

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH A TRAVIS COUNTY PACE PROGRAM

STATE OF TEXAS §
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COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

WHEREAS, THE 83RD Regular Session of the Texas Legislature enacted the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 399 (the “PACE Act”), which allows the governing body of a local government, including a county, to designate an area of the territory of the local government as a region within which an authorized local government official and the record owners of commercial, industrial, and large multifamily residential (5 or more dwelling units) real property may enter into written contracts to impose assessments on the property to repay the financing by the owners of permanent improvements fixed to the property intended to decrease water or energy consumption or demand; and

WHEREAS, the installation or modification by property owners of qualified energy or water saving improvements to commercial, industrial, agricultural, and large multifamily residential real property in Travis County will further the goals of energy and water conservation without cost to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds that financing energy and water conserving projects through contractual assessments (“PACE financing”) furthers essential government purposes, including but not limited to, economic development, reducing energy consumption and costs, conserving water resources, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court, subject to the public hearing scheduled as provided below, at which the public may comment on the proposed program and the report issued contemporaneously with this resolution, finds that it is convenient and advantageous to establish a program under the PACE Act and designate the entire geographic area within the County’s jurisdiction as a region within which a designated County official and the record owners of qualified real property may enter into PACE financing arrangements:

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Commissioners Court of Travis County that:

1. The Recitals to this Resolution are true and correct and are incorporated into this Order for all purposes.
2. Travis County hereby adopts this Resolution of Intent and finds that financing qualified projects through contractual assessments pursuant to the PACE Act is a valid public purpose.

3. Travis County intends to make contractual assessments to repay PACE financing for qualified energy or water conserving projects available to owners of commercial, industrial, agricultural, and large multifamily residential real property. The program is to be called Travis County Property Assessed Clean Energy (“Travis County PACE”).
4. The following types of projects are qualified projects for PACE financing that may be subject to such contractual assessments:

Projects that (a) involve the installation or modification of a permanent improvement fixed to privately owned commercial, industrial, or agricultural real property or residential real property with five (5) or more dwelling units, and
(b) are intended to decrease energy or water consumption or demand, including a product, device, or interacting group of products or devices on the customer’s side of the meter that uses energy technology to generate electricity, provide thermal energy, or regulate temperature.

An assessment may not be imposed to repay the financing of facilities for undeveloped lots or lots undergoing development at the time of the assessment or the purchase or installation of products or devices not permanently fixed to real property. Improvements to undeveloped land in Travis County are ineligible.

5. The boundaries of the entire geographic area within Travis County’s jurisdiction are the boundaries of the region where PACE financing and assessments can occur.
6. Financing for qualified projects under the PACE program will be provided by qualified third-party lenders chosen by the owners. Such lenders will execute written contracts with Travis County to service the assessments, as required by the PACE Act. The Travis County Tax Assessor Collector is designated as the Authorized County Official to sign the contracts with property owners and lenders. The contracts will provide for the lenders to determine the financial ability of owners to fulfill the financial obligations to be repaid through assessments, advance the funds to owners on such terms as are agreed between the lenders and the owners for the installation or modification of qualified projects, and service the debt secured by the assessments, directly or through a servicer, by collecting payments from the owners pursuant to contracts executed between the lenders and the owners. The lender contracts will provide that Travis County will maintain and continue the assessments for the benefit of such lenders and enforce the assessment lien for the benefit of a lender in the event of a default by an owner. Travis County will not, at this time, provide financing of any sort for the PACE program.
7. Travis County will contract with a qualified non-profit organization to be the independent third-party Program Administrator.
8. The report on the proposed PACE program prepared as provided by Tex. Local Gov’t Code Sec. 399.009, is available for public inspection on the Internet websites of Travis County (www.traviscountytexas.gov) and the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector (www.traviscountytax.org), and in the office of the Travis County Tax Assessor-

Collector, 5501 Airport Blvd. Austin, Texas and is incorporated in this resolution and made a part hereof for all purposes.

9. Bruce Elfant, Travis County Tax Assessor Collector, (and/or his designee) is designated as the appropriate Travis County official and the appropriate assessor-collector for purposes of consulting regarding collecting the proposed contractual assessments.
10. The Travis County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on the proposed PACE program and report on Tuesday, _____, 2015 at _____m. in the Travis County Commissioners Courtroom, 700 Lavaca St., Austin, Texas.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Sarah Eckhardt, Travis County Judge

Ron Davis
Commissioner, Precinct One

Brigid Shea
Precinct Two

Gerald Daugherty
Commissioner, Precinct Three

Margaret J. Gómez
Precinct Four