

Session No. 1:

VALUE CAPTURE ENABLERS—TIF & TRZ

FHWA EDC-5 VCIT IDOT PEER EXCHANGE

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TOOL #1—PROPERTY TAX BASED

Taxpayer Pays, Existing Tax Base

Property taxes are the most basic VC tool rooted on real estate market value (*ad valorem*)

- TIF helps to capture organic property value increase within a “TIF District”
- Tax rate unchanged, only incremental tax revenues earmarked for TIF
- TIF earmarks end when investments are paid off
- TIF bonds can be issued upfront backed by future earmarks when threshold reached (e.g. 25% in CA)

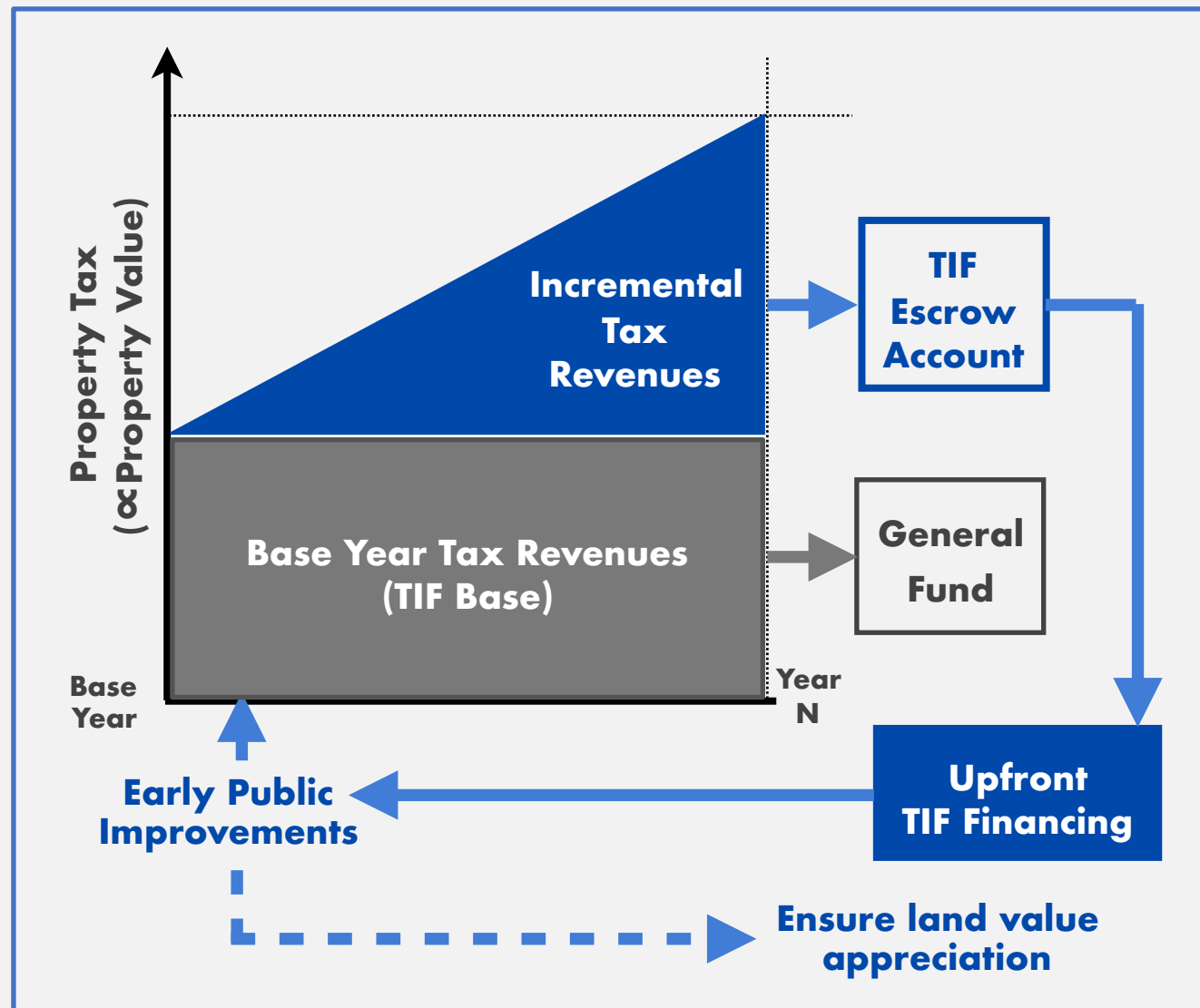
Value capture from property tax is not automatic; Tax Increment Financing (TIF) provides a VC-enabling administrative framework

TIF ENABLES UPFRONT FINANCING

Many “TIF” Variants:

- **Transportation Reinvestment Zones (TRZ) (TX)**
- **Tax Allocation Districts (TAD) (GA)**
- **Urban Renewal Areas (URA) (OR)**

TIF Base can be frozen or follow organic trend line w/o Improvements



TIF OPPORTUNITIES AND ISSUES

- **Considered self-financing with no new taxes, less political resistance**
- **Gained prominence since introduced in the 50s, used and accepted in most states**
- **Works well for urban redevelopments where most needed**
- **Can be complex; dependence on expert advisory with own interest in development project**
 - ✓ **Risk of overextended use; often overleveraged with inflated revenue projections**
- **Incremental tax revenues not guaranteed—if revenues fall short, taxpayers are beholden to residual liabilities**

PROJECT CASE EXAMPLES

- 1. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Project Experience— Chicago**
- 2. Transportation Reinvestment Zones (TRZ)— Americas Interchange Project, El Paso Texas**

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 1. Yield/Revenue Potential—Amount, Timing, Stability, Flexibility**
- 2. Equity—Financial Responsibility**
- 3. Efficiency—Benefit vs. Cost, Direct Usage-Based**
- 4. Administrative Ease**
- 5. Transparency**
- 6. Political/Legal Feasibility**

YIELD/REVENUE POTENTIAL

- **Substantial but not necessarily predictable**
 - ✓ **Depends on value dynamics of properties within a given TIF district**
- **Sensitive to:**
 - ✓ **Pace of development**
 - ✓ **Tax base appreciation**
 - ✓ **Wider real estate market conditions**
- **Capable of providing larger and less volatile revenue stream as long as assessed values of properties remain below market values**

EQUITY

- **Existing development carries relatively greater burden than other VC mechanisms**
- **Potential diversion of tax increments for other special purposes**

EFFICIENCY

- **Ability to undertake coordinated planning of transportation improvements with an urban redevelopment plan**
- **Can facilitate high density, transit-oriented developments (TODs)**
- **For interchanges, opportunity to coordinate transportation and land use planning to improve efficiency in resources dedicated to transportation facilities**

ADMINISTRATIVE EASE & TRANSPARENCY

- **Most local governments have experience with TIF compared to other VC mechanisms**
- **Requires technically skilled staff and tend to be procedure-laden**
- **Reliance on consultants if lack expertise; adds to administrative costs**
- **Often criticized for being too complicated for most people to understand**

POLITICAL/LEGAL FEASIBILITY

- **Less likely to be opposed than new taxes**
- **Opposition can be related to the likelihood that taxes will not keep pace**
- **Gentrification concerns for urban redevelopment projects**