

State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio



DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

City Council B Session

City Hall Complex
114 W. Commerce
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building with the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 11 - Mayor Taylor, Treviño, Warrick, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

1. Briefing on the City of San Antonio's 2015-2017 Federal Legislative Program for the 114th U.S. Congress. [Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager; Jeff Coyle, Director, Intergovernmental Relations]

Jeff Coyle presented information regarding the 114th United States Congress Federal Legislative Program. He stated that the 114th Congress began on January 3, 2015 and will extend through January 3, 2017. He noted that the Program was comprised of three Priority Issues and eight Funding and Policy Initiatives. He spoke of the Priority Issue of the Federal Courthouse, noting that the City of San Antonio supported a multipronged approach to secure Federal Funding for construction of a new Federal Courthouse for the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division. He provided an overview of Courthouse Strategic Options: 1) Request appropriations in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 for Courthouse Construction; 2) Request authority for the General Services Administration (GSA) to utilize funding previously deposited into the Federal Buildings

Fund for new construction funding; 3) Pursue Public-Private Partnerships (P3) Authority for the GSA to engage in P3 Partnerships for construction of the Courthouse; 4) Seek readjustment of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' Five-Year Courthouse Construction Plan to prioritize the San Antonio Courthouse Project; 5) Make the Courthouse Project Priority #1 for the Texas Delegation during Annual House-Senate Conference Negotiations; and 6) Seek line-item funding in the President's FY 2017 Budget.

Mr. Coyle provided an overview of the Priority Issue related to a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) noting that in preparation; San Antonio would collaborate with Congressional Leaders to ensure that San Antonio was in the best position to withstand or benefit from BRAC. He reported that options for this priority included maintaining High-Level Missions in San Antonio and Department of Defense Investments. In regard to the Priority Issue related to Aviation, he indicated that their goal was the expansion of the existing perimeter at Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA) to 1,500 miles in the upcoming FAA Reauthorization. He mentioned that they would begin early discussions with Airlines concerning the use of DCA Slots for Non-Stop SAT-DCA Flights. He stated that the City of San Antonio would support legislation that increases Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Funding and allows greater flexibility to airports in the use of AIP Funds. Lastly, the City of San Antonio will support increasing the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) to \$8.50.

Mr. Coyle presented an overview of Legislative, Regulatory and Funding Initiatives to include: 1) Export-Import Bank; 2) Municipal Bonds; 3) Body Cameras; 4) Cyber Security; 5) Education, Workforce and Training; 6) Historic Preservation; 7) Transportation; and 8) Urban Area Security Initiatives. He noted that they would present the full Program for City Council Approval on June 1, 2015.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation and the Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee (IGR) for their work.

Councilmember Saldaña spoke of the importance of the Federal Courthouse and asked of the project moving down on the list. Mr. Coyle replied that it was moved down the list due to the criteria and noted that the criteria included caseload and security needs. Mrs. Sculley added that the City of San Antonio had an executed agreement with the GSA for a land swap between the Federal Courthouse and the Former Public Safety Headquarters; however, funds had not been appropriated for the new construction. Councilmember Saldaña asked of the projects that could be funded due to an increase to the PFC. Mr. Frank Miller replied that there were numerous airfield projects that they could undertake at one time rather than phase them in. He noted that they were also in need of a Centralized Security Checkpoint; a Connector between Concourses A and B, and could be used to

extend runways. Councilmember Saldaña stated that using the funds for extending runways could be worthy of an increase and asked of the use of the Tiger Grant. Mr. Coyle replied that VIA Metropolitan had applied for the Tiger Grant in the past and that it was only one component of the Transportation Funding that the City was hoping to receive.

Councilmember Krier asked if it was feasible to receive funding for the Federal Courthouse in phases. Mr. Tom Downs stated that the Federal Government operated a Federal Buildings Fund which was replenished by the rental payments from Federal Agencies and that Congress decides how much funding is spent for new construction each year. He noted that they had been informed by the GSA that they would not authorize partial funding for Courthouses. Councilmember Krier asked of the flight path issue for Randolph Air Force Base (AFB). Mr. Bob Murdock replied that the San Antonio Board of Realtors would be willing to have a voluntary disclosure regarding real estate sold within the flight pattern but did not support the Legislative Bill specifically toward Randolph AFB. Councilmember Krier spoke of the importance of building Military Missions in San Antonio to prevent negative impacts of a future BRAC. He recognized Jose Martinez who spoke of the Export-Import Bank which would ensure the competitiveness of San Antonio Manufacturers and Exporters.

Councilmember Gallagher asked of the BRAC delay until FY 2019. Mr. Murdock stated that the earliest BRAC would occur was 2019 and noted that the alternatives to a BRAC were more devastating to a community which could include a reduction in personnel. He spoke of the challenges with excess infrastructure within the Army and Air Force in San Antonio. Councilmember Gallagher stated that they must show that there is a great investment in the City's Military in order to prevent a BRAC. Councilmember Gallagher asked of the continuation of the Residential Acoustical Treatment Program. Mr. Miller replied that they were working with Congressman Lamar Smith's Office to include language into the FAA Reauthorization Bill that would grandfather San Antonio's Program from 2009. However, he noted that the FAA Reauthorization Bill may not pass and there could be another round of extensions.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the Historic Preservation Initiative related to Tax Credits. Mrs. Shanon Miller stated that there were several properties in San Antonio that had taken advantage of the Federal Tax Credit. She mentioned that changes would be made at the Federal Level to make the Tax Credits easier to access and the City of San Antonio would be supportive of same. She added that the State of Texas had approved a Tax Credit during the Legislative Session and hoped that would increase the amount of Federal Tax Credits applied for.

Councilmember Lopez asked of the P3 Process for the Federal Courthouse. Mr. Downs stated that the GSA did not have legal authority to enter into a P3 at this time. He recommended that they draft legislation that would authorize the use of P3s for Federal Courthouses. Councilmember Lopez asked if there was a Carrier Partner for the SA to DC Non-Stop Flight. Mr. Miller replied that they had discussions with various carriers that expressed an interest in providing same but the first step was to overcome the Perimeter Rule. Councilmember Lopez spoke of the importance of ensuring that all of the San Antonio Delegation was supportive of the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked if the proposed P3 Legislation could be bracketed to San Antonio. Mr. Coyle replied that there could be an opportunity to create a pilot and that anything further than that could be considered earmarking. Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the Tiger Grant. Ms. Sally Basurto replied that they had worked with all of the partners and they were comfortable with the City of San Antonio taking the lead on submission of the Tiger Grant. Councilmember Nirenberg stated that the City of San Antonio must voice concerns regarding ending tax exemptions for municipal bonds and asked of the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act passed by the House. Mr. Coyle replied that they had opposed it in the past and would continue to monitor it this Session.

Councilmember Treviño asked of the status of the FAA Bill referenced by Chairman Shuster during the SA to DC Trip. Mr. Coyle replied that he did not have that information but would follow up and provide it to the City Council. Councilmember Treviño asked of the use of Historic Preservation Fund and stated the he would like to utilize it for documentation projects. Mrs. Miller replied that a certain percentage of the Historic Preservation Fund must pass through Certified Local Governments and could be used for a variety of projects including documentation. Councilmember Treviño asked of Workforce Development Funding. Mr. Coyle replied that President Obama had recommended funding for Workforce Development but there had not been a lot of dialogue by Congress in support or in opposition.

Councilmember Warrick asked if the City of San Antonio was partnering with Bexar County on the Body Worn Cameras Initiative. Chief Treviño replied that they had considered partnering with Bexar County but the County had concerns regarding the required match funding. Councilmember Warrick asked of the impact of Congressman Cuellar serving on the Appropriations Committee. Mr. Coyle replied that his role on the Appropriations Committee was very significant and could greatly benefit the City of San Antonio.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation.

2. A Briefing on the City's parking system and efforts to improve customer service, enhance staff safety, and minimize cash handling. [Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager; Lori Houston, Director, Center City Development & Operations]

Lori Houston presented a briefing on the City's Parking System and highlighted efforts to improve the Customer Service Experience. She spoke of the Staff Development and Training that would be provided to Parking Attendants to allow them to serve as City Ambassadors. She outlined the Innovation and Technology Initiatives that would be implemented to include the use of Handheld Credit Card Devices, Pay-in-Lane & Pay-by-Foot Machines, and V-Ticket Technology in which no paper tickets would be utilized. Additionally, she mentioned that they would be implementing a Mobile Parking Application and Google Maps to list parking facilities and link to their website.

Mrs. Houston reported that they would be improving features available on their website. She stated that all Parking Division Phone Calls would be routed through 311 and that there would be an online survey and suggestion box to ensure continuous feedback. She highlighted the improved wayfinding signage and noted that they would increase their focus on cleanliness. She mentioned that they would perform biannual restriping, monthly painting touchups and implement a monthly lighting review and replacement program.

Mrs. Houston reported on their efforts to incorporate Public Art in the Houston Street Garage. She spoke of the Pop Up Shops that would be added within the Houston Street and St. Mary's Garages, and noted that the free parking validation at the Central Library would be increased to three hours. She provided an overview of the Marketing and Social Media efforts, and noted that they would be partnering with Centro San Antonio on a Strategic Parking Management Plan. She stated that she looked forward to enhancing the City's Downtown Parking Services.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation and stated that she was pleased with the enhancements that would be made. She asked of the timeline and partnerships with private parking owners on the Strategic Plan. Mrs. Houston replied that Centro San Antonio had contracted with to Kimley-Horn to perform research and hoped to complete the Strategic Plan within 6 to 9 months. Mayor Taylor asked of the potential for public input. Mrs. Houston replied that there would be various opportunities for public input to include online surveys and public meetings. Mayor Taylor spoke of the potential for public parking along the Broadway Corridor and asked of the digital parking meters. Mrs. Houston stated that the program had been working well and would provide a report to the City Council on the amount of revenue received from same.

Councilmember Warrick asked of the number of public parking spaces in the Downtown Area. Mrs. Houston responded that there were 20,000 parking spaces Downtown of which 6,400 were owned and operated by the City of San Antonio. Councilmember Warrick asked of the percentage of visitors in vehicles. Mrs. Houston replied that she did not have that information but would follow up with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Councilmember Warrick asked of the potential to offer more free parking. Mrs. Sculley responded that they could but it was expensive and would require prioritization by the City Council. Councilmember Warrick asked if staff had considered utilizing Alamodome Parking for events outside of the Alamodome. Mrs. Houston replied that they had utilized it in the past and would continue to explore opportunities in the future.

Councilmember Viagran concurred with Mayor Taylor regarding the importance of public input and the need to engage citizens that do not live in the Downtown Area. She asked of the partnership with Centro San Antonio. Mrs. Houston replied that Centro San Antonio was funding the majority of the Strategic Plan and the City of San Antonio was providing funding in the amount of \$50,000. Councilmember Viagran commended staff for the walk-throughs that have occurred and requested that same be performed with Senior Citizens. She asked of the boundaries of the Downtown Area. Mrs. Houston replied that the Downtown Area encompassed a 5.2 square mile area that includes everything within the Interstate, St. Paul Square, UTSA Downtown, The Pearl, and Southtown. Councilmember Viagran requested the number of parking spaces for each garage in the Downtown Area. Mrs. Houston replied that she would provide that information to the City Council. Councilmember Viagran stated that she was supportive of the Public Art Component but expressed concern with the "Before I Die" Campaign. She asked of the cost of the new initiatives and if they were budgeted. Mrs. Houston responded that the cost for the Pay-in-Lane and Pay-by-Foot Machines was \$240,000 and was included in the Parking Capital Improvement Plan funding by the Parking Fund. Councilmember Viagran asked of the impact to Parking Attendants due to technology improvements. Mrs. Houston stated that their positions would not be eliminated and that they would be utilized as City Ambassadors.

Councilmember Krier expressed concern with safety in parking garages and asked of security at City Parking Facilities. Mrs. Houston replied that the city had a contract with Allied Barton to provide security services at City Parking Garages. Councilmember Krier also expressed concern with the "Before I Die" Campaign and the large amount of funding spent on Public Art. He asked of the timeline for the upgrades and cleaning in the Downtown Area. Mrs. Houston stated that it would be completed at the end of the Summer and that the Power Washing would occur twice a year.

Councilmember Gonzales spoke of her parking experiences while traveling to Fort Lauderdale and asked of the potential to pay for parking via mobile phone. Mrs. Houston stated that the City of San Antonio did not have that capability at this time. Councilmember Gonzales spoke of Public Art and noted that it encouraged walkability.

Councilmember Treviño expressed support for Public Art and noted that he believed Architecture was a form of Art. He spoke of the importance of encouraging diversity and inclusion regarding Art and Culture throughout the city. He recommended that wayfinding and signage also be provided in Spanish.

Councilmember Lopez added that he was supportive of Public Art as long as the public had input as had been done with the Bond Program. Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session was not held. Mayor Taylor announced that the Executive Session would be held on Thursday, June 11, 2015 after the business portion of the City Council Meeting.

- A. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.087 (economic development) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- B. Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.072 (real property) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- C. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECESSED

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 4:45 pm and announced that the meeting would resume at 6:00 pm for Citizens to be Heard.

RECONVENED

Mayor Pro Tem Warrick reconvened the meeting at 6:00 pm and addressed Citizens to be Heard.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Pro Tem Warrick called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Julie Oldham expressed concern with money being owed to the City.

Mark Perez stated the importance of environmental safety in regulating businesses in San Antonio.

Mike Knuffke expressed concern with the improper zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Patrick Von Dohlen spoke against the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road. He urged the City Council to review the zoning process for the Facility.

Deanna Lee petitioned the City Council to make new appointments to the Animal Care Services Advisory Board.

John Bachman spoke to the importance of maintaining a high quality of life for animals in the care of the San Antonio Zoo.

Sylvia Villarreal petitioned the City Council to re-examine the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road. She spoke of the dangers of receiving unlicensed abortions.

George Benavides spoke of a proposed resolution to ban space weapons.

Cynthia Brehm stated the importance of protecting political signage and spoke of ensuring citizen safety from human trafficking and abortion operations.

Raymond Zavala spoke against CPS Energy Smart Meters and expressed concern with homelessness in the City of San Antonio.

Theresa Berlanga commented on the establishment of the European Union and the Euro as the common currency.

Marian Thompson expressed concern with abortion operations performed in the City of San Antonio.

Danny Petri spoke against the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony highlighting the Madison High School Students that created a solar car. He expressed concern that gasoline prices continue to increase. He requested that the San Antonio Zoo reduce their water usage. He asked that the tax credit for Wind Power be extended. He wrote that Uber and Lyft could work in Bexar County.

RECESSED

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Warrick recessed the meeting at 6:43 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC
CITY CLERK