

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date</b>	November 10, 2008
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 24 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <del>08-</del> <b>Communication No.</b> <del>08-689</del> <b>Submitted by:</b> Larry Hulse, Community Development Director	

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Receive and file an evaluative report from the Plan and Zoning Commission regarding a petition to continue the Downtown Self Supporting Municipal Improvement District (SSMID), set the date of public hearing for December 8, 2008 and direct staff to send certified notices to all property owners within the proposed SSMID boundary.

**SYNOPSIS:**

The Plan and Zoning Commission is scheduled to review and make a recommendation on the Evaluative Report at their regular meeting on November 6, 2008. The Commission’s recommendation will be forwarded to the Council prior to the November 10, 2008 meeting. Staff recommends that Council receive and file the evaluative report, set the date of public hearing for December 8, 2008 and direct staff to send certified notices to all property owners within the proposed SSMID boundary.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: Approximately \$642,386 of SSMID revenue annually based upon a total non-residential assessed value within the SSMID boundary of \$321,193,130 and maximum assessment of 2.00 per \$1,000 of valuation.

Funding Source: SP862 SSMID of Fund FIN 95700: SSMID-Downtown p.154 in Operating Budget. The source of funding is from the non-residential assessed value within the SSMID. No General Fund money is contributed and therefore does not affect the City’s tax rate.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Downtown Community Alliance has submitted a petition to the City Council on behalf of downtown property owners, to continue the Downtown Des Moines Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District for an additional five years beginning July 2009. The Downtown SSMID has been in effect since July 1998. The current SSMID expires on June 30, 2009.

The petition proposes a maximum rate of \$2.00 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation for the annual SSMID operation tax levy.

The SSMID petition allows for:

- a)      Enhanced maintenance and cleaning of public spaces;

- b) Services to enhance the safety of persons and property, including a "Goodwill Ambassador" security program;
- c) Development and management of activities for marketing, business retention and attraction;
- d) Capital, physical or other improvements designed to enhance the image and appearance of the district; and
- e) Improvement of skywalk system, including actions related to maintenance, cleaning and security.

The SSMID would continue to be directed by the entity known as the Downtown Des Moines SSMID District, sometimes referred to as "Operation Downtown," comprised of representatives of property owners, tenants, City, County, and the Downtown Community Alliance which annually recommends to the City Council how the SSMID funds collected should be spent. Previously, the City entered into an operating agreement with Operation Downtown to manage and undertake the services, improvements or activities described in the SSMID.

#### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: October 13, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1807

Action: Receipt of petition to continue the Downtown Des Moines Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District (SSMID) for an additional five years beginning July 2009 pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 386. (Council Communication No. 08-621) Moved by Coleman to receive, file and refer to the City Plan and Zoning Commission for preparation of an evaluative report on the merit and feasibility on continuation of the Downtown Des Moines SSMID Project and to make recommendations with respect to continuation of the Downtown Des Moines SSMID Project to be received by the City Council for the November 10, 2008 regular City Council meeting. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Cownie.

#### **BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Date: November 6, 2008

Roll Call Number: N/A.

Action: The Plan and Zoning Commission is scheduled to review an evaluative report on the merit and feasibility on continuation of the Downtown Des Moines SSMID Project and to make recommendations with respect to continuation of the Downtown Des Moines SSMID Project on November 6, 2008.

#### **ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Hold a public hearing regarding the proposed SSMID on December 8, 2008. First reading of an ordinance to renew the SSMID is anticipated on January 26, 2009; second reading is anticipated on February 9, 2009 and final consideration is anticipated on February 23, 2009.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to [cityclerk@dmgov.org](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).