

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: July 28, 2014
	Agenda Item No. 50AB Roll Call No. <u>14-1182-3</u> Communication No. <u>14-370</u> Submitted by: Scott E. Sanders, Assistant City Manager / Finance Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of Downtown Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District (SSMID) fiscal year (FY) 2015 Budget and Operating Agreement extension through June 30, 2019.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of Downtown SSMID FY2015 Budget and engage Operation Downtown to operate, manage and undertake Downtown SSMID improvements and services to enhance the vitality of the downtown area. The term of the agreement would be extended by five (5) years to June 30, 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: N/A

Funding Source: SSMID Property Tax Revenue is passed through to Operation Downtown.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The City Council approved the Downtown SSMID levies and total expenditure levels within the budget approvals on March 10, 2014. This action approves the budget line items for the Downtown SSMID and extends the contract with Operation Downtown to continue administrating the enhanced services.

This agreement extends a relationship which began in February 1998 and extended in 2001, 2005, and 2009. The Downtown SSMID was created according to Iowa Code as a means to collect a special Operations Tax from downtown property owners to support a higher level of services within its boundaries. The City Council adopted an ordinance on February 23, 2009, providing for the continuation of the Operations Fund and the collection of the Operations Tax. The Operations Tax is limited by the ordinance to a rate of \$2.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value, although the tax rate is \$1.15 at present.

Enhanced services provided include:

- Enhanced maintenance and cleaning of public spaces;
- Services to enhance the safety of persons and property, including a “Goodwill Ambassador” program;

- Development and management of activities for marketing, business retention and attraction;
- Capital or physical improvements; and
- Improvement of the skywalk system, including maintenance, cleaning, and security.

The agreement requires that the Downtown SSMID subcontract with the Downtown Community Alliance to employ a full-time director to supervise the management and operation and perform all administrative duties of the Downtown SSMID; subcontract with Greater Des Moines Partnership to perform Downtown SSMID's financial and fiduciary duties; and provide "clean and safe" services and activities as currently performed by *Block-by-Block* an SMS Holdings Company.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 12, 2009

Roll Call Number: [09-1859](#)

Action: Items regarding Downtown Des Moines SSMID:

- (A) [Operating](#) Agreement. ([Council Communication No. 09-703](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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