

**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

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Wednesday, June 17, 2015

2:00 PM

Haven for Hope Campus

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The City Council of San Antonio convened in the Haven for Hope Board Room – Transformation Center, 1 Haven for Hope Way, San Antonio, Texas 78207 with the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** 9 - Mayor Taylor, Treviño, Warrick, Saldaña, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

**ABSENT:** 2 - Viagran, and Gonzales

Mrs. Vacek announced that Councilmember Viagran was out of state attending the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) Conference while Councilmember Gonzales was at a doctor's appointment.

1. Briefing by the Department of Human Services on Haven for Hope Campus Development, current programming, and related Homeless initiatives. [Xavier Urrutia, Interim Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

City Manager Sheryl Sculley noted that the Department of Human Services and Haven for Hope Staff would provide a briefing on the key milestones related to Homeless Initiatives.

She cited the funds included in the 2015 Adopted Budget for Haven for Hope and the Partner Organizations. She mentioned the Task Force appointed by Mayor Phil Hardberger in 2005 and the changes that have occurred with homelessness since then. She discussed the Plan approved for the Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness and the creation of a Comprehensive Service Campus. She reported that they had visited other cities with similar campuses to explore the possibilities of Public-Private Partnerships to better handle the challenges of homelessness in San Antonio.

Bill Greehey expressed his appreciation to the City and its other Partners for the financial and staff support provided to Haven for Hope. He provided an overview of Haven for Hope and stated that although they were feeding and sheltering homeless individuals; they were not addressing the root cause of why they were homeless. He spoke of their visits to other cities and noted that they had spent a year with City Staff to develop a plan for the campus. He presented statistics on the assistance that has been provided and stated that the services they provide such as Job Training, Counseling and Life Skills are offered outside of the Campus and available to the neighboring community. He reported savings of \$50 Million in documented cost avoidance in Haven for Hope's first five years of operation and that over 1.5 million individuals have been assisted. He introduced Valerie Salas, Former Haven for Hope Resident.

Ms. Valerie Salas expressed her appreciation for the support that has been provided by Haven for Hope and spoke of her life experiences. She discussed the problems she had as a young mother and how she ended up at Haven for Hope. She commented that Haven for Hope had provided her with resources to be successful and was now employed by a prestigious Law Firm who fully supports Haven for Hope. She spoke of her current involvement with Haven for Hope and the assistance she now provides other women who are on the path to recovery.

Mr. Greehey spoke of the numerous graduates from Haven for Hope who come back to mentor Residents at the Campus. He elaborated on the Budget and referenced the variety of funding sources which include an Annual Golf Tournament that raises funds for Haven for Hope.

Mrs. Melody Woosley provided an overview of Homelessness in San Antonio. She referenced the Point-in-Time Count conducted by the South Alamo Regional Alliance (SARA) for the Homeless which is a one-night snapshot of the Homeless Population in San Antonio. She cited the decrease in the number of individuals sleeping on the streets, parks, and under the bridges of the Downtown area. She noted that the total Point-in-Time Count for 2015 was 2,871, and of these; 1,158 were in sheltered facilities. She reported that 10% of the Homeless are Veterans and another 10% are families with children. She noted the

city's annual investments that include a 60-year Ground Lease and Operating Agreement. Since 2007, she reported that the City has invested approximately \$58 Million in Haven for Hope.

Interim Police Chief Anthony Treviño commented on the great partnership they have with Haven for Hope. He stated that Homelessness is a problem that should not be arrested away; rather, they should provide options such as Haven for Hope. He emphasized the importance of SAPD participating in the Point-in-Time Count since Homelessness is a community problem. He spoke of their work around the Haven for Hope Community that includes utilizing plain-clothed Officers at different points in time.

Mark Carmona, President/CEO of Haven for Hope, reported that one of their strengths is that they are a learning organization that utilizes qualitative and quantitative data. He added that it helps to determine whether they are addressing the root cause of Homelessness. He expanded on Program Innovations that include the In-House Wellness Program; Trauma-Informed Care; Jail Outreach Program; Use of Peer Specialists; and Courtyard Sick Bay and Day Sleeping Area. He discussed the Ambassador Program that is comprised of Haven Residents who volunteer on community projects. He noted that helped to establish a UT-Health Science Center 4th Year Residency Program at S.A. Christian Dental Clinic. He spoke of the THRIVE Program which includes dedicated dorm space for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ). The THRIVE Program provides job training, counseling and educational services. He reported that once Phase I is complete they will have the ability to hire 100 members from Haven for Hope to work in their Call Center. He discussed the plans to create space for married couples without children. He reported that they successfully advocated for improved Mental Health Funding (HB 1) in the last Legislative Session, and highlighted said allocations. He recognized the 36 Campus Partners at Haven for Hope, and emphasized that it takes the collaborative efforts of all Partners to make a difference. Lastly, he outlined their new initiatives: Courtyard Integrated Care Clinic that opens July 2015; exploring a Subway Franchise as a Social Enterprise; and collaborating with the UT Health Science Center and S.A. Christian Dental Clinic for an On-Site Pediatric Dental Clinic.

Mayor Taylor thanked everyone for the presentation and asked of the average time a person spends at the Campus before they are able to move off site. Mr. Carmona replied that the stay averages between 6 to 9 months. He stated that it was a shorter period of time for singles and a longer period of time for families.

Councilmember Krier asked if they continue to receive requests to see the Haven for Hope Model. Mr. Carmona reported that to date; they have had 199 cities, 43 states, and 3 countries visit the Campus Model. He commented that two Sessions ago, the Legislature

looked at Haven for Hope as a National Model and appropriated \$25 Million toward the Healthy Community Collaborative. Councilmember Krier highlighted Mr. Greehey's vital role with this effort and thanked former Councilmember Patti Radle for her work. He stated that the creation of Haven for Hope was an investment for the City and its future.

Councilmember Saldaña stated that it was great to see other cities look at the work that is being done in San Antonio. He commended Haven for Hope for continuously learning and improving the services that they are providing on a daily basis. He stated that the THRIVE Center speaks to the adaptability and constant learning that happens at Haven for Hope. He inquired of the Prospects Courtyard and spoke of the feedback he has received with regard to individuals not wanting to enter into the Courtyard. Mr. Carmona replied that it was work in progress and what they learned had resulted in programs to address Mental Health Issues.

Councilmember Treviño thanked Mr. Greehey for his support of Haven for Hope and Chief Treviño for allowing him to participate in a ride-along during the T-Shift from 5:30 pm to 3:00 am. He asked Chief Treviño to speak about sensitivity training provided to Police Officers to deal with the homeless and how it has impacted the area around Haven for Hope. Chief Treviño replied that they were constantly working on this and taught a concept called "Justice Based Policing" at In-Service Training. He stated that the foundation of the message was to treat people with dignity no matter where they are at in their life. Councilmember Treviño noted that it was impacting the success of this program and thanked Mr. Carmona for taking in the THRIVE Center. He reported that he stayed at Prospect Courtyard one month ago to get a better understanding of the Courtyard and Homelessness. He commented that the perception was that the Courtyard was potentially dangerous, but in actuality, it was a peaceful night. He suggested that the Council visit the Campus more regularly and inquired whether there could be something in place to avoid some of the problems Residents had before becoming a medical issue. Mr. Carmona replied that in addition to the Medical Clinic in the Courtyard, they have EMT's addressing many of the issues that they could treat. He mentioned that the Restoration Center across the street from Haven for Hope provides minor medical care 24 hours per day 7 days a week.

Councilmember Warrick inquired of the progress concerning Veteran Housing Options. Mrs. Woosley replied that there were projects in the Community looking to add affordable housing for Veterans. She referenced a Panel Luncheon in Councilmember Nirenberg's Office on June 2nd in which the Business Community and other Providers were encouraged to join the effort with regard to Veteran Housing. Councilmember Warrick inquired whether there was significant research being conducted on the Homeless Population. Mr. Carmona replied that their research was geared toward the Campus and they have not looked at cost analysis as it relates to the costs per Homeless Person. Councilmember Warrick asked of the rules to enter the Prospects Courtyard. Mr. Carmona explained that the

individual has to experience homelessness and no drugs, alcohol, or weapons can be brought into the Courtyard. He stated that they encourage individuals with acute mental illness to seek treatment as oftentimes they are off their medication and wandering the streets. He spoke of the Homeless Management Information System that allows them to track individuals if they leave the Courtyard and seek assistance elsewhere. He also spoke of Job Training Efforts that include a partnership with the Alamo Community Colleges. He spoke to how the funds were restricted for the various needs of the Center and the off-site referral partners who assist them regularly.

Councilmember Lopez conveyed a message from Councilmember Gonzales who expressed her appreciation to Mr. Greehey for the work he has accomplished for the Haven for Hope Campus. Councilmember Lopez inquired how they handled the educational component of families with children who are at Haven for Hope. Mr. Carmona replied that they have excellent relationships with the School Districts. He spoke of the tutors and volunteers on Campus and highlighted the Educational Lab that is outfitted with computer systems. He reported that they are working with AT&T on a project that is geared toward increasing academic performance and also assisting Adults to complete their G.E.D.

Councilmember Nirenberg commented that it was monumental when the Community decided that it was a better return on investment to spend money on transformational care and education than to build a new jail. He stated that the next step with regard to Delegate Agencies and the limited resources they have is to focus on the other elements of homelessness that need to be addressed. He stated that they have discussed Human Services Issues associated with Homelessness and inquired of the high points that need to be comprehensively addressed as they enter the Budget Season with limited Human Services Funds. Mr. Carmona replied that it would be Affordable Housing and Housing Vouchers as there is not a deep inventory of Affordable Housing available for individuals to get started as they transition out of homelessness. Councilmember Nirenberg noted the importance of comprehensively looking at the system of funding they have to better achieve outcomes for Haven for Hope and Homelessness in general. He mentioned that the Point-in-Time Counts were still a bit obscure because they are volatile and that there was still work to be done with the system. He commended Ron Brown, Prospect Coordinator at Haven for Hope, for his work.

Councilmember Medina stated that he had toured the Haven for Hope Campus when he was first elected in 2011 and described his experiences during the visit. He stated that the Campus was a testament to the leadership and vision of Mr. Greehey. In response to Councilmember Medina, Mr. Carmona confirmed that the children at the Campus have access to Pre-K for S.A. Councilmember Medina cited the model in Phoenix, Arizona that relates to Veterans Homelessness and stated it would be incumbent upon the City to

continue to work with Leaders at the Federal Level to end Veterans Homelessness. Mr. Carmona acknowledged that any assistance at the Federal Level to provide services to Veterans would be welcomed on Campus.

Councilmember Gallagher stated that he was pleased that the B Session was being held at Haven for Hope. He expressed his concerns with Homeless Veterans and the importance of the Veterans Administration to step up and assist. He stated that he would do his part to get the attention on this issue at the Federal Level.

Mayor Taylor thanked everyone for the presentations and announced that the City Council would be taking a tour of the Haven for Hope Campus.

### **RECESSED**

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 4:02 pm and announced that the City Council would reconvene in the B Room in the Municipal Plaza Building.

### **RECONVENED**

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting in the B Room of the Municipal Plaza Building at 4:48 pm.

### **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

It was announced that Mayor Taylor was celebrating her Birthday today. The City Councilmembers sang Happy Birthday to Mayor Taylor.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 4:50 pm to discuss the following:

- 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).
- D. Discuss legal issues relating to broadcasting City events and meetings pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Deliberate competitive matters regarding CPS Energy and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.086 (competitive matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Discuss legal issues relating to the Blanco Road Phase II Project pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

### **RECONVENED**

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 6:00 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The City Clerk read the caption for Item 2:

- 2. A Public Hearing for the FY 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and FY 2016 Action Plan funded through the City's four U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant programs including the Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Grant. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; John Dugan, Director, Planning and Community Development]

Mrs. Vacek announced that Councilmembers Saldaña and Lopez were not present as they were attending Budget Hearings in their respective Council Districts.

Mayor Taylor opened the Public Hearing for the FY 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and FY 2016 Action Plan.

John Dugan presented a Power Point outlining the Consolidated Plan Process. He spoke of the great amount of citizen participation that had occurred and noted the participating stakeholders. He highlighted the recommended Priorities, Goals and Allocations, noting that there was a total of \$52.4 Million forecasted for programs over the 5-Year Consolidated Period. He outlined the Proposed FY 2016-2017 Target Areas and noted that the next Public Hearing would be held on August 5, 2015.

Mayor Taylor called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Graciela Sanchez noted that civic engagement has been ongoing and stated the importance of affordable housing in rehabilitating blighted neighborhoods. She expressed concern for the lack of funding available to the working class and poor and petitioned the City Council to consider low income communities in allocating funding for community development.

There being no other citizens wishing to speak, Mayor Taylor closed the Public Hearing.

#### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Taylor called upon the citizens registered to speak under Citizens to be Heard.

Guy McClung spoke against abortions in the City of San Antonio and petitioned the City Council to halt abortion operations in the City Limits.

Mark Perez expressed concern for public safety and for businesses operating in the City Limits without the proper permits.

Julie Oldham expressed concern for political contributions from private businesses to City Council Candidates.

Teresa Berlanga spoke of the shared History of the Greek and Russian Orthodox Churches.

Mayor Taylor excused herself from the meeting at this time and Mayor Pro Tem Warrick presided.

Philip Trickett expressed concern with special interest groups and zoning regulations not being properly enforced.

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



Rachel Cywinski spoke of the diversity of San Antonio plant life and petitioned the City Council to restrict exotic and invasive plant species.

Betty Eckert spoke against the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road and petitioned the City Council to change zoning regulations in the neighborhood.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez noted that body cameras provide increased safety and accountability for Uniform Officers and citizens.

Patrick Von Dohlen showed a video recording from the May 29, 2015 Meeting of the Building Standards Board and petitioned the City Council to address the improper zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Raymond Zavala spoke against homelessness in the City of San Antonio and petitioned the City Council to regulate overnight camping and loitering in residential areas.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony highlighting the Ambassador Program Internships. He referenced the School Zone Inventory being completed by the City of San Antonio. He wrote that CPS Energy expanded their reach into outlying cities. He highlighted the District 5 and District 9 Community Newsletters. He wrote of the Frost Bank Tower Proposal being considered by the City of San Antonio.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Warrick adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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