



Resolution 2007-001

January 18, 2007

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CITY INITIATIVE ESTABLISHING  
A TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ) FOR THE  
REVITALIZATION OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN**

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce's (BCOC) is a member driven business organization, whose principal mission is to provide visionary leadership which will foster a prosperous business environment and improve the quality of life while building on Brownsville's unique resources, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce's acknowledges that Brownsville's Historic Downtown District is the heart of our city, and that Brownsville is one of the state's most historic cities; the 6<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city in the State of Texas, and the 34<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city in the United States, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce has concluded that notwithstanding remarkable growth and development elsewhere throughout the city, its Historic Downtown District remains undervalued and blighted, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce concurs with findings by two national consulting firms in that, despite Brownsville's impressive heritage and multicultural resources, it remains culturally underserved due to a lack of proper venues for the arts, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce believes that the renovation of the Capitol Theatre and its conversion into a 1,500 seat performing arts community theater would fill that need in a significant way and become a major catalyst for the revitalization, economic development and historic preservation of its core, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce also believes that the revitalization of Market Square can provide an added boost to downtown revitalization and economic development if converted into a cultural facility hosting museums, artisan shops and a tourism center operated by the Brownsville Historic Association, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce believes that the Capitol Theatre and Market Square Renovation Projects would in fact create a cultural and entertainment district in our Historic Downtown resulting in a significant and year-round tourist attraction in our city, and;

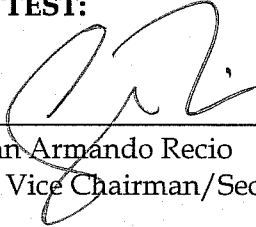
**WHEREAS**, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce is convinced that if these improvements are made to our Historic Downtown District, the quality of life of every resident in Brownsville will be greatly enhanced, a substantial amount of new jobs will be created, as well as a substantial increase in sales tax collections from the Historic Downtown District, and;

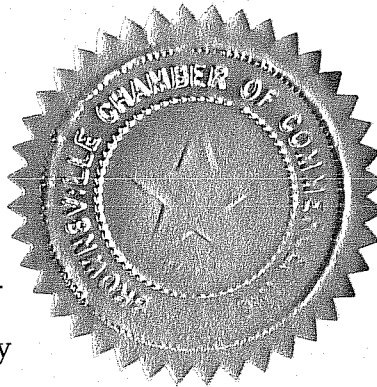
**WHEREAS**, the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones are a proven economic development tool successfully used in states across the country, including Texas.

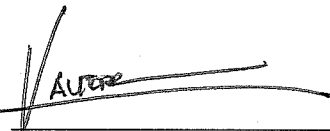
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce hereby endorses the establishment of a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) for Historic Downtown Brownsville.

Done this 18<sup>TH</sup> day of January, 2007

**ATTEST:**

  
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Juan Armando Recio  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman/Secretary



  
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Kevin Alford  
Chairman of the Board