



City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk
90 West Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215-9015
columbuscitycouncil.org

Legislation Text

File #: 0475-2007, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND:

The City of Columbus currently has an excessive amount of vacant office space in our downtown market. This high vacancy rate is having a negative impact on all business activity downtown and throughout the city. Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) is currently exploring downtown Columbus as a potential site for expansion. They are a leading on-line marketing and website development company currently employing 80 employees with an estimated annual payroll over \$5 million. They anticipate creating 120 new positions over the next 3.5 years. This new job creation is estimated to generate \$8.4 million of additional payroll and \$168,000 annually in City income tax revenue. Based on this estimate they would qualify for the Columbus Downtown Office Incentive of an amount equal to 50% of the payroll taxes paid or \$84,000 each year five (5) years. The Downtown Development Office recommends granting the Columbus Downtown Office Incentive Program to Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive).

FISCAL IMPACT:

No funding is required for this legislation.

To authorize the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a Columbus Downtown Office Incentive Program agreement with Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) as provide in Columbus City Council Resolution 075X-2004 adopted March 29, 2004.

WHEREAS, the City desires to increase employment opportunities and encourage establishment of new jobs in the City in order to improve the overall economic climate of the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 075X-2004, adopted March 29, 2004, authorizing the Department of Development to establish the Columbus Downtown Office Incentive program as amended; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Development has received a completed application for the Columbus Downtown Office Incentive program from Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive); and

WHEREAS, Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) estimates they will create 120 new positions at 343 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio, with a projected payroll of \$8.4 million generating estimated City of Columbus income tax revenue of \$168,000 annually; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

Section 1. That the Director of the Department of Development is hereby authorized to enter into a Columbus Downtown Office Incentive Program agreement with Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive), pursuant to Columbus City Council Resolution 075X-2004, for an annual cash payment equal to 50% of the total income tax withholding for the new positions located in downtown Columbus for a term of five (5) years based on the estimated addition of 120 new positions located at 343 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Section 2. This employment at Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) is the result of creating 120 new positions

in the Downtown as defined in Columbus City Code Title 33 Section 3359.03 downtown district boundary.

Section 3. As provided in the program guidelines the ten (10) year lease at 343 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio qualifies Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) for a five (5) year incentive term. The term beginning in calendar year 2007, with the incentive payment made in the first quarter of the following year based on actual City of Columbus income tax withholding paid by the new positions for the preceding year.

Section 4. Each year of the term of the agreement with Resource Ventures Ltd. (DBA. Resource Interactive) that a payment is due, the City's obligation to pay the incentive is expressly contingent upon the passing of an ordinance appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of monies sufficient to make such payment and the certification of the City Auditor pursuant to Section 159 of the Columbus City Charter.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.