

**CITY OF LA VISTA  
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT  
OCTOBER 19, 2010 AGENDA**

Subject:	Type:	Submitted By:
LB 1018 SUPPORT	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	BRENDA S. GUNN CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**SYNOPSIS**

A resolution has been prepared to support the LB 1018 initiative on the November ballot.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact other than election costs of \$2,000. This initiative is asking voters to give the Governing Body authority to refund a portion ( $\leq 1.5\%$ ) of the local option sales tax generated in a designated area as an incentive to encourage redevelopment or tourism development in underutilized areas of the community. Fiscal impact would be determined on a case by case basis.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approval.

**BACKGROUND**

Recognizing the need for additional economic development tools, the United Cities of Sarpy County worked with Senator Cornett and other members of the Nebraska Legislature to pass the Nebraska Advantage Transformational Tourism and Redevelopment Act (NATTRA) which went into effect on July 15, 2010.

The purpose of the legislation is to develop major tourism attractions; redevelop areas that are suffering the effects of age; promote job creation and/or retention; and attract and retain Nebraska's best and brightest young people. Specifically, with voter approval, municipalities would be allowed to refund a portion of the local option sales tax ( $\leq 1.5\%$ ) generated in a designated area as an incentive to encourage major tourism development and redevelopment of aging areas of the community. If approved, the Governing Body would be granted authority for ten years to direct the tax toward specific projects.

This is historic legislation as in the past incentives were not allowed for projects containing a retail component. Similar to the authority granted by voters in 2003 to adopt the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act (*which was subsequently utilized to facilitate the JQH Embassy Suites/La Vista Conference Center/Marriott Courtyard project*), the voters would be giving the City Council authority to utilize this economic development tool to attract a project determined to be of significant benefit to the City.

In the past, State Statute prohibited the City Council from indicating formal support or opposition of a ballot measure. During the 2009 Legislative Session, LB 626 was passed amending State Statute 49-14,101.02(4) allowing governing bodies to discuss and vote upon a resolution supporting or opposing a ballot question.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA,  
NEBRASKA TO SUPPORT THE LB 1018 INITIATIVE ON THE NOVEMBER 2, 2010  
BALLOT.**

- WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have recognized the need for additional economic development tools; and
- WHEREAS, the Nebraska Legislature unanimously passed LB 1018 creating the Nebraska Advantage Transformational Tourism and Redevelopment Act (NATTRA) during the 2010 Legislative Session; and
- WHEREAS, LB 1018 authority would allow the City to designate an area for redevelopment or tourism development, and as incentive rebate all or a portion of the 1.5% local option sales tax in said area for a period of 10 years; and
- WHEREAS, a qualifying project must be transformational in nature and meet minimum investment thresholds of \$10 million for redevelopment and \$50 million for tourism development projects; and
- WHEREAS, LB 1018 authority will allow the City to provide incentives for otherwise non-feasible development or redevelopment projects in under-utilized areas with the possibility of triggering development in surrounding areas well; and
- WHEREAS, the Act requires that prior to the City utilizing the authority to redirect sales tax as granted by the Act, voters in the City must give their approval; and
- WHEREAS, the La Vista City Council did unanimously approve placing the issue on the November 2, 2010 general election ballot.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska, hereby expresses its support for the LB 1018 initiative that will be on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2010.

CITY OF LA VISTA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela A. Bueche, CMC  
City Clerk