

RESOLUTION NO. __ of 2014

A RESOLUTION TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 106 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO ZONING IN THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

By: Councilman Everson

Whereas, the Downtown Shreveport Development Corporation and Citizen's National Bank have proposed a Pop Up Program to show that Downtown is 'Open for Business' by providing select entrepreneurs with an opportunity to have commercial space rent-free in which to show the viability of their business or commercial endeavor; and

Whereas, the program would encourage creative talent in both the small business and artist communities by activating empty storefronts in the Downtown Development Districts with retail and art installations; and

Whereas, vacant storefronts will be identified and vetted by the DSDC and Downtown Development Authority and will be offered to both current and aspiring businesses through a Request for Proposals process. Those chosen will be given first floor storefront space rent-free for a period of time of up to one month that will allow them to test the viability of their business plan; and

Whereas, the Pop Up Program will benefit the city and its citizens by matching business owners and entrepreneurs with downtown property owners, creating a strong marketing opportunity for the business, the property and downtown, engage the downtown community with new pedestrian opportunities, and encourage more new businesses; and

Whereas, because the properties involved in the program will only be used temporarily for up to one month, it is not cost effective to require building upgrades, inspections, and a certificate of occupancy prior to such temporary use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in due, legal and regular session convened that:

Section 1. Subject to the conditions contained in Section 2 of this resolution, Sections 106-17 and 106-19 of the Code of Ordinances relative to certificates of occupancy are temporarily suspended for buildings in the Downtown Development District occupied as part of the Pop Up Program sponsored by the DSDC as described above, when the building is occupied for 30 days or less. This suspension shall expire on December 31, 2014.

Section 2. This resolution shall not become effective until: a) the Downtown Shreveport Development Corporation or the Downtown Development Authority has executed an agreement in a form approved by the City Attorney holding the City of Shreveport, its officers and employees harmless from any claims or damages arising out of this resolution, the waiver of ordinances contained herein, or in any way relating to the Pop Up Program and b) the Downtown Shreveport Development Corporation or the Downtown Development Authority has obtained insurance in a form approved by the Risk Manager naming the City of Shreveport and its officers and employees as additional insureds, covering all claims under the hold harmless agreement and all activities and building uses under the Pop Up Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

City Attorney's Office