

**State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio**



**FINAL  
Meeting Minutes  
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex  
105 Main Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

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Wednesday, April 4, 2018

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

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The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. Deputy City Clerk Leticia Saenz took the Roll Call noting the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Shaw, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

Item 2 was addressed first.

2. Briefing on the Alamo Master Plan and Implementation Strategy. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager]

City Manager Sheryl Sculley stated that the City executed a Cooperative Agreement with the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and Alamo Endowment Board regarding the development of a Joint Master Plan for the Alamo and surrounding areas in October 2015. She noted that it created a Management Committee with two representatives from each entity including herself and Councilmember Treviño. She stated that the Committee selected Preservation Design Partnership in March 2016 to lead the planning process. She noted that City Council unanimously approved the Alamo Master Plan in May 2017 including conceptual approval for several design aspects. She stated that the Management Committee selected PGAV Destinations to lead development of the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan

and the redesign of Alamo Plaza. She noted that the GLO owned all buildings on the property and the City owned Alamo Plaza and the street in front of the Alamo.

Councilmember Treviño stated that the Vision and Guiding Principles developed by the Alamo Citizen Advisory Committee were the foundation for the Alamo Master Plan. He provided an overview of the Committee and noted that he served as Tri-Chair. He outlined the following themes of the Vision and Guiding Principles:

- Evolution of settlements and cultures around the Alamo Area
- Tell the story of the 1836 Battle of The Alamo
- The Alamo area is a place of remembrance, honor, and respect
- The Alamo area experience has evolved over more than 300 years and continues to be a community gathering place

Councilmember Treviño stated that the Alamo Citizen Advisory Committee would continue to provide feedback on the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan.

Lori Houston provided an overview of the components of the Alamo Master Plan approved by City Council. She reviewed the Guiding Principles of the Alamo Master Plan and highlighted the following key concepts of the plan:

- Restore the Church and Long Barracks
- Reestablish clarity and order through the delineation of the historic footprint
- Recapture the Historic Alamo Plaza and create a sense of reverence and respect on the historic battlefield
- Repurpose the Crockett, Woolworth, and Palace Buildings into a world-class visitor center and museum that tell the story of the Battle of the Alamo
- Create a sense of arrival to the site and enhance connectivity between the site and other public spaces

Mrs. Houston stated that the majority of funding for the Alamo from the State's past Legislative Session would be dedicated to restoration of the Church and the Long Barracks. She noted that programs would be diversified to address multiple historical and cultural components. She highlighted proposed street closures to recapture the historic battlefield, extend the museum, offer more on-site programming, and assist with building preservation. She stated that Pape-Dawson Engineers conducted a street closure analysis and the proposed closures would result in delays of less than one minute. She provided an overview of the history of the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan and design process and reviewed plans for ongoing community engagement.

Mayor Nirenberg spoke of the importance of maintaining the Alamo to preserve History and Culture. He asked of the timeline for conveyance of the land and street. Mrs. Sculley replied that designers were receiving input, community engagement was ongoing, and a presentation was intended for May or June 2018 with Council action on the conveyance in June. Mayor Nirenberg asked of mechanisms to ensure continued engagement with the Alamo Citizen Advisory Committee. Councilmember Treviño noted regular meetings and updates as part of a collaborative process. Mayor Nirenberg spoke of the importance of restoring the Cenotaph and mindful selection of its placement.

Councilmember Perry asked how input for the design process would be extended to the entire State of Texas. Mrs. Houston replied that Councilmember Treviño was working on a presentation for other cities in Texas and online feedback opportunities would be made available. Councilmember Treviño replied that the Design Team would conduct a state-wide Roadshow to gather input. Councilmember Perry expressed concern that sufficient input would not be gathered throughout the process and suggested that visitor comments be incorporated.

Councilmember Courage asked of the conveyance of the Alamo Plaza to the State. Mrs. Sculley replied that the conveyance would include Alamo Plaza and a portion of Alamo Street and the GLO would have management control over the site. Councilmember Courage asked if conveyance gave GLO the power to implement fees and set hours of operation for the site. Mrs. Sculley replied that they could but the City and community would have input regarding their expectations. Councilmember Courage asked how much money had been contributed to the improvement process to date. Mrs. Sculley replied that all funds to date were furnished by GLO and the City's contribution of \$38 million would be made available when the design process was complete.

Councilmember Brockhouse expressed the importance of honoring the will of the community locally and state-wide through robust public engagement.

Councilmember Pelaez spoke of the importance of taking input from all interest groups while moving forward to ensure good stewardship and conservation.

Councilmember Viagran expressed the importance of telling the diverse story of the History of Alamo Plaza and expressed support for incorporating visitor feedback into the design process.

Councilmember Sandoval expressed her support for the incorporation of the indigenous community and other cultures in the redesign and asked that the full history be shared.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if restoration could begin prior to consensus on the overall design to prevent further deterioration. Douglass McDonald stated that the process to implement restorative processes had already begun and would last four years for deterioration analysis and development of a conservation plan. Councilmember Gonzales expressed concern that the restoration process was not moving quickly enough.

Councilmember Perry stated that the roof of the Church was known to be too heavy for the structure and asked why the process to replace it had not begun. Mr. McDonald replied that structural engineers had examined the Church and determined that the roof system was not causing an increase to the incremental damage already occurring and further study was needed to prevent additional damage.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked everyone for the presentation. He addressed Item 1 at this time.

1. Briefing and possible action on Consolidated Funding Process and Investment Priorities for FY 2019 and FY 2020. [María Villagómez, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Department of Human Services]

Melody Woosley stated that the Department of Human Services (DHS) utilized the Equity Impact Assessment to determine their mission and the purpose of the Consolidated Funding Process. She noted that the department existed to improve the quality of life for vulnerable residents and Consolidated Funding existed to maximize the services and reach of the department to make the greatest impact possible. She outlined the following the four long-term outcome goals of the department:

- Children and youth are safe, healthy, resilient, and ready to succeed in school and life
- Individuals and families are financially secure and in stable housing
- Homelessness is rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Seniors are healthy, engaged, and independent

Ms. Woosley provided an overview of equity-based Consolidated Funding goals and their impact on long-term outcomes as well as the department and community partners for each. She stated that DHS would work to align its outcome goals with community partners to have the greatest impact.

Rene Dominguez stated that the City invested \$2.5 million in Designated Funding with Project Quest in Fiscal Year 2018 to support training, job services, and placement for middle-skills jobs. He spoke of the importance of a Continuum of Services through which participants are referred from service to service as they engage with the program.

Ms. Woosley provided an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2019 and Fiscal Year 2020 Budgets to be divided between Competitive Funding, Project Quest, After School Challenge, and Haven for Hope and the Center for Health Care Services. She requested City Council input in four policy areas: (1) Investment Priorities; (2) Continuation of FY 2018 Funding Level Designations; (3) Non-Communication (Blackout) Period; and (4) Delegate Agency Input. She provided an overview of the proposed Delegate Agency timeline for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.

Mayor Nirenberg asked how the Request for Proposal (RFP) priorities were determined. Ms. Woosley replied that they were based on outcome goals, maximizing impact, and stakeholder input. Mayor Nirenberg asked how outcome goals were tracked. Mr. Dominguez replied that they were tracked through performance reports. Mayor Nirenberg spoke of the importance of tracking outcomes and reporting performance to the community and expressed his support for the investment priorities, funding designations, and Delegate Agency input. He asked that the blackout period be shortened or lifted.

Councilmember Perry asked if specific metrics and goals would be identified in the RFP. Ms. Woosley replied that the RFP would identify long-term goals. Strategies and applicant Delegate Agencies would propose their desired achievements for the two-year cycle. Councilmember Perry asked if prior performance was included in the evaluation process. Ms. Woosley replied that it was. Councilmember Perry asked that Councilmembers receive ongoing performance data during the two-year period. Mrs. Sculley replied that historically Council Committees or Subcommittees received performance data and written reports could be provided online in the future.

Councilmember Courage asked of pre-kindergarten participants who were not considered kindergarten-ready following the conclusion of the program. Ms. Woosley replied that most participants do not repeat the program and kindergartens were expected to assess and assist them. Councilmember Courage suggested that children be held back until they were ready and expressed concern that the timeline for housing homeless veterans was too long. Ms. Woosley replied that the average time was typically under the 90-day requirement set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the waiting period was dependent on availability and funding. Councilmember Courage asked when historical performance data would be available. Ms. Woosley replied that in cases where data were available, it would be compiled within a few weeks. Councilmember Courage asked that Delegate Agencies be given the chance to ask for additional funds in exchange for higher Returns on Investment.

Councilmember Brockhouse asked that every agency except Haven for Hope remain part of a competitive process and asked at what point were agencies expected to become self-sufficient. Ms. Woosley replied that agencies were expected to develop a Sustainability Plan to operate with smaller grant amounts from the city. Councilmember Brockhouse

expressed the importance of efficient operations and noted his support for a shortened blackout period to allow City Council more decision-making power.

Councilmember Viagran expressed support for a blackout period beginning July 1st and requested that conversations be held immediately following the Delegate Agency pitches. She asked if staff knew which Delegate Agencies would be subject to Federal Budget cuts. Mrs. Sculley replied that they did and would consider that information during the evaluation process. Councilmember Viagran asked if agency collaboration would be included and encouraged in the RFP. Ms. Woosley replied that it would and that points were awarded for partnerships and collaborations.

Councilmember Saldaña asked if the blackout period had always been utilized. Mrs. Sculley replied that the blackout period was requested by a previous City Council to manage contact with the Delegate Agencies prior to the existence of a Consolidated Funding Process. Councilmember Saldaña expressed his support for shortening or eliminating the blackout period to increase accessibility for all applicants.

Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for eliminating the blackout period.

Mayor Nirenberg asked if staff had received enough feedback regarding the blackout period to move forward. Mrs. Sculley asked for further clarification from Councilmembers and recommended that staff be subject to a blackout period to remain outcome-focused. Mayor Nirenberg expressed support for lifting the blackout period for Councilmembers and allowing a staff blackout period.

Andy Segovia stated that the blackout period was a requirement under the Ethics Code and elimination would require an amendment to the ordinance. Mrs. Sculley recommended that the blackout period begin July 1st and be lifted upon her first public budget recommendation on August 9th. City Council expressed support for said recommendation.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked staff for the presentation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Nirenberg announced that the Executive Session would be continued until the following day after the Business Portion of the City Council Meeting.

- A. Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).

- B. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).
- C. Settlement offer in a lawsuit against the City by David Brian Ricks pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Settlement offer in a lawsuit against the City by Rosa Martinez pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

### **CEREMONIALS**

Mayor Nirenberg presented a Proclamation in recognition of Fiesta San Antonio to be held April 19-29, 2018. He noted that Fiesta San Antonio takes place each April to honor the memory of the Heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto. He also noted that the Fiesta San Antonio Commission was responsible for the festival's organization of over 100 events with more than 75,000 volunteers and 3.5 million attendees annually.

Mayor Nirenberg presented a Proclamation in recognition of King Antonio XCVI (96), Richard Sparr. He noted that King Antonio XCVI would reign over the Texas Cavaliers River Parade to be held April 23, 2018 and others among visit schools, hospitals, nursing homes, local businesses, and community groups during his year-long reign. King Antonio also provides funds to support children's charities in the community through the Texas Cavaliers Charitable Foundation.

Mayor Nirenberg presented a Proclamation to the San Antonio Conservation Society who would host its Fiesta Event "A Night in Old San Antonio" (NIOA) April 24-27, 2018. He noted that the four-night festival is held in the La Villita National Historic District and celebrates San Antonio's diverse cultural heritage.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Eric Lewis spoke of the positive influence of Big Brothers Big Sisters in his life and asked City Council to continue their support for the organization.

Terry Burns, Chair of the Alamo Sierra Club, spoke in support of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plans. He expressed concern with the qualifications of upcoming CPS Energy Board of Trustees appointee Dr. Willis Mackey and noted the importance of a high level of expertise for Utility Boards.

Brandon Burkhart, President of This Is Texas Freedom Force, spoke of the importance of historic preservation. He asked that the City Council allow the Cenotaph to remain in its current location and expressed concern with a lack of reverence at Alamo Plaza.

Mario Bravo expressed the importance of diversity on Public Utility Boards and highlighted diversity of age. He asked for increased public engagement throughout the appointment process.

Rick Briscoe expressed concern with transparency in changes to Alamo Plaza. He noted the importance of preserving Texas History and highlighting the Battle of the Alamo.

Ramon Garza spoke of the role of Native Americans who died at the Alamo and asked the City Council not to allow the removal of the Cenotaph from its current location.

Kerrie Hillyer spoke of those who died at the Alamo and asked that the Cenotaph be restored and remain in its current location. She asked the City Council to create an online forum to gather public opinion regarding the Alamo Plaza redesign.

Mayor Nirenberg excused himself from the meeting at this time and Councilmember Treviño presided.

Lamar Henry asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor those who died there. He expressed concern with commercial interests influencing the Alamo Plaza redesign.

Antonio Diaz noted the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and spoke of civil rights. He asked City Council to remove the statue in Columbus Park and rename the park due to the history of injustices associated with Christopher Columbus.

Alice Canestaro-Garcia asked City Council not to confirm Dr. Willis Mackey to the CPS Energy Board due to insufficient qualifications.



**RECESSED**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting at 6:56 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA Y. SAENZ, TRMC  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK