

New law creates the Downman Road Economic Development District as a political subdivision of the state in Orleans Parish. Provides that the governing authority of the city of New Orleans shall have such power and control over and responsibility for the functions, affairs, and administration of the district as provided in new law. Provides for district boundaries which include all of the territory included within the geographical boundaries of the New Orleans Lakefront Airport. Excludes from the district's jurisdiction any property owned, operated, or administered by the Port of New Orleans.

New law provides that the district is governed by a 10-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) The state representative who represents House District No. 99, or his designee, and two members appointed by the state representative.
- (2) The state senator whose district encompasses all or a greater portion of the area of the district, or his designee.
- (3) The mayor of the city of New Orleans, or his designee.
- (4) The member of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans whose district encompasses all or a greater portion of the area of the district, or his designee.
- (5) The presidents of Pines Village Neighborhood Association, Melia Neighborhood Association, Rosedale Neighborhood Association, and Kenilworth Neighborhood Association.

New law provides that appointed members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and each designee serves at the pleasure of his respective designating authority. Requires board members to serve without compensation but requires reimbursement for travel expenses incurred while attending district business. Authorizes any member of the board to serve on the board of a private entity that enters into contracts with the district provided that the member does not receive compensation from the private entity.

New law provides for the powers and duties of the district. Provides that all services to be furnished within the district may be furnished, supplied, and administered by the city of New Orleans through its regularly constituted departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and instrumentalities as appropriate in the circumstances. Authorizes the board to enter into contracts with the city in order to provide services and provide, construct, or acquire capital improvements or facilities. Provides that the cost of any such services, capital improvements, and facilities may be paid to the city from the proceeds of the special tax levied upon real property within the district, or from the proceeds of bonds.

New law provides that if the board determines it is in the best interest of the taxpayers and that completion of public improvements and facilities will be expedited, the design and construction phases of any project may be combined. Requires the board to adopt and promulgate rules for administering design-build contracts and provides for procedures. Authorizes the board to utilize a competitive request for proposals process to select a design-build contractor. Provides procedure for such selection.

New law authorizes the city council of New Orleans, subject to voter approval, to levy and collect a special ad valorem tax for a term not to exceed 50 years. Requires that the tax be levied and collected in the same manner and at the same time as all other ad valorem taxes on property subject to taxation by the city are levied and collected. Provides that any tax levied shall be subject to the homestead exemption as provided by the state constitution. Requires that the proceeds of the tax be used solely and exclusively for the purposes and benefit of the district.

New law authorizes the city of New Orleans, when requested by resolution adopted by the board, approved by a resolution of the city council, and by resolution adopted by the Board of Liquidation, City Debt, to incur indebtedness for and on behalf and for the sole and exclusive benefit of the district. Additionally authorizes the city, subject to the same procedure, to issue at one time, or from time to time, negotiable bonds, notes, bond

anticipation notes, renewal notes, revenue bonds, short-term revenue bonds, refunding bonds, interim certificates, certificates of indebtedness, certificates of participation, debentures, warrants, commercial paper, short-term loans, and other obligations or evidences of indebtedness. Provides further with respect to district indebtedness.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 7, 2012).

(Adds R.S. 33:2740.70.1)