1-1 By: McClendon (Senate Sponsor - Uresti) H.B. No. 4077 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2007; May 14, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 3, Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 1-6 printer.) A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1-7

1-8 AN ACT

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1-63 1-64 relating to the creation of an east San Antonio economic development district to be known as the Eastside Improvement District No. 1; providing authority to impose an assessment and issue bonds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN EAST SAN ANTONIO. (a) The Eastside Improvement District No. 1 is authorized to be created to help the community redevelop areas that are:

- (1)physically or economically deteriorated;
- (2) unsafe; or
- (3) poorly planned.
- The creation of the district is a tool to be used in (b) blighted areas to:
- (1)implement capital projects such as street and landscaping improvements;
- (2) provide incentives for private investments and job creation; and
- (3) assist in the development of residential areas, parks, and open spaces.

SECTION 2. EASTSIDE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1. Subtitle C, Title 4, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 3845 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 3845. EASTSIDE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

3845.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

"Board" (1) means the board of directors of the district.

(2)"City" means the City of San Antonio.

(3) "District" means the Eastside

District No. 1.

Sec. 3845.002. CREATION BY CITY; NATURE OF DISTRICT. The city by ordinance or resolution may create a special district under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, to be known as the Eastside Improvement District No. 1.

Sec. 3845.003. PURPOSE; DECLARATION OF INTENT. (a) The creation of the district is essential to accomplish the purposes of Sections 52 and 52-a, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other public purposes stated in this chapter. By authorizing the creation of the district and in authorizing Bexar County, the city, and other political subdivisions to contract with the district, the legislature has established a program to accomplish the public purposes set out in Section 52-a, Article III, Texas Constitution.

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

(c) This chapter and the creation of the district may not be interpreted to relieve Bexar County or the city from providing the level of services provided as of the effective date of the district's creation by the city to the area in the district or to release the county or the city from the obligations of each entity to provide services to that area. The district is authorized to be created to supplement and not to supplant the county or city

services provided in the district's territory.

Sec. 3845.004. FINDINGS OF BENEFIT AND PUBLIC PURPOSE. (a)

The district is created to serve a public use and benefit.

(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, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other powers granted under this chapter.

(c) Each improvement project or service authorized by this

- chapter is essential to carry out a public purpose.

 (d) The creation of the district is in the public interest and is essential to:
- further the public purposes of developing and diversifying the economy of the state;
 - (2) eliminate unemployment and underemployment; and(3) develop or expand transportation and commerce.

(e) The district will:

(1) promote the health, safety, and general welfare of employers, employees, visitors, and consumers in the residents, district, and of the public;

(2) provide money to preserve, maintain, and enhance the economic health and vitality of the district as a community and

business center;

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- (3) promote the health, safety, welfare, and enjoyment of the public by providing public art and pedestrian ways and by landscaping and developing certain areas in the district, which are necessary for the restoration, preservation, and enhancement of scenic beauty; and
- (4) promote and benefit commercial development and commercial areas in the district.
- (f) 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.
- (g) The agent the district will act not as or instrumentality of any private interest even though the district
- will benefit many private interests as well as the public.

 Sec. 3845.005. DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) The district is composed of the territory described by Section 3 of the Act enacting this chapter, as that territory may have been modified under Section 3845.106.
- (b) The boundaries and field notes of the district contained in Section 3 of the Act enacting this chapter form a closure. mistake in the field notes or in copying the field notes in the legislative process does not in any way affect: Α
- (1) the district's organization, existence, and validity;

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

(3) the district's right to impose an assessment; or

(4) the legality or operation of the district or the

board.

Sec. 3845.006. APPLICABILITY OF MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS LAW. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, Chapter 375, Local Government Code, applies to the district, the board, and district employees.

Sec. 3845.007. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION OF CHAPTER. This chapter shall be liberally construed in conformity with the findings and purposes stated in this chapter.

[Sections 3845.008-3845.050 reserved for expansion]

3845.008-3845.U5U reserved and SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TERMS. (a) The district is Sec. 3845.051. COMPOSITION; TERMS. (a) The district is governed by a board of 15 voting directors who serve staggered terms of four years, with 7 or 8 directors' terms expiring each even-numbered anniversary of the district's creation.

(b) The board by resolution may increase or decrease the number of voting directors on the board, but only if:

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(1) it is in the best interest of the district to do 3-1 3-2

so; and

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3-68 3-69 (2) the city consents to the increase or decrease by

ordinance.

(c) The board may not:

increase the number of voting directors to more (1)than <u>30; or</u>

(2) decrease the number of voting directors to fewer

Sec. 3845.052. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS. The governing body of the city shall appoint voting directors from among persons who apply to the city for appointment and persons recommended by the To be eligible for appointment, a person must meet the qualifications prescribed by Subchapter D, Chapter 375, Local Government Code.

Sec. 3845.053. NONVOTING DIRECTORS. (a) The board may appoint the following persons to serve as nonvoting directors:

(1) the directors of the parks and recreation, planning and community development, and public works departments of the city;

(2) the chief of police of the city;
(3) the general manager of the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority;

(4) the any institution of higher president of learning located in the district; or
(5) the presiding officer of a nonprofit corporation

actively involved in activities in the east area of the city.

(b) If a department described by Subsection (a) 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 as a director a representative of another department of the city that performs duties comparable to those performed by the abolished department.

Sec. 3845.054. QUORUM. Nonvoting directors are not counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

Sec. 3845.055. VACANCY. A vacancy on the board is filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 3845.056. COI provided by this section: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. (a) Except as

(1) a director may participate in all board votes and decisions; and

(2) Chapter 171, Local Government conflicts of interest of directors.

(b) Section 171.004, Local Government Code, Local Government Code, governs

- does not apply to the district. A director who has a substantial interest in a business or charitable entity that will receive a pecuniary benefit from a board action shall file an affidavit with the board secretary declaring the interest.
 (c) Another affidavit is required if the director's
- interest changes.

 (d) After the affidavit is filed, the director may
- (1) a majority of the directors interest in the same entity; or have a similar

(2) all other similar business or charitable entities in the district will receive a similar pecuniary benefit.

(e) A director who is also an officer or employee of a public entity may not participate in a discussion of or vote on a matter regarding a contract with that same public entity.

(f) For purposes of this section, a director has substantial interest in a charitable entity in the same manner that

a person would have a substantial interest in a business entity under Section 171.002, Local Government Code.

(g) The ethics code adopted by the city applies to a director. If there is a conflict between this chapter and the city's ethics code, the city's ethics code prevails.

Sec. 3845.057. INITIAL VOTING DIRECTORS. (a) Not later

than 180 days after the district's creation date, the governing body of the city shall by ordinance appoint the initial 15 voting directors by position.

(b) Of the initial voting directors, the terms of directors appointed for positions 1 through 8 expire on the second anniversary of the district's creation date, and the terms of directors appointed for positions 9 through 15 expire on the fourth anniversary of the district's creation date.

(c) Section 3845.052 does not apply to this section.

(d) This section expires September 1, 2012.

[Sections 3845.058-3845.100 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

GENERAL DISTRICT POWERS. city Sec. $3845.1\overline{01}$. ordinance may grant the district any power necessary to accomplish the purposes for which the district was created.

Sec. 3845.102. ADDITIONAL DISTRICT POWERS. The city by

ordinance may grant the district:

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(1) any power given to a corporation under Section 4B, the Development Corporation Act of 1979 (Article 5190.6, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and the power to own, operate, acquire, construct, lease, improve, and maintain projects; and

(2) any power given to a housing finance corporation created under Chapter 394, Local Government Code, to provide

housing or residential development projects in the district.

Sec. 3845.103. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. (a) The board by 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 creation of the nonprofit corporation is subject to the city's consent to its creation by ordinance. The ordinance may contain any conditions on its consent related to the creation of, powers of, or appointment of directors for, the corporation.

(c) The nonprofit corporation, subject to the ordinance:

(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 be authorized to implement any project and

provide any service authorized by this chapter.

(d) The board, subject to the ordinance, 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, for the same term as, and on the conditions of the board of directors of a local government corporation created under

Chapter 431, Transportation Code.

Sec. 3845.104. CONTRACTS; GRANTS; DONATIONS. (a) Bexar County, the city, or another political subdivision of this state, without further authorization, may contract with the district to implement a project of the district or assist the district in providing a service authorized under this chapter. A contract under this subsection may:

(1) be for a period on which the parties agree; (2) include terms on which the parties agree;

(3) be payable from taxes or any other source of

revenue that may be available for that project or service; or

(4) provide terms under which other revenue collected district project or from a person using or purchasing a commodity or service at a district project may be paid to the district.

(b) The district may enter into a contract, lease, or other agreement with or make or accept a grant or loan to or from, or accept donations from, any person, including:

(1) the United States;

(2) this state or a state agency;(3) any political subdivision of this state; or

(4) a public or private corporation, including nonprofit corporation created by the board under this subchapter.

(c) The district may perform all acts necessary for the full exercise of the powers vested in the district on terms and for the period the board determines advisable.

The implementation of a project is a governmental function or service for purposes of Chapter 791, Government Code. <u>375.</u>221 Sec. 3845.105. COMPETITIVE BIDDING. Section Government Code, does not apply to a district contract for

\$25,000 or less.

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- Sec. 3845.106. ANNEXATION OR DISANNEXATION. (a) The board by resolution may annex or disannex territory in the same manner as a defense adjustment management authority under Section 375.3085, Local Government Code.
- (b) Subchapter J, Chapter 49, Water Code, does not apply to the district.
- Sec. 3845.107. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. The district may not exercise the power of eminent domain.

[Sections 3845.108-3845.150 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER D. PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES

ec. 3845.151. PARKING FACILITIES AUTHORIZED.

- Sec. 3845.151. PARKING FACILITIES AUTHORIZED. TO CHE extent authorized by a city ordinance, city parking facilities contract, or city bond covenant, the district may acquire, lease as lessor or lessee, construct, develop, own, operate, and maintain parking facilities, including:
- (1) lots, garages, parking terminals, or other structures or accommodations for the parking of motor vehicles; and (2) equipment, entrances, exits, fencing, and other accessories necessary for safety and convenience in the parking of vehi<u>cles.</u>
- Sec. 3845.152. RULES. The district may adopt rules covering its public parking facilities except that a rule relating to or affecting the use of the public right-of-way or a requirement for off-street parking is subject to all applicable municipal charter, code, or ordinance requirements.
 Sec. 3845.153. FINANCING OF PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES.
- district may use any of its resources, including revenue, assessments, and grant or contract proceeds, to pay the cost of acquiring and operating public parking facilities.
- (b) The district may set and impose fees or charges for the use of the public parking facilities and may issue bonds or notes to finance the cost of these facilities.

[Sections 3845.154-3845.200 reserved for expansion]

- SUBCHAPTER E. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

 3845.201. PETITION REQUIRED FOR FINANCING SERVICES AND
 S. (a) The board may not finance a service or an IMPROVEMENTS. (a) improvement project under this chapter unless a written petition is
- filed with the board requesting:

 (1) that service or improvement; and
 (2) that an assessment be imposed to finance the service or improvement.

(b) The petition must be signed by:

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

 (2) at least 50 owners of land in the district, if more
- than 50 persons own property in the district according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Bexar County.
- Sec. 3845.202. 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. 3845.203. AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE ASSESSMENTS. The district may impose an assessment as provided by Chapter 375, Local Government Code, to provide an improvement or service for a project or activity the district may acquire, construct, improve, or provide under this chapter.
- Sec. 3845.204. ASSESSMENT IN PART OF DISTRICT. An assessment may be imposed on only a part of the district if only that part will benefit from the service or improvement.
- Sec. 3845.205. LIENS FOR ASSESSMENTS. (a) An assessment or reassessment, 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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are superior to any other lien or claim other than (2)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.

(b) 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 city may enforce an ad valorem tax lien against real property.

Sec. 3845.206. SUITS TO RECOVER ASSESSMENTS. (a) assessment imposed on property under this chapter is a personal obligation of the person who owns the property on January 1 of the year for which the assessment is imposed. If the person transfers title to the property, the person is not relieved of the obligation.

(b) Not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which a delinquent assessment became due, the district may file suit to foreclose the lien or to enforce the obligation for the assessment, or both, and for any interest accrued.

(c) In addition to recovering the amount of the assessment and any accrued interest, the district may recover reasonable costs, including attorney's fees, that the district incurs in foreclosing the lien or enforcing the obligation. The costs may not exceed an amount equal to 20 percent of the assessment and interest.

(d) If the district does not file a suit in connection with a delinquent assessment on or before the last date on which the district may file suit under Subsection (b), the assessment and any

interest accrued is considered paid.

Sec. 3845.207. ASSESSMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES AND NONPROFITS. (a) Except as provided by this section, the district may not impose an assessment on:

(1) a governmental entity, including a municipality,

county, or other political subdivision; or
(2) an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. Section 501(a)), as an organization described by Section 501(c)(3) of that code.

(b) An entity or organization described by Subsection may contract with a district to pay assessments under terms the district and the entity or organization consider advisable, including a term that requires apportionment of the assessment in

the manner provided by Section 372.015, Local Government Code.

Sec. 3845.208. CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL AND UTILITY PROPERTY

EXEMPT FROM ASSESSMENTS. (a) The district may not impose an assessment on a single-family detached residence or a residential

duplex, triplex, or fourplex.

(b) The district may not impose an assessment on the property, equipment, or facilities of a person who provides to the public cable television, gas, light, power, telephone, sewage, or water service.

Sec. 3845.209. DEBT; APPROVAL BY CITY. (a) The district issue bonds, notes, or other debt obligations in accordance with Subchapters I and J, Chapter 375, Local Government Code, for a purpose specified by that chapter or as required to exercise a power or function or to accomplish a purpose or duty for which the district was created.

(b) In exercising the district's borrowing power, district may issue a bond or other obligation in the form 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.

The district must obtain the approval of the city: (c)

(1) for the issuance of any bonds;

(2) of the plans and specifications of the improvement project to be financed by the bonds; and

(3) of the plans and specifications of a district improvement project related to:

(A) the use of land owned by the city;

an easement granted by the city;

(C) a right-of-way of a street, road, or highway. If the district obtains the approval of the city of a

capital improvements budget for a specified period not to exceed five years, the district may finance the capital improvements and issue bonds specified in the budget subject to further approval from the city.

Sec. 3845.210. SPENDING ON PROJECTS OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT PROHIBITED. The district may not spend money for a project outside the district.

Sec. 3845.211. AD VALOREM TAX OR IMPACT FEE. NOThe district may not impose an ad valorem tax or impact fee.

Sec. 3845.212. USE OF ELECTRICAL OR OPTICAL LINES. The

district may impose an assessment to pay the cost of: (1) burying or removing electrical power lines, telephone lines, cable or fiber optic lines, or any other type of electrical or optical line;

(2) removing poles and any elevated lines using the

poles; and

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- (3) reconnecting the lines described by Subdivision (2) to the buildings or other improvements to which the lines were connected.
- (b) The district may negotiate a license agreement with the to use a municipal right-of-way to acquire and operate city
- district conduits. (c) Subject to the city's approval, the district may charge fees for another person's:
 - (1) telecommunications network;

(2) fiber-optic cable;(3) data transmission line; or

(4) any other type of communications transmission line

or supporting facility.

(d) The district may not require a person to use a district conduit. This subsection does not diminish or disturb the rights and obligations of an electric utility or a telephone or telegraph corporation under Sections 181.042 and 181.082, Utilities Code.

[Sections 3845.213-3845.250 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER F. DISSOLUTION

Sec. 3845.251. DISSOLUTION BY BOARD; CITY CONSENT REQUIRED. (a) The board may dissolve the district regardless of 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.

(c) The district may not be dissolved unless the governing body of the city consents to the dissolution.

Sec. 3845.252. DISSOLUTION OF DISTRICT BY CITY. (a) The city's governing body may dissolve the district.

(b) Before dissolution, the city shall publish notice and public hearings on the proposed dissolution under Section 375.305, Local Government Code, in the same manner as a municipality creating a defense adjustment management authority under Subchapter O, Chapter 375, Local Government Code.

(c) On dissolution of the district under this section,

city assumes all district assets, debts, and other obligations.

(d) Section 375.263, Local Government Code, does not apply to the district.

SECTION 3. BOUNDARIES. As of the effective date of this Act, the Eastside Improvement District No. 1 includes all territory contained in the following described area:

UNLESS otherwise specified, the boundaries of this district will travel along the centerline of each street included, and each intersection will be the intersection of the centerlines of the streets mentioned.

Beginning at the juncture of East Commerce Street and IH-37, continuing in a northerly direction to the juncture of IH-37 with IH-35, and continuing in an east-northeasterly direction to the

juncture of IH-35 with South New Braunfels Avenue, and proceeding south to a point at the juncture of South New Braunfels Avenue and East Commerce Street, and proceeding west to a point of closure at the juncture of East Commerce Street and IH-37.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. 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;
- (2) 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
- (3) 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.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as 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, 2007.

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