

CITY OF FORT WORTH

Housing and Economic Development



Economic Development Division

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

WWW.FORTWORTHGOV.ORG/HED



A VITAL LINK TO Economic Development in Fort Worth

Tax Abatement Agreement

A tax abatement is the full or partial exemption from ad valorem taxes on eligible properties. Abatements are granted for a period of up to 10 years and an amount of up to 100 percent of the increase in appraised value (as reflected on the certified tax roll of the appropriate county appraisal district) resulting from improvements begun after the execution of the agreement. Eligible properties must be located in a reinvestment zone.

Tax abatements are authorized under Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code.

380 Program Agreement

Economic Development Program grants are made in accordance with Texas Local Government Code 380. The city will work with the applicant to match dollars to appropriate costs.

This incentive may only be used as a gap financing tool of last resort. The use of this incentive is for projects facing financial impediments to development. They must also offer a significant positive impact to the communities and surrounding neighborhood where the project is located.

Texas Enterprise Zone Program

The Texas Enterprise Zone Program is an economic development tool enabling local communities to partner with the state of Texas to promote job creation and capital investment in economically distressed areas of the state.

An enterprise project is a business that is nominated by a municipality or county and approved by the Economic Development Bank in the Office of the Governor Economic Development and Tourism Division for state and local benefits. State incentives include state sales and use tax refunds on qualified expenditures. The level and amount of refund are related to the capital investment and jobs created at the qualified business site.

Foreign Trade Zones (FTZs)

Foreign Trade Zones provide special customs procedures to U.S. businesses engaged in international trade-related activities. Duty-free treatment is accorded items that are processed in FTZs and then re-exported. Duty payment is deferred on items until they are brought out of the FTZ for sale in the U.S. market.

More information on FTZs at:
www.foreign-trade-zone.com



Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIFs)

Tax Increment Financing is a tool authorized by Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code by which local governments can publicly finance needed structural improvements and enhanced infrastructure within a defined area called a reinvestment zone.

- The tax increment is derived from the difference in appraised value between the year in which the reinvestment zone is established (base year) and each year the reinvestment zone is in existence.
- A municipality establishes a reinvestment zone according to guidelines in the Texas Tax Code. Taxing entities may elect to participate in a TIF by approving a participation agreement, which sets forth the percentage of tax increment the taxing entity is willing to dedicate to the TIF fund.
- Each TIF is governed by a board of directors consisting of five to 15 members. Board members are generally comprised of taxing entities that levy a tax within a TIF district.



Active TIF Districts

- TIF 2: Speedway**
- TIF 3: Downtown**
- TIF 4: Southside/Medical District**
- TIF 6: Riverfront**
- TIF 7: North Tarrant Parkway**
- TIF 8: Lancaster**
- TIF 9: Trinity River Vision**
- TIF 10: Lone Star**
- TIF 11: Southwest Parkway**
- TIF 12: East Berry Renaissance**
- TIF 13: Woodhaven**

Triple Freeport Exemption

The State of Texas allows local property taxing jurisdictions to exempt in-transit inventory from personal property taxes. This is commonly referred to as the “freeport” exemption. In-transit inventory is inventory that leaves Texas within 175 days. The Freeport Tax Exemption is especially beneficial to businesses with high-value inventories and multi-state distribution systems. It allows them to store products without paying taxes, decreasing overall business expenses.

Most locations in Fort Worth allow this exemption at all three taxing levels. This is known as “triple freeport” exemption.

More information on freeport exemption at: www.tad.org



DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

**TO PROMOTE A STRONG ECONOMY AND ENHANCE
THE QUALITY OF LIFE BY PROVIDING SUSTAINABLE
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
THROUGHOUT FORT WORTH**



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FORT WORTH MEANS BUSINESS!