

## Holly Hills SBD Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** Will my SBD assessment go up each year?

**Answer:** No, it never goes up over the 10-year period. In fact, the board may lower the rate, but never raise it. So, if gas prices continue to rise and/or the economy underperforms the SBD board can vote to lower the rate.

**Question:** How will this be governed?

**Answer:** The state of Missouri defines that SBD's are to be governed by a board of 5 property owners and 2 renters within the boundary area. There will also be committees established for each initiative that will make recommendations to the full board.

**Question:** How was the boundary area decided?

**Answer:** The SBD boundary area follows the Holly Hills Improvement Association boundaries which were established in 1927. This states that the Holly Hills neighborhood's borders are Bates to the north, Grand to the east, Morgan Ford to the west and Loughborough to the south. The existing neighborhood signage also follows these boundaries.

**Question:** Why is the administrative costs at 10% (\$40,000)?

**Answer:** In order for this SBD to be as transparent and well run as possible there needs to be a website established, a reserved monthly meeting space located that can accommodate the public, an annual audit conducted, a possible CPA hired, and twice annual newsletters sent to the 1900 households.

**Question:** Why is Carondelet Park included within the boundary areas?

**Answer:** Nothing has been decided on spending any amount of funds on Carondelet Park. The City of St. Louis already spends several hundred thousand dollars a year on Carondelet Park and will continue to do so. Carondelet Park was included within the boundary areas in case the SBD board, committees, and community decided that there was an expenditure that they would like to see in Carondelet Park.

**Question:** I don't live on Holly Hills Blvd will I see this funding in my section of the neighborhood?

**Answer:** Absolutely yes! The board and committees will be made up of a diverse representation of the neighborhood. Whether it is police patrols, infrastructure improvements, or beautification it will be equally spent throughout the whole neighborhood. Police patrols will carry GPS devices on them to show where they have patrolled each day.

**Question:** What other neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis has a SBD?

**Answer:** Soulard, Tower Grove South, Skinker DeBaliviere, Southwest Garden, Downtown West, Locust Business District, Benton Park and Central West End has 9 of them with one that extends into Midtown. The Grove, Central West End, Grand Center, Bevo, Cherokee St, Downtown, Dutchtown, the Loop, and South Grand all have Community Improvement Districts.

**Question:** Am I really paying for these services twice?

**Answer:** No, the initiatives/services provided by the SBD are on top of the services already provided by the City of St. Louis. The SBD acts as a quasi-home owner's association that allows for the community to offer added services and improvements to the neighborhood on top of what the city provides.