

APR 13 2016

Casmy Cash

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR TREASURER

By Loupe
Introduced 12-9-15
P.H. 1-13-16
2-10-16
4-13-16

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ORDINANCE **16215**

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE NORTH BATON ROUGE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ZONE, AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY OF BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA; DEFINING THE BOUNDARIES THEREOF, ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND AS AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 27 OF TITLE 33 OF THE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950, AS AMENDED; DESIGNATING THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING.

WHEREAS, the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge have experienced tremendous economic growth in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the City-Parish is poised to continue economic growth; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City-Parish to ensure that the economic growth extends to all areas of the Parish; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended ("**Act**") allows local governmental subdivisions to create economic development districts for the development of economic development projects (as defined in the Act; and

WHEREAS, this Council proposes to create an Economic Development District within the City with the geographical boundaries described herein to be known as the "North Baton Rouge Opportunity Zone" ("**District**");

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act, prior to the adoption of this Ordinance, a notice describing the boundaries of the North Baton Rouge Opportunity Zone has been published two (2) times in The Advocate, the official journal of the City/Parish ("**Official Journal**");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the City desires to designate the Metropolitan Council of the City of Baton Rouge ("**Council**") as the governing authority of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Metropolitan Council of the City of Baton Rouge that:

SECTION 1. The development of the District to stimulate the continuing effort to develop the City and to provide much needed foundation for business to flourish and to provide opportunities to unemployed and low-income residents of the City, is declared to be an economic development project as set forth in the Act.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to the Act, this Council does hereby

create an economic development district within the City, to be named the "North Baton Rouge Opportunity Zone", having the following geographical boundaries: the city limits of the City of Baton Rouge to the north and east, the Mississippi River to the west, and Florida Boulevard to the south, with the exclusion of the entirety of the Downtown Development District and the Greater Baton Rouge Airport District.

SECTION 3. The Council is hereby designated, pursuant to the Act, as the governing authority of the North Baton Rouge Opportunity Zone.

SECTION 4. The Council Administrator shall compile an annual report and deliver the same to the Metropolitan Council no later than December 31, 2016 and every year thereafter. The report shall include a list of all project applicants in that year, the projects approved by the Metro Council, and the amount of property taxes abated for each project.

SECTION 5. In accordance with the requirements of the Act, there has been published two (2) times in The Baton Rouge Plainsman, the official journal of the City, a notice describing the boundaries of the District, as well as a notice of introduction of this Ordinance. The publication of said notice and boundaries is hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 6. The Mayor and his staff are hereby authorized to do any and all things necessary and incidental to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall be effective for a period of five (5) years from the date of passage of this ordinance. On or before the conclusion of the five year period, the Metropolitan Council shall evaluate the merits of the District. At that time, the Metropolitan Council may elect to extend the effective date of this ordinance to continue the existence of the District.

In accordance with Section 2.15 of Chapter 2 of the Plan Of Government, I certify this to be the original ordinance adopted by the metro Council at a Regular meeting on April 13th 2016
Council Administrator.

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED:

Mayor - President

Mayor - President

Received from the Mayor - President on the 20th day of April 2016

Council Administrator