

SPECIAL DISTRICT LOCAL LAWS CODE
TITLE 4. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT
SUBTITLE C. DEVELOPMENT, IMPROVEMENT, AND MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 3988. SAVE HISTORIC MUNY DISTRICT

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 3988.0101. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

- (1) "Board" means the district's board of directors.
- (2) "City" means the City of Austin.
- (3) "County" means Travis County.
- (4) "Director" means a board member.
- (5) "District" means the Save Historic Muny District.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0102. NATURE OF DISTRICT. The Save Historic Muny District is a special district created under Section [59](#), Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0103. PURPOSE; DECLARATION OF INTENT. (a) The purpose of the district is to preserve the 141.35 acres of land used for the historic Lions Municipal Golf Course in Austin as a public golf course, publicly available parkland, or a combination of those uses.

(b) This chapter does not preclude, and is not intended by any language contained herein to preclude, preservation of the historic Lions Municipal Golf Course in Austin in its current 141.35 acre imprint as an 18-hole public golf course, practice facilities, and land related to the course.

(c) This chapter does not require a person to:

(1) sell or otherwise convey real property to the district or the city; or

(2) enter into an agreement with the district.

(d) The creation of the district is essential to accomplish

the purposes of Sections 52 and 52-a, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other public purposes stated in this chapter.

(e) By creating the district and in authorizing the county, the city, and other political subdivisions to contract with the district, the legislature has established a program to accomplish the public purposes set out in Section 52-a, Article III, Texas Constitution.

(f) This chapter and the creation of the district may not be interpreted to relieve the county or the city from providing the level of services provided as of the effective date of the Act enacting this chapter to the area in the district. The district is created to supplement and not to supplant county or city services provided in the district.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. 2553), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0104. FINDINGS OF BENEFIT AND PUBLIC PURPOSE.

(a) All land and other property included in the district will benefit from the improvements and services to be provided by the district under powers conferred by Sections 52 and 52-a, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other powers granted under this chapter.

(b) The district is created to serve a public use and benefit.

(c) The district will provide infrastructure necessary or desirable for the use of the land preserved in accordance with the purpose of the district.

(d) The district will not act as the agent or instrumentality of any private interest even though the district will benefit many private interests as well as the public.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. 2553), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0105. INITIAL DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) The district is initially composed of the territory described by Section 2 of the Act enacting this chapter.

(b) The boundaries contained in Section 2 of the Act enacting this chapter form a closure. A mistake in the boundaries does not affect the district's:

(1) organization, existence, or validity;

(2) right to issue any type of bonds for the purposes for which the district is created or to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds;

(3) right to impose or collect a fee; or

(4) legality or operation.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0106. APPLICABILITY OF MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS LAW. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, Chapter [375](#), Local Government Code, applies to the district.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0107. CONSTRUCTION OF CHAPTER. This chapter shall be liberally construed in conformity with the findings and purposes stated in this chapter.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 3988.0201. GOVERNING BODY; TERMS. The district is governed by a board of five directors who serve staggered terms of four years.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0202. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS. The governing body of the city shall appoint directors from a list of names recommended by the preceding board as provided by Section [375.064](#), Local Government Code.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1,

eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0203. APPOINTING COMMITTEE; INITIAL DIRECTORS.

(a) An appointing committee shall appoint directors to the initial board. The appointing committee is composed of:

(1) the executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Department;

(2) the executive director of the Texas Historical Commission;

(3) the executive director of the Texas State Preservation Board;

(4) the mayor of the city;

(5) the Texas director of the Nature Conservancy;

(6) the executive director of Preservation Texas; and

(7) the executive director of the Texas Golf Hall of Fame.

(b) The appointing committee shall solicit applications for initial board member positions from residents of the district and appoint the initial board not later than October 1, 2019.

(c) Three initial directors serve four-year terms and two initial directors serve two-year terms. The initial directors shall draw lots to determine which directors serve four-year terms and which serve two-year terms.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 3988.0301. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. The district has the powers and duties necessary to accomplish the purpose for which the district is created.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

The following section was amended by the 89th Legislature. Pending publication of the current statutes, see H.B. [2421](#), 89th Legislature, Regular Session, for amendments affecting the

following section.

Sec. 3988.0302. IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND SERVICES.

(a) The district, using any money available to the district for the purpose, may provide, design, construct, acquire, improve, relocate, operate, maintain, or finance an improvement project or service authorized under this chapter or Chapter 375, Local Government Code.

(b) The district may contract with a governmental or private entity to carry out an action under Subsection (a).

(c) The implementation of a district project or service is a governmental function or service for the purposes of Chapter 791, Government Code.

(d) The district may enter into a contract with the city to allow the city to provide to the district revenue from fees collected by the city from municipally owned utility customers in the district in exchange for the district providing an improvement project or service that provides a public benefit to the city. The district may not enter into a contract described by this subsection unless the district enters into an agreement before May 31, 2025, with the owner of the land used for the historic Lions Municipal Golf Course that provides for the purchase of the land or a method of preserving the land as a public golf course, publicly available parkland, or a combination of those uses.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. 2553), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Amended by:

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 81 (S.B. 390), Sec. 1, eff. May 24, 2021.

Acts 2023, 88th Leg., R.S., Ch. 515 (H.B. 2867), Sec. 1, eff. June 10, 2023.

Sec. 3988.0303. GIFTS, GRANTS, DONATIONS. The district may accept a gift, grant, or donation from a public or private source for the purposes of carrying out the district purpose under this chapter.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. 2553), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0304. MEMBERSHIP IN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. The district may join and pay dues to a charitable or nonprofit organization that performs a service or provides an activity consistent with the furtherance of the district purpose. Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. 2553), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0306. ELECTION TO APPROVE CONTRACT FEE. (a) The district may not enter into a contract with the city for the imposition of a fee, as described by Section 3988.0302(d), unless the imposition of the fee is approved at an election by a majority of the qualified voters of the district voting at an election called for that purpose.

(b) The resolution ordering the election and the notice of the election must describe the proposed project for which the fee revenue will be used. The description must include:

- (1) a complete legal description of the area included in the proposed project;
- (2) a statement of the nature of the proposed project;
- (3) a statement of the total amount of fee revenue anticipated to be spent on the proposed project; and
- (4) the amount of the fee to be imposed.

(c) The ballot proposition at the election need not contain a complete legal description of the area included in the proposed project, but the proposition must contain a general description of the area that is sufficient to give notice to the voters of the location of the proposed project. The ballot proposition must also contain the information described by Subsections (b)(2), (3), and (4).

(d) If the ballot proposition is approved, the district may not exceed any limitations imposed on the project by the resolution ordering the election with respect to the area, nature, or amount of fee revenue spent on the project. If the district desires to expand the project beyond those limitations, the proposed expansion must be approved at an election in the manner provided for the original project.

(e) If a majority of the voters voting at the election do not approve the ballot proposition, the district may not call a subsequent election under this section on the imposition of a fee for the same proposed project before the first anniversary of the date of the most recent election held under this section on the imposition of a fee for the same proposed project.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0307. OTHER CHARGES. (a) The district may charge rates, fares, charges, rents, or other fees or compensation for the use of the improvements constructed, operated, or maintained by the district only for the purpose of the district.

(b) The district may not impose an impact or standby fee.
Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0308. CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. Section [375.161](#), Local Government Code, does not apply to the district.
Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0309. NO ASSESSMENTS OR TAXES. The district may not impose an assessment or tax.
Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 3988.0310. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. The district may not exercise the power of eminent domain.
Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

SUBCHAPTER I. DISSOLUTION

The following section was amended by the 89th Legislature. Pending publication of the current statutes, see H.B. [2421](#), 89th Legislature, Regular Session, for amendments affecting the

following section.

Sec. 3988.0901. DISSOLUTION. Except as limited by Section [375.264](#), Local Government Code, the board shall dissolve the district not later than May 31, 2025, unless, as of that date, the district has entered into an agreement with the owner of the land used for the historic Lions Municipal Golf Course that provides for the purchase of the land or a method of preserving the land as a public golf course, publicly available parkland, or a combination of those uses.

Added by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1017 (S.B. [2553](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Amended by:

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 81 (S.B. [390](#)), Sec. 2, eff. May 24, 2021.

Acts 2023, 88th Leg., R.S., Ch. 515 (H.B. [2867](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 10, 2023.