

Introduced by:

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SUBSTITUTE

HEADING
AND
PURPOSE

Establishment of Energy Improvement Districts

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL,
CITY OF HARTFORD

April 21, 2014

Be It Hereby Ordained by the Court of Common Council of the City of Hartford:

Section 1. The Court of Common Council finds that taking advantage of the density of the City of Hartford by, among other strategies, maximizing the use of efficient, renewable, small-scale power generation and distribution techniques should be an important element of the City's economic development and neighborhood revitalization strategies. Such techniques shall include

- (i) Customer-side distributed resources;
- (ii) Grid-side distributed resources;
- (iii) Combined heat and power systems;
- (iv) Class III renewable energy sources with virtual net metering;
- (v) Neighborhood-based Energy Efficiency projects for housing of 1 - 4 units or larger; and
- (iv) Micro-grids.

as defined or described in the Connecticut General Statutes and the Regulations of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. The Energy Improvement District Planning Committee may add techniques to this list.

Section 2. In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Sections 32-80a, 32-80b, and 32-80c, there is hereby created the Energy Improvement District Planning Committee, which shall consist of the Director of Development Services of the City of Hartford, or the Director's designee; the Director of Planning of the City of Hartford, or the Director's designee; two members of Court of Common Council to be appointed by the Mayor after consultation with the Council President and subject to confirmation by the Council; one representative of the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Zone committees to be appointed by the Mayor after consultation with Hartford2000 ("Hartford2000" includes any successor agency that is the association of all of the NRZs in Hartford) subject to confirmation by the Council; and up to three (3) additional members with relevant particular skills and knowledge, who shall not be subject to the residency requirement of Chapter VII section 1(e) of the Charter, to be appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the Council. The members of the Committee shall elect the Chairperson for the group on the first meeting before July 1, 2014.

Section 3. The Energy Improvement District Planning Committee shall, by November 1, 2014, complete the following tasks:

1. Define the role that the techniques identified in Section 1 or by the Energy Improvement District Planning Committee itself should play in the economic development strategy and/or neighborhood revitalization strategies of the City;
2. Define criteria for determining whether particular proposals for projects to create

such techniques would be beneficial to the City and its residents;

3. Define criteria for determining whether the powers granted by Connecticut General Statutes sections 32-80a, 32-80b, and 32-80c would assist projects identified as beneficial;
4. Engage in a detailed discussion with Hartford 2000 (about the creation of an Energy Improvement District Technical Assistance Center that will be staffed and able to provide technical assistance and information to NRZs that wish to propose the development of Energy Improvement Districts to benefit their neighborhoods.
5. Provide a report on the results of completing the tasks identified in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the Mayor, City Council and Hartford 2000 by December 1, 2014.

Section 4: The Energy Improvement District Planning Committee shall also complete the following tasks

1. Solicit proposals that meet the criteria identified in Section 3 paragraphs (2) and (3) above from Hartford Neighborhood Revitalization Zones. In seeking to identify such projects, the Committee shall both solicit proposals and seek to encourage them through both public events and private meetings;
2. Review all proposed projects against the criteria defined in accordance with Section 3 paragraphs 2 and 3;
3. Engage in a detailed discussion with the Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Committees for any neighborhood that encompasses or would be affected by any project that the Energy Improvement District Planning Committee tentatively concludes may be worthy of development. The Planning Committee shall not proceed further with regard to any project that is not approved by the relevant Neighborhood Renewal Zone Committees; and
4. Recommend to the Mayor and Council the creation of one or more Energy Improvement Districts for the purpose of facilitating the development of renewable, small-scale power and distribution facilities. An annual report to the Mayor and Council shall
 - a. Set forth a summary of the activities in which the Energy Improvement District Planning Committee has engaged;
 - b. Describe in detail any project the Committee recommends for further development and the activities of the Committee relating to each such project;

- c. Recommend the boundaries of and the structure of the board for each Energy Improvement District recommended by the Committee, provided that any Energy Improvement District board shall include at least one member recommended by the committee of each Neighborhood Revitalization Zone that includes any part of a proposed Energy Improvement District within its boundaries;
- d. Recommend any changes needed in the City Ordinances or the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the authorities that each proposed Energy Improvement District board should be granted.
- e. Document whether the EID projects have improved energy usage through either lower cost, less carbon or other pollutant emissions, or reduced demand.

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.