

SUBSTITUTE

ORDINANCE

AS

AMENDED

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is committed to promoting transparency, openness and accountability in government; and

WHEREAS, Achievement of these laudable goals will be greatly enhanced if essential documents pertaining to tax increment allocation financing (“TIF-related documents”) are readily accessible for review by interested persons in both written form and as electronic, searchable files posted on the City of Chicago’s website; and

WHEREAS, The TIF-related documents set forth in the ordinance below are public records within the meaning of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) and, as such, the contents of those documents may be lawfully disclosed by the City to its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, By making TIF-related documents available for review as a matter of course and without the need for a FOIA request, the City of Chicago will drastically reduce the amount of valuable time and resources that city employees currently expend searching for these documents and processing FOIA requests; and

WHEREAS, An ongoing commitment to publishing TIF-related documents on-line will require only minimal effort and expenditure of funds by the City, but will provide an invaluable service to all Chicagoans; and

WHEREAS, Easy, widespread access to TIF-related documents will have the beneficial effects of encouraging public participation in government, facilitating rigorous oversight of the recipients of TIF funds and promoting better understanding of how redevelopment agreements work to better the community; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. Section 2-45-040 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

2-45-040 Commissioner of community development – Powers and duties.

The commissioner has the authority to develop and administer programs and policies to encourage and promote the retention and expansion of existing commercial and industrial businesses within the city, and the attraction of new businesses to the city, and to encourage and promote workforce development and the availability of adequate and affordable housing in the city.

It shall be the duty of the commissioner to coordinate the development of a long-range capital improvements program.

It shall be the duty of the commissioner to post the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) documents required by Section 2-45-155 on the City of Chicago, Department of Community Development website.

(The remainder of this section is unaffected by this ordinance)

SECTION 2. Chapter 2-45 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting a new Section 2-45-155, as follows:

2-45-155 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Sunshine Ordinance.

The following TIF-related documents for each active TIF district shall be made publicly available on the City of Chicago, Department of Community Development website:

1. The ordinances establishing each TIF district, including all attachments, and any amendments thereto;
2. The ordinances authorizing each TIF redevelopment agreement, including any attachments, any amendments thereto and accompanying Economic Disclosure Statements;
3. Written staff reports presented to the Community Development Commission related to TIF-funded projects;
4. TIF overviews prepared by the Department of Community Development and annual reports prepared pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d);
5. City-issued Certificates of Completion and any required annual employment certifications prepared pursuant to TIF redevelopment agreements.

All such ordinances as described in (1) and (2) above shall be made available on the City of Chicago, Department of Community Development website within seven business days of their passage and publication in the *Journal of the Proceedings of the City Council of the City of Chicago*. All such documents as described in (3), (4) and (5) above shall be made available on the City of Chicago, Department of Community Development website within fourteen business days of their completion in final form.

The TIF documents described above for TIF districts established from and after July 30, 2004 will similarly be made available by July 30, 2009.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take full force and effect on July 30, 2009.


Alderman Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward


Alderman Manuel Flores, 1st Ward


