
DIGEST

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Badon

HB No. 956

Abstract: Authorizes the New Orleans city council to levy and collect a parcel fee within the area of the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission.

Present law creates and provides for the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission as a corporate body with all the powers and rights of a political subdivision of the state whose area shall include each neighborhood in New Orleans East.

Present law provides that the commission's primary purpose is to advise appropriate governmental entities on government policy.

Present law provides that the commission shall consist of the president of each neighborhood association or organization within the commission area or an appointed representative of that neighborhood association or organization. Provides that the commission shall also consist of two at-large members elected from the commission area.

Present law requires the commission to adopt the rules and regulations necessary to conduct its business affairs and to have official custody of its monies, funds, and accounts. Provides for the commissions's powers and duties, including the following:

- (1) Sue or be sued.
- (2) Adopt, use, and alter at will a seal and bylaws.
- (3) Receive and expend funds collected pursuant to present law or otherwise made available to the commission.
- (4) Enter into contracts or agreements with individuals or entities to carry out its powers and duties and to accomplish its purposes.
- (5) Purchase items and supplies instrumental to its purposes.
- (6) Employ an executive director and staff.
- (7) Acquire and dispose of property.
- (8) Construct and operate facilities.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally authorizes the New Orleans city council to levy and collect a parcel fee upon each parcel within the commission area. Provides that the amount of the fee shall be as requested by resolution of the commission and approved by a majority of the registered voters in the area. Provides that the amount of the fee shall be not less than \$5 nor more than \$10 per parcel per year. Defines "parcel" as a lot, a subdivided portion of ground, or an individual tract which is zoned residential. Requires that the fee be levied on each improved or unimproved parcel located within the district

Proposed law provides that the fee shall expire four years after its initial levy but may be renewed for a term not to exceed eight years. Provides that the fee will be levied and collected in the same manner and at the same time as ad valorem taxes on property are levied and collected by the city. Requires that the proceeds of the fee be used solely and exclusively for the purpose and benefit of the district. Authorizes the city to retain 1% of the amount collected as a collection fee. Further requires the city to remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection.

Present law requires the commission to adopt an annual budget in accordance with the La. Local Government Budget Act (R.S. 39:1301 et seq.) and provides for the commission's cooperation with other entities.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires the commission's executive board to submit a proposed budget to the commission annually for review. Provides that the commission may make any amendments to the budget it deems necessary.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 33:9100.12(A); Adds R.S. 33:9100.10)