



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, September 10, 2002

Council Session

Item E4

Public Hearing on Setting Occupation Tax for Downtown Improvement and Parking District #1

This request is the annual Council action to establish the occupation tax that supports the budget for Downtown Improvement and Parking District #1. Assessments in this district are based upon an occupation tax on the public space of the businesses operating within the District and are ordinarily paid by the business occupants of the space. This district has been in place since 1975, and is primarily focused on physical improvements such as the purchase and maintenance of parking lots and public green areas, the alleyway improvement project, purchase of holiday decorations, flags, banners, trees, parking monitoring, and snow removal and other activities as allowed by NE. Rev. Statutes 19-4016-4038.

The FY2002-2003 occupation tax factor is \$00.1354 per square foot of public use space, with a minimum annual fee of \$104.72. This level is slightly higher than last year's tax factor of \$00.1260. The increase allows for the continuation and completion of many of the projects underway in the Downtown area. These projects were identified in the Downtown Identity and Design Study and have been adopted as priorities of the Downtown Board. Efforts include: maintenance and care of the green space area in the downtown, including the pocket park on South Front Street, Kaufman-Cummings Park, as well as the entryway signage, and parking enforcement. It is appropriate at this time to solicit public comment. The action item is contained under Ordinances.

Staff Contact: Cindy Johnson