



# CITY OF HOUSTON NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER PETER BROWN

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## **COUNCIL MEMBER PETER BROWN COMMENDS CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM**

**September 16, 2009** – Houston City Council today approved an ordinance which will allow the City of Houston to provide tax abatements for “green” commercial buildings in Houston.

Back in June of this year, Council Member Peter Brown submitted a budget amendment requesting that the City reauthorize the tax abatement program and include tax abatements for construction of new “green” buildings in Houston. Today, City Council reauthorized the tax abatement program with Council Member Brown’s amendment included. “By moving forward with my amendment, our City will be able to expand on our commitment to reducing energy consumption and waste, and ultimately lower electricity costs for the consumer,” said Brown.

This ordinance will also allow builders to take advantage of county tax abatements which, before today, was not available to builders of “green” buildings in the City. “I know that this ordinance will encourage new development and stimulate new job growth and investment within our City,” added Brown.

*Peter Brown, FAIA, AICP, is a third-generation Houstonian, a nationally recognized architect and urban planner, serving his second term on Houston City Council, At-Large Position 1.*

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