

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING  
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

---

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA,  
TENNESSEE, That it is hereby adopting Tax Increment Financing Policies and Procedures, a  
copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

/vmm



# **Tax Increment Financing Policies and Procedures**

## **INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY**

Cities across the state and country have a variety of tools available to them to attract new jobs, businesses, and investments. Tax increment financing (or TIF) is just one of those economic development tools. Through the use of a TIF, municipalities can allocate all or a portion of the new, additional taxes generated by a development within the City over a limited period of time to pay for public infrastructure, other improvements related to that development, and other projects allowed under Tennessee law. **Additionally, tax increment financing in the form of bonds presents no risk to the municipality or the IDB.**

The TIF Program is (1) an economic vehicle used by municipalities to encourage development and/or achieve its economic development or other valid policy goals and (2) a way to capture and monetize the incremental increase in property taxes after development occurs.

### ***Authorization***

The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee (“Board” or “IDB”) serves as the governing body of the TIF Program. Tennessee law allows industrial development corporations like the Board to initiate and administer tax increment financing for certain qualified projects approved by Chattanooga City Council. The Board’s responsibilities under the amendment include: (1) preparation and submission of an economic impact plan for the project that complies with the statutory criteria; (2) holding a public hearing relating to the economic impact plan after proper, published notice; and (3) administering the incremental tax payments under the TIF.

### ***Process***

Developers who wish to be considered for a TIF Program incentive must successfully complete the following multi-step application process:

1. Application. Developers must file a completed Application, along with an Application Fee to the Board. The Application Fee will be used towards resources for the initial review of the Application.
2. Submission to Governmental Authorities. After receiving the Application, the Board shall work with the City of Chattanooga to review the Application. If the Board determines that it has received a properly completed Application, the Board will submit its acceptance of the Application with a proposed Resolution of Intent to the City

Council, the City of Chattanooga ECD, and other governmental departments specified by either the Mayor or City Council.

3. Economic Impact Plan. If the Board receives a Resolution of Intent from the City Council authorizing the Board to proceed with the preparation and submission of an economic impact plan, the Applicant shall submit a proposed economic impact plan describing the project ("Project") to the Board no later than ninety (90) days after approval of the Resolution of Intent.

4. Plan Review Committee. The IDB Plan Review Committee will review the economic impact plan, the application process to date, and the Resolution of Intent. The Committee will advise the Board whether the economic impact plan is qualified to be considered for submission to City Council for approval.

5. Notice and Hearing of IDB. After the Plan Review Committee and the Board determine the economic impact plan to be qualified, the Board will hold a public hearing related to the proposed plan. The Board will then submit the economic impact plan to City Council and/or Hamilton County Commission for consideration and approval.

6. Approval of Municipality. If the City Council approves the economic impact plan, the Applicant and the Board will enter into a Development and Financing Agreement with the project developer.

### ***Accountability***

The Board intends to produce substantial and measurable changes and improvements to and for the economic and commercial environment of the City of Chattanooga. Accordingly, the Applicant will be obligated to develop the Project substantially in accordance with the economic impact plan. Material departures from the Project described in the economic impact plan will require the consent of the Board and may result in reductions or even elimination of the TIF.

# CITY OF CHATTANOOGA

## TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

Policies, Procedures and Application



The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga

**THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA  
(TENNESSEE) TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PROGRAM  
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Introduction**

The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee (“Board” or IDB”) adopted this Tax Increment Financing (“TIF”) Program and the following Policies and Procedures on \_\_\_\_\_. It sets forth the terms of the Program, the policies and procedures associated with TIF proposals and approvals; is intended to implement and facilitate the consideration of requests for tax increment financing by applicable legislative bodies of City of Chattanooga and Hamilton County, Tennessee; and provides for the implementation and administration of the TIF. The TIF Program is a discretionary program, and the adoption of this Program and the related Policies and Procedures do not create or vest any rights in any person or entity.

**Section 1. General Policy**

Tax increment financing is an economic development tool used by municipalities to allocate all or a portion of the new, additional taxes generated by a development over a limited period of time to pay for public infrastructure, other improvements related to that development, and those projects allowed under TCA 7-53-101, et seq. Tax increment is the difference in tax revenues generated by the property in the development area after a project has been completed compared with the tax revenues generated by a property before the development plan was adopted. The difference in these tax revenues pays towards the costs of improvements to the public infrastructure serving the development area.

The benefits of TIF transactions include the following:

- (i) TIF transactions can be effective as “off balance sheet” financing of components of public infrastructure such as utilities and road and traffic improvements. TIF bonds and notes are not included in the municipality’s general debt obligations. The structure of these transactions allows the municipality to utilize the new incremental revenue streams to accelerate funding of municipal improvements. This enables a municipality to complete public infrastructure that it otherwise could not afford at the time.
- (ii) TIFs provide financing for projects that are not otherwise economically feasible. For instance, TIF transactions may contribute to the redevelopment of blighted and under-utilized property selected by the municipality.
- (iii) Because of the accelerated development of public infrastructure improvements, the ad valorem property tax base from associated and adjacent properties often increases, which produces even greater benefits for the municipality.
- (iv) TIF projects are financed from increases in tax revenues that the development itself generates and not from tax subsidies from other areas of the municipality. In short, TIF projects effectively allow a development to pay for itself.
- (v) TIF projects may attract significant new jobs, businesses, and investment to the community, or may retain jobs and businesses, that otherwise would be missed or lost without the investment made possible through tax increment financing.

The TIF Program is primarily for economic development projects that provide improvements in blighted and under-utilized areas in the City of Chattanooga and in other properties designated by City Council and the Hamilton County Commission. Members of Hamilton County Commission and City Council, as qualified elected representatives, are the ones not only vested with the final authority to approve TIF transactions and districts, but also are in the best position to determine the relative priorities of the proposed infrastructure improvements and the related community benefits from a public policy standpoint. The Board, with staff from ECD, the Office of the City Attorney, and the Mayor's Office, will administer and implement the TIF Program and its policies and procedures.

## **Section 2. Statutory Background**

Enabling Legislation and Statutory Authority of the Board. The IDB is a nonprofit public corporation that was established in 1966 pursuant to the Tennessee Industrial Development Corporation Act ("Act"), Tenn. Code Ann. §§7-53-101 et seq. The Board's statutory purpose includes financing, owning, and leasing certain real and personal properties, which will have the effect of maintaining and increasing employment and otherwise promoting new industry, commerce and trade in Tennessee and Chattanooga, in particular.

On May 14, 2004, the Tennessee General Assembly amended the Act to vest industrial development corporations like the Board with the authority to initiate and administer tax increment financing for certain qualified projects approved by Chattanooga City Council and Hamilton County Commission. The Board's responsibilities under the amendment include the following:

- (i) Preparation and submission of an economic impact plan for the project that complies with the statutory criteria;
- (ii) Holding a public hearing relating to the economic impact plan after proper, published notice; and
- (iii) Administering the incremental tax payments under the TIF.

The purpose of these Policies and Procedures is to identify the procedures for applying for tax increment financing, specify the information that will be required of an Applicant, confirm that the City Council and the Hamilton County Commission will actually decide whether to grant the tax increment financing (as the Act provides) affecting their respective property taxes, and prescribe the roles the Board will play in the process.

The amendment, which is codified as Tenn. Code Ann. §7-53-312, provides that City Council must approve TIFs affecting property taxes due to the City of Chattanooga and the County Commission must approve TIFs affecting property taxes owed to Hamilton County. Neither has the authority to authorize a TIF transaction affecting the property taxes of the other. TIFs may be granted for projects generating both real and personal property taxes.

The Board has always viewed its core mission as the promotion of economic development and growth in the City of Chattanooga, and in particular commercial and industrial projects that involve a significant capital investment and the generation of new jobs with wages in excess of the annual average wage in the City of Chattanooga. A project fitting within this core mission will encounter greater flexibility and receptivity by both the Board and the Governmental Authorities, as opposed to projects that do not involve these factors.

### Section 3. Process

3.1. Application. The process for requesting tax increment financing will commence with an Applicant filing a completed Application in the form attached to this Program as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference together with all exhibits, supplements, schedules, and financial information required in the Application. The Applicant shall tender an application fee to the Board in an amount set forth in Section 6 of this Program. No action will be taken with respect to the Application until the Board (or its Administrative Agent) determines that it has received all information which may be relevant or necessary in determining the qualifications of the Applicant and the Project. **Acceptance of the Application does not imply, evidence or confirm the IDB's support for, or recommendation of, the Project and the TIF request.**

3.2. Submission to Governmental Authorities. Upon receipt of the Application, the Board shall work with the City of Chattanooga Finance and Administration and Economic and Community Departments to review the Application. The review shall include, but not be limited to, the following considerations: the purpose of the request; history and background of the applicant developer; project description; proposed use of funds on the project shown in a pro-forma; and two years of financial statements for the applicant developer. Once the Board determines that it has received a properly completed Application and any other information that it considers relevant or necessary for City Council to determine the qualifications of the Applicant and the Project, the Board will submit its acceptance of the Application and the information with a proposed Resolution of Intent to the City Council, City Council, the City of Chattanooga ECD, and other governmental departments specified by either the Mayor or the City Council.

If the TIF request will affect City property taxes, the Board will take comparable actions and timely provide the same information to the City Mayor, City Council and other governmental departments specified by either the Mayor or City Council.

After a full review by these Governmental Authorities, the City Council may take one of three actions: (i) reject the Application and return it to the Board, (ii) return it to the Board for more information, or (iii) approve a Resolution of Intent described below. To authorize further action and direct the Board to prepare and submit an economic impact plan, the City Council will adopt a Resolution of Intent stating that (i) the proposed Project will provide necessary improvements to public infrastructure that the City wants to occur within the proposed time for the Project, but does not currently plan to effect in the short term under its existing capital improvement plans, and (ii) the City Council will consider an economic impact plan prepared and submitted by the Board, with aid from ECD, with respect to the Project in accordance with the Policies and Procedures set forth herein.

If the TIF request will affect County property taxes, County Commission may engage in the same deliberations and may take similar action with respect to the Application.

3.3. Economic Impact Plan. If the Board receives a Resolution of Intent from the City Council that makes the above findings and directs the Board to proceed with the preparation and submission of an economic impact plan, the Applicant will submit a proposed economic impact plan to the Board, generally in the form designed by the Board and containing the information required by Section 7-53-312(b) of the Act and the following information and documents:

- (i) a list of tax parcels composing the Plan Area, including owners and parcel numbers, from which the incremental tax revenues will be generated;
- (ii) a map or drawing clearly identifying the boundaries of the Project Area, including the proposed public improvements, and the boundaries of the Plan Area;

- (iii) confirmation of the current zoning of the Project Area and the Plan Area subject to the economic impact plan;
- (iv) the proposed period of time for which taxes will be allocated from the Plan Area in accordance with the economic impact plan;
- (v) a description of any proposed borrowing related to the tax increment financing;
- (vi) the number of jobs which the Applicant estimates will be created by the Project and the wages, salaries and other compensation that will be paid to those holding the jobs;
- (vii) the estimated development and construction costs of the Project; and
- (viii) the projected total cost of the TIF, including interest paid during the term of the TIF.

The Applicant is to submit the proposed economic impact plan to the Board no later than ninety (90) days after approval of the Resolution of Intent referred to in Section 3.2 by the City Council. If the Applicant does not submit the proposed plan within that period, the Board has the authority to take no further action with respect to the Application and the Project. If the Board chooses to take no further action, the Board will consider any requests of the Applicant as a new request requiring a new Application, the re-commencement of the procedures described above, and the payment of another application fee.

The Board's designated staff and counsel will review the proposed plan and will advise the Applicant if any additional information or changes are necessary for the plan. If necessary, the Applicant shall then revise the plan and submit the revised plan to the IDB Application Review Committee.

3.4. Application Review Committee. There shall be an Application Review Committee consisting of not less than five (5) members, Two (2) members shall be appointed by the Mayor; two (2) members shall be appointed by City Council; and one (1) member shall be a representative of the Chamber of Commerce. The Application Review Committee will review the economic impact plan, the application process to date, and the Resolution of Intent. The Committee will also review a proposed Development and Financing Agreement and will evaluate the terms in light of the Board's Policies and determine whether to recommend the Agreement and any variations from such Policies to the Board. The Committee will advise the Board whether the economic impact plan complies with the Act and this Program, and is, therefore, qualified to be considered for submission to City Council and/or County Commission for approval. The Committee will also determine whether to recommend the Development and Financing Agreement to the Board for its approval. The Committee will then establish a proposed date for the Board to hold a public hearing and determine whether to submit the economic impact plan to the City Council and/or County Commission for approval. The Application Review Committee shall be subject to the Tennessee Open Meetings Act.

3.5. Notice and Hearing of IDB. After the Application Review Committee and the Board's designated staff and counsel determine the economic impact plan to be complete, the Board will hold a public hearing related to the proposed plan at a regular or special meeting. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Hamilton County at least two weeks prior to the date of the public hearing, as required by Section 7-53-312(g) of the Act. The Board will submit the economic impact plan to Chattanooga City Council and/or Hamilton County Commission for consideration and approval. The submission shall include a summary of any comments from the public hearing on the proposed plan and other information deemed pertinent by the Board.



3.6. Approval of Municipality/Transaction Documents. If the Chattanooga City Council approves the economic impact plan, the Applicant and the Board will enter into a Development and Financing Agreement with the project developer, which will incorporate the specific terms of the tax increment financing approved by the municipality.

The Applicant shall be responsible for preparation of any documents related to third party financing authorized as part of the economic impact plan. All third party financing shall be non-recourse as to the Board, and all financing documents shall be subject to the review and approval of the Board's counsel.

The Applicant will close the TIF transaction within a reasonable period of time after the Board sends the Development and Financing Agreement and the related closing documents to the Applicant. If the closing does not occur within a 90-day period, the Board has the authority to consider the Application withdrawn and the TIF transaction and all approvals by the Board and other Governmental Authorities will lapse and be of no further force or effect.

A diagram summarizing the above procedures is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

#### **Section 4. Board Policies for TIF Projects**

The Board has adopted the following policies with respect to TIF Projects and will not prepare and submit economic impact plans failing to comply with the following criteria, unless specifically directed to do so by the Commission or City Council:

**4.1. Maximum Term. The typical maximum period for any TIF will be 15 years. **Under certain circumstances, however, the TIF may be extended for 20 years, or the statutory limit in T.C.A § 9-23-104, whichever is greater.****

4.2. Incremental Tax Revenues. The -Board generally will allocate a maximum of 75% of the incremental tax revenues for TIF transactions having a term of 10 years or less and 60% of such incremental revenues for TIF transactions having terms in excess of 10 years.

4.3. Plan Area. The Plan Area, from which the TIF Revenues will be generated, will consist of no more than (i) the parcels included in the Project Area, and (ii) those parcels, determined by the Board, to be directly affected and substantially benefited by the Project , whose owners have received the notice referred to in Section 4.5 The Board may rely upon the opinions of the City of Chattanooga ECD, Public Works, or other engineering consultants in determining whether a parcel would be directly affected and substantially benefited by the Public Infrastructure.

4.4. TIF Eligible Costs. **Incremental tax revenues may be used for all uses outlined in T.C.A. § 7-53-312; however, these revenues should primarily be used to finance only the following Project costs:**

4.5. :

- (i) Capital or land costs, including costs incurred for construction and reconstruction of Public Infrastructure, clearing, grading and excavating, site work, and other hard construction expenses;
- (ii) costs of obtaining permits for the Project from Governmental Authorities;
- (iii) capitalized interest;

premiums for payment and performance bonds issued in favor of Governmental Authorities or the Board professional fees for architectural and engineering services and legal expenses capitalized as Project costs under generally accepted accounting principles;

(iv) acquisition costs for equipment; and

(v) fees and expenses of the Board and other fees and expenses related to

the TIF. Public Infrastructure will include the following facilities and

improvements:

(A) Streets, roads, highways, curbs, gutters, water lines, sanitary sewer lines, storm drainage facilities, ramps, roads, bridges, traffic signals, paving, driveways, sidewalks, walking and running trails, mass transit and other public transportation facilities, culverts, manholes, retaining walls, tunnels, approaches, underpasses, artificial lighting, off-street parking improvements, parking garages and other structures, fencing, landscaping, public parks, site work and grading for such public infrastructure, walkways, signage, flood control improvements, and improvements for the supply, storage and distribution of water; and

(B) Electricity and telecommunications services, utility, and other similar site development infrastructure costs, qualified public improvements that may include on-site, off-site, utility relocation and under-grounding, according to the municipality's plans.

Under limited circumstances, the Board will include the costs of acquiring public rights of way as TIF Eligible Costs, but this determination will be made on a case by case basis after due consideration of the circumstances.

4.6. Notice to Property Owners. (i) The Board through its designated administrative staff will notify the owners of parcels included in the proposed Plan Area that the Board will consider the Application for tax increment financing on a certain date and at a prescribed time and place. The Applicant will provide a list of all parcels contained in the Plan Area, the names of the record owners and the address of each owner. The Board's notice will invite public comment and will give the property owners at least 14 days' notice of the Board meeting. In addition, the form of notice will advise property owners how they may comment on the Project such as by email or by letter, as well as attending the meeting. This notice is in addition to the notice required by Tenn. Code Ann. 7-53-312(g).

(ii) In addition, the Board will record an instrument in the Register of Deeds Office providing public notice of the tax increment financing and the properties contained in the Plan Area.

4.7. Minimum TIF Project. The Board will consider TIF Projects for submission to City Council or County Commission, but such Projects shall generally include (i) at least \$5,000,000 in capital improvements to the Project Area, without taking into account the costs of the Public Infrastructure to be financed by the TIF, and (ii) at least \$1,000,000 of Public Infrastructure that will be financed by tax increment revenues from the Plan Area.

4.8. Residential Projects. In the absence of unusual or extenuating circumstances acceptable to the Board, Projects that are substantially residential will not qualify for tax increment financing under the Board's TIF Program. Such proposals should be submitted to the appropriate authority or entity.

4.9. Guaranties of Completion. The Board may require guaranties of completion of the Project from principals of the Applicant, payment and performance bonds from sureties acceptable to the Board, or letters of credit from financial institutions acceptable to the Board that assure the timely completion of the Project.

4.10. Transfer of TIF. No rights to a TIF may be sold, assigned, or leased unless otherwise specified in the Development and Financing Agreement, provided however that the Board will consent to the collateral assignment of TIF Revenues to secure financing for the TIF Eligible Costs.

These Policies are in addition to the normal rules and procedures of the Board. From time to time and without notice, the Policies may be amended, waived in whole or part, or deleted by the Board, and new policies may also be adopted by the Board. The Board may consider other special circumstances or conditions in determining whether to submit an Application for consideration by the legislative body of the municipality and whether to prepare and submit an economic impact plan for approval.

## **Section 5. Post-Closing Evaluation**

The Board intends to produce substantial and measurable changes and improvements to and for the economic and commercial environment of the City of Chattanooga. Accordingly, it has established a follow-up system of accountability to insure that the benefits represented by the Applicant to the Board actually come to fruition. The Applicant will be obligated to develop the Project substantially in accordance with the economic impact plan. Material departures from the development described in the economic impact plan will require the consent of the Board and may result in reductions or even elimination of the TIF, depending on the effect of the proposed changes. These commitments will be provided in the Development and Financing Agreement with the Applicant.

In addition, the Board requires the Applicant to annually certify compliance with the Development and Financing Agreement in a writing signed by the Applicant's chief executive officer or other executive acceptable to the Board. The Board will annually (or at such other times as it deems appropriate) evaluate each Project receiving a TIF to ensure compliance with the Development and Financing Agreement.

## **Section 6. Fees**

6.1. Application Fee. The Applicant will submit the Application with an Application Fee of \$1,500.00 for resources used for the the initial review of the Application. Additionally, costs and expenses related to the economic impact study and financial review are passed through to the Applicant. The sum total of costs and expenses of the Application Review through closing shall not exceed \$10,000.00.Annual Administrative Fee. The Applicant will pay to the Board an annual administrative fee equal to [**25 basis points (0.25%)**] of the maximum tax increment benefit, which will be deducted from the amount disbursed to the Applicant, lender or bond trustee.

In addition, the Board will charge reasonable fees for any amendments to the TIF and the Development and Financing Agreement that will be based upon the facts and circumstances requiring the amendment, the actions required by the Board to effect the amendment, and the involvement of any Governmental Authorities. The Board may require that these fees be paid in advance of Board action and at the time the Applicant requests the amendment.

The above quoted fees are for reimbursement of the expenses of the Board, and other economic development programs as approved by the administration of the City of Chattanooga.

In addition to the fees described above, the Applicant is responsible for payment of the Board's counsel fees and other expenses incurred by the Board with respect to the Application, the economic impact plan, the Development and Financing Agreement and all other aspects of the TIF Program, as applied to the Applicant.

### **Section 7. Environmental Report and Title Insurance**

The Board may require the Applicant to provide at its expense a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report for the Project and/or Plan Areas that (i) shall be prepared by a recognized Person in the health, safety and environmental field that is acceptable to the Board; (ii) shall bear a date acceptable to the Board; and (iii) shall disclose no unacceptable conditions to the Board. All environmental reports requested by the Board must grant to the Board the right to rely on such reports.

The Board may also require that the Applicant obtain at its expense, and deliver to the Board, a title insurance commitment for the Project and/or Plan Areas described in the economic impact plan.

### **Section 8. Conflicts of Interest**

Each Board member shall be responsible for disclosing any material interest which he or she may have in or with an Applicant or financing source. Any Board member having any material interest in a Project or a financial or family relationship with an Applicant or financing source shall submit to the Board Counsel a representation of that interest, and Board Counsel shall advise both the Board and Board member whether the member needs to recuse himself or herself from consideration of the Application. Such recommendation of Board Counsel shall be conclusive. If recusal is recommended, the Board will then consider the Application without participation from the member or members who recuse themselves.

To avoid conflicts of interests, no TIF will be approved if Board Counsel has a professional legal relationship with the Applicant or source of the financing other than incidental representations in connection with proposed financings of other projects, but the Board may waive this condition in appropriate circumstances. In the event of a conflict involving Board Counsel, the Board will retain special counsel to represent it in connection with the particular Project being considered.

### **Section 9. Definitions**

For purposes of this Program, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

**“Administrative Agent”** means the Person providing administrative services to the Board from time to time. The Board's current administrative agent is ECD of the City of Chattanooga, and the City Attorney.

**Application”** means the Application for TIF submitted hereunder in the form designated by the Board and as amended from time to time. The initial form of the Application is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**“Development and Financing Agreement”** means the Development and Financing Agreement between the Board and the Applicant (and any guarantor thereof) or similar agreement or contract providing for the terms and implementation of the TIF.

**“Governmental Authority”** means the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Hamilton County, Tennessee, the State of Tennessee, any political subdivision of any of them, and any agency,

department, commission, board, bureau or instrumentality of any of them.

**“Person”** means any individual, sole proprietorship, corporation, limited liability company, association, partnership (general, limited, or limited liability partnership), organization, business, trust, individual and Governmental Authority.

**“Plan Area”** means the real property included in the Project Area and any additional parcels meeting the criteria provided in Section 4.3, from which the TIF Revenues will be generated in order to finance the Public Infrastructure constituting a part of the Project.

**“Project”** means a project under Section 7-53-101(11) of the Act.

**“Project Area”** means the real property designated in the Application constituting the Project, including property for the Public Infrastructure.

**“Public Infrastructure”** has the meaning assigned to it in Section 4.3.

**“TIF Revenues”** means the property tax revenues generated from the Plan Area after consideration of the Base Tax Amount and the allocation of tax revenues to municipal debt service.

**EXHIBIT A TO TIF PROGRAM**

**TIF APPLICATION FORM**

# TAX INCREMENT FINANCING APPLICATION

Please return the completed application and supporting documentation to:

The Industrial Development Board for the City of Chattanooga  
100 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402  
(423) 643-8250

---

## TIF Application Lead-In Statement and Justification

The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga views its core mission as the promotion of economic development and growth in the City of Chattanooga, and in particular commercial and industrial projects that involve a significant capital investment and the generation of new jobs with wages in excess of the annual average wage in the City. The TIF Program is designed for economic development projects that provide improvements to public infrastructure in blighted and under-utilized areas of the City of Chattanooga and in other properties designated by Hamilton County Commission and City Council.

Please address the following factors as they related to your Project:

### Economic Development

Will the proposed Project involve significant capital investment and the generation of new jobs with wages in excess of the City of Chattanooga annual average wage?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

### Blight Removal

Will the proposed Project remove blight?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

### Pursuit of Community Plan or Policy

Will the proposed Project further the pursuit of an existing community plan or policy?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

**Environmental Remediation**

Will the proposed Project address environmental remediation?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

---

**Public Infrastructure Need**

Will the proposed Project address current public infrastructure needs?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes:

Are the proposed public infrastructure improvements identified in the County's or City's current Capital Improvements Plan?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

---

Are the proposed public infrastructure improvements identified in any County or City plans?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please specify in detail, using additional sheets if necessary)

---

---

---

---

If the proposed public infrastructure improvements are not in the County or City Capital Improvements Plan or any other existing City or County plan, please describe in detail the public's need for the public infrastructure and the basis for the priority or urgency for the public infrastructure, as requested by the Application.

---

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_ **Other** (please specify)

---

---

---

---



***I. Applicant Information***

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Business Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

State of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Website: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Type of Business Entity:	Sole Proprietorship	Limited Partnership
	For-Profit Corporation	General Partnership
	Limited Liability Company	Nonprofit Corporation

6. Provide the street addresses of the project site:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Provide a legal description of the project site and a description of the leased premises, if applicable.

8. Currently, does the Applicant own or lease the property? (Check one)

Own                      Lease                      Neither

9. At project completion, who will occupy (operate business on) the site? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Evidence of Site Control:

A. If the Applicant owns the project site, attach a copy of the Applicant's deed. Also indicate:

Mortgage Holder(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

Total annual mortgage payment (principal & interest) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total outstanding balance of existing mortgage(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name, address, and phone numbers of other persons or entities having an ownership interest in the property to be developed, if applicable:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. If the Applicant has a contract or option to purchase the project site, attach a copy of the agreement or option contract. Also indicate:

Date contract was signed: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Closing/expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

C. If the Applicant currently leases or will lease the project site, attach a copy of the lease or lease option contract. Also indicate:

Legal name of Owner as noted on the deed(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person who signed lease for Tenant(lessee): \_\_\_\_\_

Landlord/Owner's name, address and phone no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**II. Project Description**

11. Indicate the total amount of TIF assistance requested (in current dollars), to be paid from TIF Revenues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Also provide a breakdown of the capital costs and the financing costs to be paid by TIF Revenues.

12. Number of years TIF assistance is requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
(existing policy is that TIF transaction will have a maximum term of 15 years).

13. Has any other government assistance (funds, tax incentives, or other economic benefits) been provided to the Applicant or the property? (Check one):    Yes    No

If yes, describe the type, source, and amount of assistance provided:

---



---



---

14. Provide a list of all properties comprising the plan area by (CLT), along with the most recent tax bill for each parcel. Copies of tax bills can be obtained from the City of Chattanooga, Office of the Treasurer, 101 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402, phone (423) 643-7262; and Hamilton County Assessor’s Office, 6135 Heritage Park Drive, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37416, phone (423) 209-7300.

CLT # (Parcel Identification Number)	Assessed Value	Taxes
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

15. Project Narrative: Write a brief description of the project. Be as specific as possible about timing, scope of work, type of construction and financing. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Provide interior and exterior photographs.

---



---



---



---

---



---



---



---



---



---

16. Land Area of Project Area (in square feet or acres): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zoning Classification of Project Area (by parcel): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Land Area of Plan Area (in square feet or acres): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zoning Classification of Plan Area (by parcel): \_\_\_\_\_

17. Use of Funds (Entire Project):

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Land Acquisition	\$ _____	_____ %
Site Development	\$ _____	_____ %
Public Improvements	\$ _____	_____ %
Building Costs (Hard)	\$ _____	_____ %
Soft Costs	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____	100%

Sources of Funds:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Owner's Equity	\$ _____	_____ %
Construction Loan	\$ _____	_____ %
Mezzanine	\$ _____	_____ %
Seller Financing	\$ _____	_____ %
Tax Increment	\$ _____	_____ %
Other	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____	100%

Total Estimated Project Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

18. When will construction start (Month/Year)? \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
 19. When will construction be completed (Month/Year)? \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

20. Please list what public improvement(s) are eligible for tax increment financing and estimated cost:

<u>Category A</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Site Work / Grading:	_____	\$ _____
Storm Sewers:	_____	\$ _____
Pipes:	_____	\$ _____
Structures:	_____	\$ _____
Stormwater Facilities:	_____	\$ _____
Flood Control:	_____	\$ _____
Retaining Walls/Tunnels:	_____	\$ _____
Sanitary Sewer Lines:	_____	\$ _____
Pipes:	_____	\$ _____
Structures:	_____	\$ _____
Water Lines:	_____	\$ _____
Paving / Driveways:	_____	\$ _____
Street, Curbs, Gutters:	_____	\$ _____
Ramps/Roads/Bridges:	_____	\$ _____
Off-Street Parking Structures:	_____	\$ _____
Sidewalks:	_____	\$ _____
Landscaping / Fencing:	_____	\$ _____
Artificial Lighting:	_____	\$ _____
Greenways/Walking Trails:	_____	\$ _____
Mass /Public Transit Facilities:	_____	\$ _____
Traffic Signals:	_____	\$ _____
Signage:	_____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY A</b>		\$ _____

<u>Category B</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Electrical Services:	_____	\$ _____
Utility Infrastructure:	_____	\$ _____
Utility Under-grounding:	_____	\$ _____
Telecom Services:	_____	\$ _____
Utility Relocation:	_____	\$ _____
Other Items:	_____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY B</b>		\$ _____

Other public improvements (provide a description and breakdown of costs in sufficient detail for an engineering review of cost estimates): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

21. Development Team

Please list the business name, contact person, address, work and fax phone numbers, and email address for the following members of the Development Team:

Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Engineers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Accountant: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Project Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Construction Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Development Consultant: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***III. Supplemental Information***

Note to Applicant – All Exhibits from the checklist must be complete before IDB staff will submit your request for tax increment financing for initial consideration by the Hamilton County Commission and/or Chattanooga City Council.

22. Submit the following as Exhibits to the Application that will include the information set forth in the following checklist:

Exhibit A – Tax Increment Application Affidavit

Exhibit B – History of the Development Entity

Exhibit C – Site Plan and Rendering (identify public improvements eligible for TIF)

Exhibit D – List and Breakdown of Sources and Uses of Funds to undertake project

**Checklist**

Exhibit A – Tax Increment Application Affidavit (*submitted for preliminary qualification*):

Applicant will pay IDB Application Fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant will list and specify all Eligible TIF Costs in detail  
Applicant will acknowledge the maximum tax incentive available for the Project (See Sections 4.1 through 4.3 for guidance)

Applicant and/or the lead financing entity will sign an affidavit that the project would not be financially feasible, if it were not for the Tax Increment Financing.

Exhibit B – Declaration of Development Team and Disclosure of Principals and Entity, including:

History of the Development Entity  
Resumes of all principals and key individuals  
Organizational structure of the development entity

Exhibit C – Description and Narrative of the Development Project, including:

Copies of Project Contracts and/or Memoranda of Understanding  
Detailed Performance/Construction Schedule  
Site Plan and Rendering w/qualifying public improvements identified  
Copies of Deeds, Leases, and Option Contracts  
FIRMette from FEMA issued Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov)  
Photographs of Property  
Tax Bills  
Survey  
Maps of the Plan Area and the Project Area

Exhibit D – Project Funding and Financial Information, including:

List and breakdown of Sources and Uses of Funds to undertake Project  
Detailed projections of TIF Revenues by parcel for the term of the requested TIF and narrative describing the basis and assumptions for the projections  
Pro-forma financial statement for five (5) years (if multiple entities are involved, the pro forma statements should be prepared on an entity basis and on a consolidated basis)  
Current financial statements (2 yrs.); P & L (2 yrs.); and Balance Sheet (2 yrs.)  
(if newly formed, a copy of a balance sheet as of the most recent month-end)  
Current banking relationships  
Evidence of bonding capacity or letter of credit

## ***VII. Signature***

I, the undersigned, affirm that the project descriptions, numerical and financial estimates, and all other information I have provided in this Application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understood the requirements described in this Application, including the Tax Incentive Financing Program of The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga. Furthermore, I certify that I am authorized to initiate the TIF application process on behalf of the Applicant and the Project described.

The undersigned, furthermore, agrees to provide such additional information and documentation, from time to time, as the Board may consider necessary or convenient to determine the advisability of providing tax increment financing to the Applicant.

The undersigned agrees to pay or reimburse the Board for all costs, fees and expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by the Board in considering, evaluating, and enforcing the provisions of the Application and

the Policies and Procedures of the Tax Increment Financing Program. In certain instances the Board may require that principals of the Applicant guarantee the payment of the above costs and supply the Board with financial statements of such principals.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Disclaimer

COMPLETION OF THIS APPLICATION DOES NOT ENTITLE THE APPLICANT TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. ANY SUCH ASSISTANCE MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE OR THE HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION



**AFFIDAVIT**  
**TO**  
**TIF APPLICATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, depose and state under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am a corporate officer, managing member, general partner or sole proprietor of \_\_\_\_\_ (“Applicant”), a company duly organized in the State of \_\_\_\_\_ as a (Corporation/LLC/Sole Proprietorship/General Partnership/Limited Partnership). Applicant submits this Application requesting tax increment financing for the project located at (“Site”). The Applicant represents that this Application and all information furnished in support of the Application for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga Tax Increment Financing Program (“TIF Program”) are true and complete to the best of Applicant’s knowledge and belief.

2. Applicant hereby acknowledges and declares that it will comply with the following submittal requirements for tax increment financing assistance from The Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga (the “IDB”):

- (i) Applicant will list and specify all costs of qualified improvements to Public Infrastructure for tax increment financing;
- (ii) Applicant will acknowledge the maximum tax increment reimbursement available for the Project;
- (iii) Applicant will pay a tax increment financing application fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the IDB at the time of application;
- (iv) Applicant will be required to pay the IDB an administration fee equal to \_\_\_\_\_, which will be deducted annually out of the TIF Revenues.

5. Applicant acknowledges and declares that no other reasonable means of financing the public improvements proposed to be financed with tax increment financing are available, because of one or more of the following reason(s) as checked by Applicant:

- \_\_\_\_\_ (i) The Project, including the public improvements, if financed by Applicant through cash on hand or through debt financing from a private lender, would not result in a reasonable rate of return to the Applicant; or
- \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Applicant would not undertake the full set of improvements contemplated in the Application through resources reasonably available to the Applicant.

6. Applicant hereby agrees that Applicant shall at all times indemnify and hold harmless the IDB, its employees, officers, directors, counsel, and consultants against all losses, costs, damages, expenses (including reasonable attorney fees), and liabilities of any nature directly or indirectly resulting

from, arising out of or relating to the acceptance, consideration, approval, or disapproval of this Application for tax increment financing assistance.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Signed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_