

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Ramiro A. Cavazos, Director, Economic Development

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Christopher J. Brady; Jelynn Burley; Trey Jacobson; File

SUBJECT: Staff Briefing on Incentive Scorecard System

DATE: October 23, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION:

The purpose of this presentation is to brief City Council on the development of the new development incentive evaluation system and project advisory service offered through the Economic Development Department to entities seeking to develop or redevelop property in San Antonio.

The focus of this presentation will be a demonstration of the Incentive Scorecard System, an internet-based tool for developers and staff. Staff will also discuss new procedures to ensure that developers and staff are quickly provided comprehensive information about incentives that may be available. Other topics to be covered include: the Incentive Agreement process and the upcoming communication and training program.

There is no formal action requested.

BACKGROUND:

In the past few years, a recurring concern of the development community has been that many of the development incentives authorized by City Council to achieve particular policy goals were not well known. Moreover, City departments most closely affiliated with the incentive from a funding or regulatory perspective have historically administered the incentive programs. As such, the information and procedures for these development incentives was fragmented. At the urging of City Council and community redevelopment plans, staffs from multiple City departments have been working to gather and update information about all federal, state, and local incentives that may be available. This "Catalog of Development Incentives" is now available on the City Internet site.

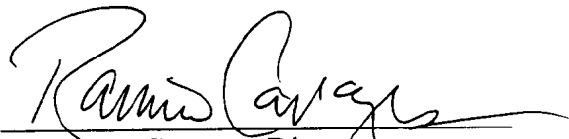
The City Council Urban Affairs Committee received a briefing on this toolkit during its March 12, 2003 meeting. Additionally, City staff has been working to develop a quantitative evaluation tool to assess the degree to which a particular development project achieves one or more of the City's development priorities. The "Incentive Scorecard" was developed through this process. This system was presented to City Council initially during a "B" Session presentation on May 22, 2003. The next week (May 29), City Council approved the Incentive Scorecard and the scoring system. That same ordinance authorized staff to administratively reduce or waive certain fees once a project scored above certain points thresholds, according to the Scorecard.

Subsequent to the approval of the Incentive Scorecard System, the Economic Development Department staff has worked with multiple City departments to develop an Internet-based system for providing information about development incentives, and for evaluating projects for possible incentives.

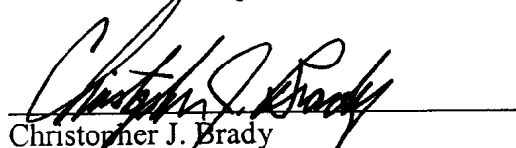
This system is now on-line at <http://www.sanantonio.gov/incentives>. This system will help facilitate communication and decisions by businesses and developers seeking to achieve the City's overall development goals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the implementation of this system.

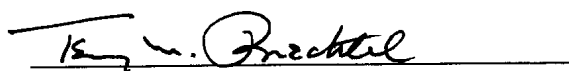


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Approved:



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