

Special Development Projects & Economic Development Committee  
To Address Updates on DBE Enforcement and TIF Policy  
In Joint Session with Budget Committee Tomorrow Morning

**What:** Tomorrow's joint meeting of the New Orleans City Council's Special Development Projects and Economic Development (SDPED) Committee and Budget Committee will include important updates from Administration officials on two critical new city policies involving business: enforcement of increased city contracts to companies certified as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) and/or locally-owned companies, and a presentation on Mayor Ray Nagin's new Tax Increment Finance (TIF) policy, established by executive order July 17.

Council President Arnie Fielkow has emphasized the need for greater enforcement of the city's existing DBE/local contracting policy, particularly following the council's unanimous passage of new DBE/local contracting requirements. The legislation, authored by Councilman Fielkow, guarantees small, local and disadvantaged businesses obtain greater access to city contracts and any business that includes the use of city funds by codifying and extending the DBE goals set forth by the mayor's executive order. The second half of increasing the frequency of DBE contracts is enforcement, which is why Councilman Fielkow has asked the administration to review and improve its enforcement procedures over this last month. Alvin Porter, the city's DBE compliance officer, will be on hand for testimony as will representatives of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and Intergovernmental Relations.

Another update will come from Intergovernmental Relations in the form of a full report on the mayor's new Tax Increment Finance policy, established by executive order July 17.

To view the Committee meeting agenda click [here](#).

**When:** Tuesday, August 11, 2009  
10 a.m.

**Where:** City Council Chamber

**Who:** Special Guests

- City Administrator Alvin Porter
- CAO representative
- Intergovernmental Relations representative

SDPED Committee Members

- Chair: Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow
- District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell
- District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis
- Alternate: District "B" Councilmember Stacy Head

Budget Committee Members

- Chair: District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell
- Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow
- District "B" Councilmember Stacy Head
- Alternate: Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson

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## New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.