

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R23766 AAF-F

H.B. 4196
By: Stephenson (Huffman)
Administration
5/25/2015
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

H.B. 4196 amends current law relating to the powers and duties of the Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 65 of Fort Bend County, Texas, and provides authority to issue bonds payable from taxes.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subtitle F, Title 6, Special District Local Laws Code, by adding Chapter 7945, as follows:

CHAPTER 7945. FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 65 OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 7945.001. DEFINITION. Defines "district" to mean the Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 65 (district) of Fort Bend County, Texas, in this chapter.

Sec. 7945.002. FINDINGS OF PUBLIC PURPOSE AND BENEFIT. (a) Creates the district to serve a public purpose and benefit.

(b) Creates the district to accomplish the purposes of:

(1) a municipal utility district as provided by general law and Section 59 (Conservation and Development of Natural Resources and Parks and Recreational Facilities; Conservation and Reclamation Districts), Article XVI, Texas Constitution; and

(2) Section 52 (Counties, Cities or Other Political Corporations or Subdivision; Lending Credit; Grants; Bonds), Article III, Texas Constitution, that relate to the construction, acquisition, improvement, operation, or maintenance of macadamized, graveled, or paved roads, or improvements, including storm drainage, in aid of those roads.

SUBCHAPTER B. POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 7945.051. AUTHORITY FOR ROAD PROJECTS. Authorizes the district, under Section 52, Article III, Texas Constitution, to design, acquire, construct, finance, issue bonds for, improve, operate, maintain, and convey to this state, a county, or a municipality for operation and maintenance macadamized, graveled, or paved roads, or improvements, including storm drainage, in aid of those roads.

Sec. 7945.052. ROAD STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS. (a) Requires that a road project meet all applicable construction standards, zoning and subdivision requirements, and regulations of each municipality in whose corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the road project is located.

(b) Requires that the road project, if a road project is not located in the corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, meet all applicable construction standards, subdivision requirements, and regulations of each county in which the road project is located.

(c) Requires the Texas Transportation Commission, if the state will maintain and operate the road, to approve the plans and specifications of the road project.

SUBCHAPTER C. BONDS

Sec. 7945.101. BONDS FOR ROAD PROJECTS. Prohibits the total principal amount of bonds or other obligations issued or incurred to finance road projects and payable from ad valorem taxes, at the time of issuance, from exceeding one-fourth of the assessed value of the real property in the district.

SECTION 2. Provides that all requirements of the constitution and the laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2015.