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By: Hochberg (Senate Sponsor - Ellis)

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 16, 2005;
May 17, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; May 20, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4,
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          Nays 0; May 20, 2005, sent to printer.)
          COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 3526
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                                                                                            By: Deuell
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                                            A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                                       AN ACT
          relating to the creation of the Greater Sharpstown Management District; providing authority to impose a tax and issue a bond or
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          similar obligation.
                   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
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          SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 4, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 3850 to read as follows:
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                    CHAPTER 3850. GREATER SHARPSTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
                                   SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
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                           3850.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
(1) "Board" means the board of directors of the
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                   Sec.
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          district.
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                            (2)
                                   "District" means the Greater Sharpstown
          Management District.
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                   Sec. 3850.002.
                                                                 SHARPSTOWN
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                                           GREATER
                                                                                             MANAGEMENT
          DISTRICT. The Greater Sharpstown Management District is a special district created under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.
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                   Sec. 3850.003. PURPOSE; DECLARATION OF INTENT. (a) The
          creation of the district is essential to accomplish the purposes of
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          Sections 52 and 52-a, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other public purposes stated in this chapter. By creating the district and in authorizing the City of
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          Houston, Harris County, and other political subdivisions to
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          contract with the district, the legislature has established a program to accomplish the public purposes set out in Section 52-a,
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          Article III, Texas Constitution.

(b) The creation of the district is necessary to promote, develop, encourage, and maintain employment, commerce,
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          transportation, housing, tourism, recreation, the arts, entertainment, economic development, safety, and the public welfare in the district and adjacent areas.

(c) This chapter and the creation of the district may not be
                                                                                            the arts,
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          interpreted to relieve Harris County or the City of Houston from
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          providing the level of services provided as of the effective date of
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          this Act, to the area in the district. The district is created to supplement and not to supplant the county or municipal services provided in the area in the district.
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                   Sec. 3850.004. FINDINGS OF BENEFIT AND PUBLIC PURPOSE. (a)
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          The district is created to serve a public use and benefit.
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                   (b) All land and other property included in the
                                                                                                district
          will benefit from the improvements and services to be provided by the district under powers conferred by Sections 52 and 52-a,
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          Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and
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          other powers granted under this chapter.
(c) The creation of the district is in the public interest
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          and is essential to:
(1) further the public purposes of developing and
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          diversifying the economy of the state;
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                            (2) eliminate unemployment and underemployment; and
                            (3) develop or expand transportation and commerce.
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                           The district will:
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                    (d)
                           (1) promote the health, safety, and general welfare of employers, employees, visitors, and consumers in the
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          residents,
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          district, and of the public;
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(2) provide needed funding for the district to

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preserve, maintain, and enhance the economic health and vitality of the district territory as a community and business center; and

(3) promote the health, safety, welfare, and enjoyment of the public by providing pedestrian ways and by landscaping and developing certain areas in the district, which are necessary for the restoration, preservation, and enhancement of scenic beauty.

(e) Pedestrian ways along or across a street, whether grade or above or below the surface, and street lighting, street landscaping, and street art objects are parts of and necessary components of a street and are considered to be a street or road improvement.

(f) The district will not <u>ag</u>ent act the as instrumentality of any private interest even though the district will benefit many private interests as well as the public.

Sec. 3850.005. PARKING. A parking improvement considered to be a street or road improvement. is

Sec. 3850.006. DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) The district is composed of the territory described by Section 2 of the Act enacting this chapter, as that territory may have been modified under:

(1) Subchapter J, Chapter 49, Water Code; or(2) other law.

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The boundaries and field notes of the district contained in Section 2 of the Act enacting this chapter form a closure. A mistake in the field notes or in copying the field notes in the legislative process does not in any way affect the district's:

(1) organization, existence, or validity;

(2) right to issue any type of bond for a purpose for which the district is created or to pay the principal of and interest on the bond;

(3) right to impose or collect an assessment or tax; or
 (4) legality or operation

(4) legality or operation.
3850.007. ELIGIBILITY FOR INCLUSION IN SPECIAL ZONES. or any part of the area of the district is eligible to be included in:

(1) a tax increment reinvestment zone created by a municipality under Chapter 311, Tax Code;

(2) a tax abatement reinvestment zone created by a municipality under Chapter 312, Tax Code; or

(3) an enterprise zone created by a municipality under

Chapter 2303, Government Code.

Sec. 3850.008. APPLICABILITY OF MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS LAW. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter,

Chapter 375, Local Government Code, applies to the district.

Sec. 3850.009. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION OF CHAPTER. Chapter shall be liberally construed in conformity with findings and purposes stated in this chapter.

[Sections 3850.010-3850.050 reserved for expansion] This

SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 3850.051. BOARD OF DIRECTORS; TERMS. (a) The district is governed by a board of nine voting directors who serve staggered terms of four years, with four or five directors' terms expiring June 1 of each odd-numbered year.

(b) The board by resolution may change the number of voting directors on the board, but only if the board determines that the change is in the best interest of the district. The board may not consist of fewer than five or more than 15 voting directors.

Sec. 3850.052. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS. The mayor members of the governing body of the City of Houston shall appoint voting directors from persons recommended by the board. A person is appointed if a majority of the members of the governing body, including the mayor, vote to appoint that person.

Sec. 3850.053. NONVOTING DIRECTORS. (a) The following persons serve as nonvoting directors:

(1) the directors of the following departments of the City of Houston or a person designated by that director:

(A) parks and recreation;

(B) planning and development;

(C) public works; and civic center; and (D)

(2) the City of Houston's chief of police.

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If a department described by Subsection (b) consolidated, renamed, or changed, the board may appoint a director of the consolidated, renamed, or changed department as a nonvoting director. If a department described by Subsection (a) is abolished, the board may appoint a representative of another department that performs duties comparable to those performed by the abolished department.

Sec. 3850.054. QUORUM. For purposes of determining whether a quorum of the board is present, the following are not counted:

(1) a board position vacant for any reason, including

death, resignation, or disqualification;
(2) a director who is abstaining from participation in a vote because of a conflict of interest; or

(3) a nonvoting director.
3850.055. INITIAL VOTING DIRECTORS. (a) The initial Sec. board consists of the following voting directors:

Pos. No.	Name of Director
1	Kenneth Li
2	Welcome Wilson, Jr.
<u>3</u>	Michael Laster
$\overline{4}$	Maurisa Tolbert
<u>5</u>	Chris Vasquez
6	Toni Franklin
<u>7</u>	Tracey Suttles
8	Don Wang
<u>9</u>	Fred Bhandara

(b) Of the initial voting directors, the terms of directors appointed for positions 1 through 5 expire June 1, 2007, and the terms of directors appointed for positions 6 through 9 expire June 1, 2009. 1<u>,</u>

Section 3850.052 does not apply to this section. (c)

(d) This section expires September 1, 2009.

[Sections 3850.056-3850.100 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES 3850.101. EXERCISE OF POWERS OF DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. The district may exercise the powers of a corporation created under Section 4B, Development Corporation Act of 1979 (Article 5190.6, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), including the power to own, operate, acquire, construct, lease, improve, maintain projects described by that section. and

Sec. 3850.102. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. The board by (a) resolution may authorize the creation of a nonprofit corporation to assist and act for the district in implementing a project or providing a service authorized by this chapter.
(b) The nonprofit corporation:

(1) has each power of and is considered for purposes of this chapter to be a local government corporation created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code; and
(2) may implement any pro

may implement any project and provide any service

authorized by this chapter.

(c) The board shall appoint the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation. The board of directors of the nonprofit corporation shall serve in the same manner as the board of directors of a local government corporation created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code, except that a board member is not required to reside in the district.

Sec. 3850.103. AGREEMENTS; GRANTS. (a) The district may make an agreement with or accept a gift, grant, or loan from any

The implementation of a project is a governmental function or service for the purposes of Chapter 791, Government Code.

Sec. 3850.104. AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT. To protect the public interest, the district may contract with a law enforcement services provider, including Harris County or the City of Houston, to provide law enforcement services in the district for a <u>fe</u>e.

Sec. 3850.105. APPROVAL BY CITY OF HOUSTON. (a) Except as

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provided by Subsection (c), the district must obtain the approval 4-1 4-2 of the City of Houston's governing body for:

the issuance of bonds for an improvement project;

the plans and specifications of an improvement

project financed by the bonds; and

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(3) the plans and specifications of an improvement project related to the use of land owned by the City of Houston, an easement granted by the City of Houston, or a right-of-way of a

street, road, or highway.

(b) The approval obtained under Subsection (a) for the issuance of bonds must be a resolution by the City of Houston. The approval obtained under Subsection (a) for plans and specifications

must be a permit issued by the City of Houston.

(c) If the district obtains the approval of the City of Houston's governing body of a capital improvements budget for a period not to exceed five years, the district may finance the capital improvements and issue bonds specified in the budget without further approval from the City of Houston.

Sec. 3850.106. MEMBERSHIP IN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. The

district may join and pay dues to an organization that:
(1) enjoys tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3),

, Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and (4), or (6)

(2) performs a service or provides an activity

consistent with the furtherance of a district purpose.

Sec. 3850.107. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROG POWERS RELATED TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. (a) PROGRAMS AND OTHER The district may establish and provide for the administration of one or more programs to promote state or local economic development and to stimulate business and commercial activity in the district, including programs to:

(1) make loans and grants of public money; and

(2) provide district personnel and services.

The district has all of the powers of a municipality under Chapter 380, Local Government Code.

Sec. 3850.108. NO EMINENT DOMAIN. exercise the power of eminent domain. The district may not

[Sections 3850.109-3850.150 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER D. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 3850.151. DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF MONEY. The board by resolution shall establish the number of directors' signatures and the procedure required for a disbursement or

transfer of the district's money.

Sec. 3850.152. MONEY USED FOR IMPROVEMENTS OR SERVICES. The district may acquire, construct, finance, operate, or maintain any improvement or service authorized under this chapter or Chapter 375, Local Government Code, using any money available to the district.

PETITION REQUIRED FOR FINANCING SERVICES AND Sec 3850.153. IMPROVEMENTS WITH ASSESSMENTS. (a) The board may not finance a service or improvement project with assessments under this chapter unless a written petition requesting that service or improvement has been filed with the board.

(b) A petition requesting a project financed by assessment must be signed by:

(1) the owners of a majority of the assessed value of real property in the district subject to assessment according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Harris County; or

(2) at least 50 owners of real property in the district, if more than 50 persons own real property in the district according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Harris County.

Sec. 3850.154. METHOD OF NOTICE FOR HEARING. district may mail the notice required by Section 375.115(c), Local Government Code, by certified or first class United States mail. The board shall determine the type of notice required based on whether adequate notice is provided by the method.

(b) If the district uses first class mail to provide the

notice, the district must also publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the district not later than the 20th day

before the date of the event for which notice was provided.

Sec. 3850.155. ASSESSMENTS; LIENS FOR ASSESSMENTS The board by resolution may impose and collect an assessment for any purpose authorized by this chapter.

(b) An assessment, a reassessment, or an assessment resulting from an addition to or correction of the assessment roll by the district, penalties and interest on an assessment or reassessment, an expense of collection, and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the district:

(1) are a first and prior lien against the property

assessed;

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(2)are superior to any other lien or claim other than a lien or claim for county, school district, or municipal ad valorem taxes; and

are the personal liability of and a charge against the owners of the property even if the owners are not named in the assessment proceedings.

The lien is effective from the date of the board's resolution imposing the assessment until the date the assessment is paid. The board may enforce the lien in the same manner that the board may enforce an ad valorem tax lien against real property.

(d) The board may make a correction to or deletion from the assessment roll that does not increase the amount of assessment of any parcel of land without providing notice and holding a hearing in

the manner required for additional assessments.

Sec. 3850.156. LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF CERTAIN ASSESSMENTS. An assessment based on the taxable value of real property may not

exceed 12 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of taxable property in the district, according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Harris County.

Sec. 3850.157. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS. An

assessment levied in the district for a public improvement district under Chapter 372, Local Government Code, may be used only under the terms for which the assessment was levied. Money raised by an assessment in the public improvement district under that chapter must be used in the public improvement district, and may not be transferred for use outside the area for which the assessment was originally levied.

Sec. 3850.158. UTILITY PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM IMPACT FEES AND SMENTS. The district may not impose an impact fee or sment on the property, including the equipment, ASSESSMENTS. assessment rights-of-way, facilities, or improvements, of:

(1) an electric utility or a power generation company

as defined by Section 31.002, Utilities Code;

(2) a gas utility as defined by Section 101.003 or
121.001, Utilities Code;

(3) a telecommunications provider as defined by Section 51.002, Utilities Code; or

to (4) a person who provides the public cable

television or advanced telecommunications services.

Sec. 3850.159. AD VALOREM TAX. (a) If authorized at election held in accordance with Section 3850.162, the district may impose an annual ad valorem tax on taxable property in the district to:

maintain and operate the district;

(2) construct or acquire improvements; or

provide a service.

The board shall determine the tax rate. The rate may not

(b) The board Shall determine exceed the rate approved at the election.

One will be a substituted and of the control of the c Sec. 3850.160. BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS. (a) The district may issue bonds or other obligations payable wholly or partly from taxes, assessments, impact fees, revenue, grants, or other money of the district, or any combination of those sources of money, to pay for any authorized purpose of the district.

(b) The district may issue a bond or other obligation in the of a bond, note, certificate of participation or other instrument evidencing a proportionate interest in payments to be made by the district, or other type of obligation.

Sec. 3850.161. TAXES FOR BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS. At

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the time bonds or other obligations payable wholly or partly from ad 6-1 6-2 valorem taxes are issued:

(1) the board shall impose a continuing direct annual ad valorem tax, without limit as to rate or amount, for each year that all or part of the bonds are outstanding; and

(2) the district annually shall impose the continuing direct ad valorem tax on all taxable property in the district in an amount sufficient to:

(A) pay the interest on the bonds or other obligations as the interest becomes due;

(B) create a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of the bonds or other obligations when due or the redemption price at any earlier required redemption date; and

(C) pay the expenses of imposing the taxes.

Sec. 3850.162. TAX AND BOND ELECTIONS. (a) The district shall hold an election in the manner provided by Subchapter L, Chapter 375, Local Government Code, to obtain voter approval before the district imposes an ad valorem tax or issues bonds payable from ad valorem taxes. The proposition for an election approving an ad valorem tax must specify the maximum tax rate authorized.

(b) Section 375.243, Local Government Code, does not apply

to the district.

Sec. 3850.163. CITY OF HOUSTON NOT REQUIRED TO PAY DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS. Except as provided by Section 375.263, Local Government Code, the City of Houston is not required to pay a bond, note, or other obligation of the district.

Sec. 3850.164. COMPETITIVE BIDDING. Section 375.221, Local Government Code, applies to the district only for a contract that

has a value greater than \$25,000.

Sec. 3850.165. TAX AND ASSESSMENT ABATEMENTS. The district may grant in the manner authorized by Chapter 312, Tax Code, an abatement for a tax or assessment owed to the district.

[Sections 3850.166-3850.200 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER E. DISSOLUTION

ec. 3850.201. DISSOLUTION OF DISTRICT WITH OUTSTANDING

(a) The board may dissolve the district regardless of DEBT. whether the district has debt. Section 375.264, Local Government

Code, does not apply to the district. (b) If the district has debt when it is dissolved, the district shall remain in existence solely for the purpose of discharging its debts. The dissolution is effective when all debts have been discharged.

SECTION 2. As of the effective date of this Act, the Greater Sharpstown Management District includes all territory contained in the following described area:

Beginning at the intersection of the East Right of Way of Beltway 8 and the South Right of Way of the Westpark Tollway,

Thence East along the South Right of Way of the Westpark Tollway to the East Right of Way of Gessner,

Thence North along the East Right of Way of Gessner to the North Right of Way of Westpark,

Thence East along the North Right of Way of Westpark to the East Right of Way of Highway 59,

Thence Southwest along the East Right of Way of Highway 59 to the East Right of Way of Hillcroft,
Thence Southeast following South along the East Right of Way of

Hillcroft to the South Right of Way of Bissonnet, Thence Southwest along the South Right of Way of Bissonnet to the

6-59 West Right of Way of Gessner, Thence North along the West Right of Way of Gessner to the East 6-60

6-61 Right of Way of Highway 59, 6-62 Thence Southwest along the East Right of Way of Highway 59 crossing

6-63 to the North Right of Way of Sugar Branch Drive.

6-64 Thence West along the North Right of Way of Sugar Brach Drive to the East Right of Way of Beltway 8.
Thence North along the East Right of Way of Beltway 8, to the Point 6-65

6-66 6-67 of Beginning.

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- 7-1 RES D BLK 4 BELTWAY R/P & EXTN
- 7-2 1052570000001
- 7-3 RES D BLK 4 (061*TR D4) TOWN PARK
- 7-4 0915050000007
- 7-5 TR 19C (001*TR 19A-2) SHARPSTOWN ACREAGE
- 7-6 0930640000002
- 7-7 TRS 31 & 31E BLK 31 (001*TRS 31A-2B 31A-2C 31A-4 & 31A-5) SHARPSTOWN
- 7-8 INDUSTRIAL PARK 11
- 7-9 1071900000004
- 7-10 RES A3 BLK 3 (001*TR A2) REGENCY SQ OFFICE PARK 3 R/P
- 7-11 107190000005
- 7-12 RES A5 BLK 3 (001*TR 4A) REGENCY SQ OFFICE PARK 3 R/P
- 7-13 0930630000017
- 7-14 TRS 28G & 28H BLK 28 (001*TR 28J) SHARPSTOWN INDUSTRIAL PARK 11
- 7-15 1170330000001
- 7-16 RES A ROZNOV BUSINESS PARK
- 7-17 1059760000001
- 7-18 RES A BLK 1 COMMERCE PARK SEC 2
- 7-19 1080620000005
- 7-20 RES A6 & A7 BLK 1 (008*LT 7 & TR 6A)(061*TR A7) WESTWOOD CENTER SEC 2
- 7-21 1080620000009
- 7-22 RES A8 BLK 1 (008*TR 6A) WESTWOOD CENTER SEC 2
- 7-23 1080620000010
- 7-24 RES A9 BLK 1 (061*TR A2) WESTWOOD CENTER SEC 2
- 7-25 1080620000002
- 7-26 RES A1 BLK 1 (008*TR 1 BLK 1 PT RES A) WESTWOOD CENTER SEC 2
- 7-27 1080560000011
- 7-28 RES A4 & A5 BLK 1 WESTWOOD CENTER SEC 1
- 7-29 1121370000043
- 7-30 RES B2 (061*TR B2) SUGAR BRANCH
- 7-31 0915440000013
- 7-32 TR 2A-1 BLK 8 (001*TR 2B-1) SHARPSTOWN INDUSTRIAL PARK 4
- 7-33 1150880000001
- 7-34 RES A CENTRE BUSINESS PARK
- 7-35 0472050000002

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SECTION 3. A petition filed under Section 3850.153, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this Act, may be dated before the effective date of this Act.

the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. If the Greater Sharpstown Management District imposes an assessment on property under Subchapter D, Chapter 3850, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this Act, the district shall credit against the district's first annual assessment an amount equal to that year's assessment paid on that property for a public improvement district under Chapter 372, Local Government Code.

SECTION 5. The legislature finds that:

- (1) proper and legal notice of the intention to introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies, officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished by the constitution and laws of this state, including the governor, who has submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;
- (2) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives within the required time;
- (3) the general law relating to consent by political subdivisions to the creation of districts with conservation, reclamation, and road powers and the inclusion of land in those districts has been complied with; and
- (4) all requirements of the constitution and laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act have been fulfilled and accomplished.
- 7-68 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives 7-69 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

C.S.H.B. No. 3526 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005. 8-1 8-2

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