HOW TIF WORKS

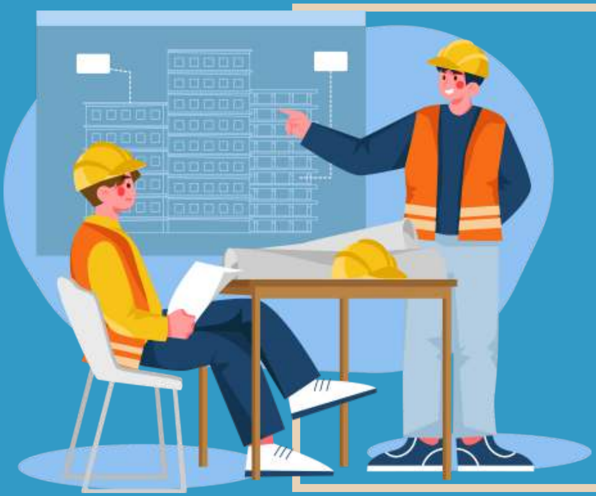
Rutland 360

COMMUNITY WANTS IMPROVEMENT

It all starts with the basic needs of a community. A municipality may want to create a more vibrant downtown with shopping, dining, housing and mixed use spaces. To do this, it may decide to use a tool called TIF: Tax Increment Financing.

DEFINING THE AREA

First, the municipality will define an area that needs significant redevelopment to tackle blight, brownfields or areas of underdevelopment. This area is known as the TIF District.



ATTRACTING DEVELOPERS

Before private developers can start work within the TIF District, the city needs to make infrastructure upgrades. To fund these, the city turns to the voters to approve of a bond.

VOTE FOR THE BOND

The total amount approved by the voters is derived from the anticipated costs to make the upgrades for the new development. Unlike other bond approvals, the voters will not be burdened by the bond.

HOW THE BOND IS PAID

The bond is paid back using the difference between the pre-development taxes and the post-development taxes of the property. For example, if the pre-development tax on the property is $25,000 per year and the post-development tax is $100,000, then the difference (or, the increment) is $75,000. That amount, less 15% for the municipal general fund and 30% for the education fund, is used to pay down the bond.

TAX. INCREMENT. FINANCING.

In a nutshell, the city is financing the bond through the tax increment created by the redevelopment. In other words, but for TIF, the redevelopment - and the taxes generated from it - would not exist.