

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015  
1:00 PM  
PLAZA ROOM C, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Councilmember Joe Krier, Chair, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
<b>Members Absent:</b>	None
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Jeff Coyle, <i>Director of IGR</i> ; Mike Frisbie, <i>Director of TCI</i> ; Rupert Murdock, <i>Director of Military Affairs</i> ; Rogelio Peña, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Sally Basurto, <i>Assistant Director of IGR</i> ; Art Reinhardt, <i>Assistant Director of TCI</i> ; T.J. Mayes, <i>Chief of Staff, District 8</i> ; Eduardo Carrasco, <i>Senior IGR Specialist</i> ; Justin Renteria, <i>District 9</i> ; Christine Wright, <i>IGR</i> ; Megan Dodge, <i>IGR</i> ; Connie Laredo-Zepeda, <i>IGR</i> ; Alexander J. Pytel, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
<b>Others Present:</b>	Tom Downs, <i>Venable (via teleconference)</i> ; Baltazar Serna, <i>Serna &amp; Serna</i>

**Item 1. Approval of the Minutes from the May 6, May 13, May 20, and May 26, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings and the September 8, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Subcommittee Meeting**

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve the Minutes from the May 6, May 13, May 20, and May 26, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings and the September 8, 2015 Intergovernmental Relations Council Subcommittee Meeting. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 2. Next Steps Regarding Storm Water Fee for Military Bases**

Mr. Jeff Coyle reported that the adopted Fiscal Year 2016 Budget included a new rate structure for Storm Water Fees. He explained that State Law permitted Mandatory and Permissive Exceptions but that military installations were not currently included in the State Law. He referenced talks with Joint Base San Antonio and mentioned that the Storm Water Rate for the Base had been frozen at its current level while efforts to add a permissive exemption to military bases were underway.

Mr. Coyle stated that the objective was to protect the military as an economic driver and show support and appreciation to the Armed Forces for remaining in the City of San Antonio. He added that a letter had been drafted on behalf of the IGR Subcommittee that communicated commitment to change the State Law during the next Legislative Session.

Chairman Krier referenced talks with General LaBrutta who raised concerns over the increasing fee and the subsequent financial impact to the availability of services for enlisted personnel. Mr. Mike Frisbie stated that Federal Law requires military installations to pay local fees unless not

appropriated to do so. Mr. Coyle reported that the development of the City's Agenda for the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session would not occur until late 2016. He mentioned that previous discussions had examined the possibility of drafting a letter expressing the City's Interest in the issue.

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to authorize sending a letter to the Speaker of the House supporting the City's Position on Storm Water Fees for Military Bases. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 3. Federal Legislative Update**

#### **a) Federal Courthouse**

Mr. Coyle reported that Congressman Cuellar of the House Appropriations Committee had filed a Bill drafted by the City's Venable Team which called for an emergency appropriation for the upcoming Fiscal Year. He stated that the Bill was based on revelations in recent months about health conditions in the Courthouse, including a water study that found lead and bacteria in the water fountains. He referenced additional concerns relating to the security of the Courthouse based on its proximity to the International Border and mentioned that community support had expressly risen in recent months. He mentioned that the Federal Courthouse would be a primary focus of the upcoming IGR Subcommittee D.C. Advocacy Trip.

#### **b) FAA Reauthorization**

Mr. Coyle explained that the FAA Authorization expired on September 30, 2015 with a Congressional Extension of 6 months, allowing until March 2016 for Reauthorization. He described efforts to include specific language in the Reauthorization Bill that would establish a direct flight route between Washington, D.C. and San Antonio. He referenced past efforts to add D.C. Routes to the Perimeter Rule which were unsuccessful. He stated that the strategy had shifted to extending the Perimeter Rule which would encompass San Antonio and allow the possibility of a direct flight based on Economic, Business, and Tourism Opportunities as well as Military Travel.

#### **c) IGR Subcommittee Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip Agenda**

Mr. Coyle provided an overview of the upcoming IGR Subcommittee Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip Agenda. He highlighted meetings with U.S. Senators and Representatives and mentioned several agency visits including discussions with the Department of the Interior regarding the recent UNESCO World Heritage Designation for the Spanish Missions. He noted discussions with some Congressional Offices that could be affected by the extension of the D.C. Flight Perimeter.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked what impact the Speaker of the House Succession would have on the Advocacy Trip. Mr. Tom Downs responded that the impact would be minimal.

Councilmember Viagran asked if there was bipartisan support for Congressman Cuellar's Bill. Mr. Coyle affirmed that there was bipartisan support for the Bill. He noted that it was filed in the House of Representatives as a stand-alone bill with the intention of generating support and subsequent filing as an Appropriations Bill.

Councilmember Viagran asked for more information regarding the Federal Courthouse and the FAA Reauthorization Issues. Mr. Coyle explained that the issues of the Federal Courthouse and FAA Reauthorization were governed by separate and distinct committees.

No action was required for Item 3.

**Item 4. Timeline for State Consultant Services Request for Proposals**

Mr. Coyle stated that the City was seeking services for a full time representative in Austin for the duration of a year-round State Lobbying Contract with an expected start date of January 1, 2016. He noted that the proposed term would continue through the next Legislative Session and contain the option of a two-year extension. He reported that the Request for Proposals was issued on September 27, 2015 with a due date of October 27, 2015. He explained that interviews would take place in mid November and described the composition of the Interview Panel.

No action was required for Item 4.

**Item 5. Resolutions for Representative Farias and Representative McClendon**

Mr. Coyle reported that Resolutions of Support for the retirement of State Representatives Farias and McClendon had been drafted at the recommendation of Chairman Krier. He stated that Representative Farias had retired in August 2015 with 10 years and that Representative McClendon was completing her current term for a total of almost 20 years. He added that Representatives Farias and McClendon would be invited to a City Council Meeting at a future time for presentation of the Resolutions if approved.

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to present the Resolutions of Support to Representatives Farias and McClendon. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Joe Krier, Chairman*

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*Alexander J. Pytel,  
Office of the City Clerk*