANCE #69292
Board Bill No. 200

An ordinance renewing the Tower Grove South Concerned Citizens Special Business District pursuant to Sections 71.790 through 71.808 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, setting its boundaries, tax rate, initial rate of levy subject to the approval of the qualified voters, bonding authority, and uses to which tax revenue may be put; creating a board of commissioners; and containing severability, effectiveness, and emergency clauses.

WHEREAS, the Tower Grove South Concerned Citizens Special Business District was established by the qualified voters residing within the boundaries of such district on November 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing, duly noticed, was held at 9:00 a.m. on October 30, 2012, by the 2012-13 Committee on Ways & Means of the Board of Aldermen; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Aldermen hereby finds that the renewal of the Tower Grove South Concerned Citizens Special Business District is in the best interest of the City of St. Louis and that the property owners and tenants of said area and the public in general will benefit by the establishment of said Special Business District and the increased level of services and improvements provided by the proposed additional tax revenues from said district; and

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. A Special Business District, to be known as the "Tower Grove South Concerned Citizens Special Business District" (hereinafter referred to as the "District"), is hereby renewed for the area of the City described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the center lines of Grand Boulevard and the McDonald Avenue and Utah Place east-west alleyway; thence westwardly along the centerline of said east-west alleyway to its intersection of the centerline of Roger Place; thence southwardly along the centerline of said place to the intersection of the centerline of Phillips Avenue; thence southwardly along the centerline of said avenue to the intersection of the centerline of Gravois Avenue; thence eastwardly along the centerline of said avenue to the intersection of the centerline of Grand Boulevard; thence northwardly along the boulevard to the point of its beginning.

SECTION TWO. Taxes for the District shall be assessed and collected as follows:

A. For the purpose of paying for costs and expenses incurred in the establishment and operation of the District, the provision of services and facilities and improvements authorized in Sections Five and Six of this ordinance, and incidental to the leasing, construction, acquisition and maintenance of any improvements authorized herein or for paying principal and interest on bonds or notes authorized for the construction or acquisition of any said improvement, there may be imposed a tax upon all real property within the District which shall not exceed sixty-eight cents (\$.68) on the one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation, subject to the provisions of Section Nine. Such tax shall be imposed during the 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 tax years only subject to the renewal of such tax by the qualified voters of the District pursuant to the procedure set forth in Section 71.800 RSMo. (2000).

B. If the proposition submitted to the qualified voters residing in the District receives in its favor the votes of the majority of the qualified voters voting at the election conducted pursuant to Section Nine, the initial rate of levy which shall be imposed upon real property within the District shall be sixty-eight cents (\$.68) on the one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation.

C. Real property subject to partial tax abatement under the provisions of Chapter 353, R.S.Mo., shall, for the purpose of assessment and collection of ad valorem real estate taxes levied under the District, be assessed and ad valorem real estate taxes shall be collected upon the same assessed value on which its ad valorem real estate taxes and payment in lieu of taxes are based in the Ordinance adopted by the City of St. Louis approving the development plan of any such corporation and authorizing tax abatement; provided, however, that the owners at such real property are strongly encouraged to make additional equitable, annual donations to the District in lieu of the additional District taxes.

D. The levy shall not be imposed upon real property exempt from ad valorem real estate taxes because of charitable, religious, educational or other public or private uses; provided, however, that the owners of such real property are strongly encouraged to make equitable, annual donations to the District in lieu of District taxes.

E. The tax provided for by this ordinance shall be collected by the Collector of Revenue and held in a special account to

be used only for all purposes authorized hereunder, as provided by law.

F. If the District for any reason is dissolved, all delinquent taxes collected after the date of dissolution shall be credited and forwarded to the general fund of the City of St. Louis after all debts of the District, if any, are discharged.

SECTION THREE. For the purposes of paying costs and expenses to be incurred in the acquisition, construction, improvement, expansion and/or maintenance of any facilities of the District, the District may incur indebtedness and issue bonds or notes for the payment thereof under the terms of, and subject to, the requirements set forth by law.

SECTION FOUR. There shall be a Board of Commissioners to administer the District. The Board of Commissioners shall be selected as follows:

A. Membership: The Board of Commissioners shall consist of seven (7) members, and shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Board of Aldermen, of whom five (5) members shall be owners of real property within the District or their representatives and two (2) members shall be renters within the District or their representatives; provided, however, that no employee or elected official of the City of St. Louis shall be a member of the Board of Commissioners.

B. Term of Office: Each member of the Board of Commissioners shall serve for a four (4) year term (except as provided herein with respect to the initial members), with terms expiring as of December 31st of the designated year or when their successors are appointed as provided herein, whichever is later.

C. Initial Members and Terms: The initial members shall be appointed for the terms set forth as follows: one (1) member shall be appointed for a term expiring December 31, 2009; two (2) members shall be appointed for a term expiring December 31, 2010; two (2) members shall be appointed for a term expiring December 31, 2011; and two (2) members shall be appointed for a term expiring December 31, 2012.

D. Removal: The Mayor with approval of the Board of Aldermen may remove any member of the Board of Commissioners for misconduct or neglect of duty upon written charges and after a public hearing.

E. Vacancies: Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners, occasioned by removal, resignation, expiration of term, or otherwise, shall be reported in writing to the Mayor by the Board of Commissioners. The vacancy shall be filled in like manner as an original appointment no later than thirty (30) days after the date of said report to the Mayor. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired portion of a term only.

F. Compensation: The members of the Board of Commissioners shall serve without compensation of any kind.

SECTION FIVE. All District revenues collected hereunder by the Collector of Revenue, except for those revenues expended for the necessary costs of the establishment and administration of the District, and for collection fees for tax revenue collected hereunder, may be used to carry out any and all of the following improvements, services and activities of the District:

A. To provide special police and/or security facilities, equipment, vehicles and/or personnel for the protection and enjoyment of the property owners and the general public within the District;

B. To construct, install, improve and/or maintain useful, or necessary, or desired, security related improvements;

SECTION SIX. The District shall have all the powers necessary to carry out any and all activities and improvements authorized by law and may:

A. Cooperate with any public agencies and with any industry or business located within the District in the implementation of any project within the District;

B. Enter into any agreement with the City, any other public agency, any person, firm, or corporation to effect any of the provisions contained in Sections 71.790 through 71.808 R.S.Mo.;

C. Contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued and provide for insurance of all projects and property owned or managed by the District and for insurance covering all members of the Board of Commissioners and employees and agents of the District, providing for coverage of such risks and with such limits as the Board of Commissioners may deem proper;

D. Accept gifts, grants, loans or contributions from the City, the United States of America, the State of Missouri, political subdivisions, foundations, other public or private agencies, individuals, partnerships, or corporations; and

E. Employ such managerial, engineering, legal, technical, clerical, accounting, and other assistance as the Board of Commissioners may deem advisable; the District may also contract with independent contractors for any such assistance.

SECTION SEVEN. A. Annual Budget. The Board of Commissioners shall file with the Board of Aldermen an annual budget for the District, which shall set forth the projected revenues and expenditures for the ensuing year, not later than the first day of November each year; provided, however, that no such proposed annual budget shall be filed with the Board of Aldermen until after the date the Board of Commissioners conducts a public hearing within the District on any such proposed annual budget. Notice of any such public hearing shall be published at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing in a daily, twice-weekly, weekly or bi-weekly newspaper of general circulation within the District; and provided further, that in addition to showing the time, date and place of the hearing, the notice shall also show the complete proposed annual budget. The Board of Commissioners shall not expend any funds collected by the Collector of Revenue inconsistent with or until an annual budget for the expenditure of such funds is approved by the Board of Aldermen by Resolution. If the Board of Aldermen does not act on said budget by Resolution within thirty (30) days of its filing, said budget will presume to have been approved by the Board of Aldermen.

B. Annual Report. The Board of Commissioners shall also file an annual report with the Board of Aldermen, which shall set forth the programs, revenues and expenditures of the District for the previous calendar year, not later than the first day of March each year.

SECTION EIGHT. The City shall not decrease the level of municipally funded services in the District existing prior to the creation of the District, unless the services at the same time are decreased throughout the City, nor shall the City discriminate in the provision of new municipally funded services between areas included in the District and areas not so included.

SECTION NINE. The tax levy authorized in Section Two shall not be effective unless and until the following proposition, submitted to the qualified voters residing in the District at a special election in the District to be held on November 4, 2008, shall receive in its favor the votes of the majority of the qualified voters voting at said election for or against said proposition. Said proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Shall a tax not to exceed sixty-eight cents (\$.68) per \$100.00 valuation be imposed for the tax years, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 on all real property located in the Tower Grove South Concerned Citizens Special Business District as defined in Ordinance No._____, approved _____, (Board Bill No. --) for the purposes as set forth in said Ordinance?

___ YES

___ NO

SECTION TEN. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional, or unlawful for any reason, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed and is hereby declared to be separate, distinct and independent provisions of this ordinance, and such holding or holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION ELEVEN: This being an ordinance for the immediate preservation of public peace, health and safety, it is declared to be an emergency measure within the meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of Article IV of the Charter of the City of St. Louis and therefore this ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Approved: November 20, 2012