



City of Placentia Press Release

For Immediate Release
July 31, 2019

Contact: Damien R. Arrula
City of Placentia
(714) 993-8264
administration@placentia.org

PLACENTIA ESTABLISHES ENHANCED INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING DISTRICT (EIFD) TO HELP FUND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

PLACENTIA, CA – At the July 30, 2019 meeting, the Public Financing Authority (PFA) for the Placentia Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (Placentia EIFD) approved the Infrastructure Financing Plan (IFP). The PFA is comprised of Mayor Pro Tem Ward Smith, Councilmember Chad Wanke, Orange County Board Supervisor Doug Chaffee, and public members Joe Rasic (President of the Chamber of Commerce) and Rosalina Davis (President of the Placita Santa Fe Merchants Meeting). The IFP includes a comprehensive plan for the public infrastructure improvements to be made in Old Town Placentia and the financial analysis needed to fund these improvements.

The City of Placentia, County of Orange and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), in partnership with Kosmont Companies, worked on a comprehensive plan for the establishment of the EIFD in Placentia. With the County's partnership, the Placentia EIFD will help finance public infrastructure improvements, including streets, sidewalks and bike lanes near the upcoming Metrolink Station, Placentia Old Town area, and Transit-Oriented Development Packing House District near the 57 and 91 freeways.

This is one of four EIFDs established in California, and the first EIFD in the entire State of California to involve a partnership between a City and County for improved infrastructure. Tax increment financing programs such as EIFDs allow cities to utilize anticipated increases in future property tax revenues to pay for infrastructure projects, with no increase in residents' property taxes.

"Creative partnerships are necessary as we face aging infrastructure, changes in transportation preferences, and limited federal and state funding," said Mayor Pro Tem Ward Smith. "With the establishment of a City-County EIFD, the City will be able to allocate funding towards infrastructure that will help revitalize and improve our community, while creating a destination for residents and visitors."

"I am proud that Placentia and the County of Orange were able to unite and establish the first City-County EIFD partnership in the State," said Councilmember and Chair of the PFA Chad Wanke. "This type of partnership will encourage and support our local business community while attracting high-quality private development in our City."

"I have nothing but compliments for how the City of Placentia has handled this and the way the City has come forward to do something that is very special," said Orange County Supervisor and Vice Chair of the PFA Doug Chaffee. "This partnership will help the County and the City work together to invest in infrastructure projects to improve our community and promote continued economic development. It is a model for other cities and counties in the State to follow."

“Given the high needs and priorities of infrastructure investment, and our limited public resources available, new approaches are needed,” said City Administrator Damien R. Arrula. “EIFDs create an innovated financial tool towards public investment while also maintaining fiscal responsibility to the tax payers.”

“This project is a fine example of the kind of strong collaborative partnership needed to support the region’s transportation goals and overall sustainability,” said Kome Ajise, Executive Director of SCAG. “This kind of creative problem-solving moves all of Southern California forward and SCAG is proud to be a partner in this process.”

“The EIFD district will enable private investment tied to transit amenities and housing for constituents and commuters,” said Larry Kosmont, Chairman and CEO of Kosmont Companies. “The State needs more of these cooperatively-funded districts like EIFDs if we are to achieve true sustainability and economic vitality in the form of better jobs and a variety of affordable and market rate housing.”

Placentia, Orange County, SCAG and Kosmont Companies are proud to partner together to facilitate the first of its kind EIFD in California and hope that other cities in the State follow the City’s leadership in this area.

--END--