
DIGEST

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Alfred Williams

HB No. 1010

Abstract: Creates the Villa del Rey Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the beautification, security, and overall betterment of the district. Provides for a board of commissioners and for the imposition and use of a parcel fee.

Proposed law creates the Villa del Rey Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish as a political subdivision of the state for the purpose of aiding in crime prevention by providing increased security for the district residents and the overall betterment of the district. Provides for district boundaries. Provides that the district shall be governed by a board of commissioners consisting of the following members:

- (1) The president of the Villa del Rey Citizens Association, Inc.
- (2) Two members appointed by the board of directors of the Villa del Rey Citizens Association, Inc.
- (3) One member appointed by the member or members of the La. House of Representatives who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (4) One member appointed by the member or members of the La. Senate who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (5) One member appointed by the member or members of the East Rouge Parish Metropolitan Council who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (6) One member appointed by the mayor-president of Baton Rouge.

Proposed law provides that the district has the following powers and duties:

- (1) To sue and be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To receive and expend funds collected.
- (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public.

- (5) To acquire items and supplies necessary for achieving any purpose of the district.
- (6) To solicit and accept private grants and donations.
- (7) To procure and maintain liability insurance against any personal or legal liability of a board member.
- (8) To perform or have performed any function or activity the board deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the district.

Proposed law authorizes the district, subject to voter approval, to impose and collect a parcel fee of up to \$250 per parcel per year.

Proposed law provides that the fee shall be collected in the same manner and at the same time as ad valorem taxes and that any unpaid fee shall be added to the city tax rolls and enforced with the same authority and subject to the same penalties and procedures as unpaid ad valorem taxes.

Proposed law authorizes an agreement with the parish tax collector for fee collection; authorizes a collection fee of not more than 1%.

Proposed law requires the district's board to adopt an annual budget in accordance with the La. Local Government Budget Act and provides that the district shall be subject to audit by the legislative auditor.

Proposed law provides that it is the purpose and intent of proposed law that the additional law enforcement personnel and their services provided for through the fees authorized by proposed law shall be supplemental to and not in lieu of personnel and services provided in the district by the city of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish.

Proposed law provides that if the district ceases to exist, district property shall be transmitted to the parish to be used only to promote, encourage, and enhance the security, beautification, and overall betterment of the area included in the district.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:9097.22)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill.

1. Made technical amendments clarifying voting by the board and the maximum fee to be retained by the tax collector.