RESOLUTION NO. 6688

APPROVING A REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO HAVE THE PORTLAND ENTERPRISE ZONE DESIGNATED FOR ELECTRONIC COMMERCE WITH THE OREGON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Oregon Enterprise Zone Act, ORS 285C.050 – 285C.250 (the "E-Zone Act"), authorizes the designation of Enterprise Zones ("E-Zones") in urban and non-urban areas and provides that property tax abatement, job creation, and local municipal incentives are desirable to stimulate economic development in economically depressed areas;

WHEREAS, the Portland Development Commission ("PDC") on February 27, 2008, through Resolution 6562, authorized the Executive Director to formally request City Council approval of the E-Zone Policy and authorized the PDC to submit an application on behalf of the City of Portland (the "City") to the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department ("OECDD") for designation of a ten year E-Zone in Portland;

WHEREAS, the City Council on March 5, 2008, through Resolution 36583, authorized the PDC to prepare and submit an E-Zone application on behalf of the City to the OECDD for designation of a ten year E-Zone program in Portland;

WHEREAS, on or around July 1, 2008, the OECDD informed PDC that the City received the E-Zone designation;

WHEREAS, the City is the E-Zone Sponsor and has designated PDC to serve as the E-Zone Manager;

WHEREAS, Portland E-Zone Policy provides for a tax exemption of five years duration and imposes additional conditions on companies participating in the E-Zone;

WHEREAS, under section 285C.095 of the E-Zone Act, the sponsor of an E-Zone may request to have the E-Zone designated for Electronic Commerce ("E-Commerce");

WHEREAS, under chapter 285C.095, the request for E-Commerce designation must be in the form of an application and a resolution adopted by the governing body of the sponsor of the E-Zone to the OECDD;

WHEREAS, in addition to receiving the standard tax exemption provided under the E-Zone program, a business that engages in E-Commerce, as defined in the E-Zone Act, may qualify for a State tax credit under ORS 315.507;
WHEREAS, the E-Commerce overlay designation to the Portland E-Zone program aims to expand investments in e-commerce related infrastructure and equipment in disinvested, industrial areas, so designated by the state;

WHEREAS, in exchange for the E-Commerce State income tax credits, qualified businesses must create quality jobs and increase local procurement as part of the regular E-Zone program;

WHEREAS, this overlay onto the E-Zone program will induce additional investment and employment by non-retail businesses that are already participating in the E-Zone program and do a majority of business using the internet; and

WHEREAS, the E-Commerce designation is consistent with the goals of the City of Portland’s Economic Development strategy by creating economic growth and job prosperity, as well as the PDC’s mission by securing a strong regional economy and quality jobs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Director is directed to request City Council’s authorization to submit an application on behalf of the City of Portland to the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department to have the existing Portland Enterprise Zone designated for Electronic Commerce;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, subject to authorization by City Council, the Executive Director is authorized to submit an application on behalf of the City of Portland to the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department to have the existing Portland Enterprise Zone designated for Electronic Commerce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the Portland Development Commission on March 25, 2009.

Emily Swensen, Recording Secretary
Resolution Number 6688

TITLE: APPROVING A REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO HAVE THE PORTLAND ENTERPRISE ZONE DESIGNATED FOR ELECTRONIC COMMERCE WITH THE OREGON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Adopted by the Portland Development Commission on March 25, 2009.

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Certification

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

The attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution as finally adopted at a Board Meeting of the Portland Development Commission and duly recorded in the official minutes of the meeting.

Emily Swensen, Recording Secretary
March 25, 2009