

State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio



# Meeting Minutes

## City Council A Session

City Hall Complex  
105 Main Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

**Thursday, April 23, 2020**      **9:00 AM**      **Municipal Plaza Building**

9:00 AM

## Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council convened in a Regular Meeting. Acting City Clerk Tina J. Flores took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

## COVID-19

Mayor Nirenberg led the meeting in a moment of silence for those who were struggling around the world through this pandemic, including the many very talented and essential public health workers, nurses, doctors, front line workers, emergency personnel and family members keeping vigil over their loved ones who are fighting this disease and for all who have lost their lives to it.

1. The Invocation was delivered by Pastor Mike Kraft, of Mission Community Church, guest of Mayor Nirenberg.
2. Mayor Nirenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
3. Approval of Minutes from the City Council Emergency Meeting of March 11, 2020.

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the March 11, 2020 Minutes. Councilmember Cabello Havrda seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Nirenberg announced that no items were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Sandoval moved to pull Item 12 off the Consent Agenda and consider individually. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the remaining Consent Agenda Items. Councilmember Treviño seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the individuals registered to speak.

Linda Bryant spoke in opposition to Item 12. She stated that she worked at the Ella Austin Community Center. She reported that the Center had 8 classrooms and that two rooms were going to be eliminated because the Center was out of ratio for 2 days. She noted that additional staff was hired and asked that the Center receive its FY 2021 funding in its entirety.

Dr. Linda Cherry spoke in support of the Ella Austin Community Center Early Head Start Program. She noted that new teachers had been hired and requested that the City Council reconsider the decision to close two classrooms at the Ella Austin Community Center.

Beverly Watts Davis stated that she was proud of the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She noted that she would like to see the Early Head Start Program expand at the Ella Austin Community Center. She requested that the City Council reconsider its decision to close two classrooms at the Ella Austin Community Center.

### **2020-04-23-0278**

7. Ordinance approving annual contracts with Ancira Motor Company, Grande Truck Center, and Gunn Chevrolet LTD., for light duty pick-up trucks for an estimated total cost of \$4,283,553.00 over a two-year period. Truck replacements will be funded through the Equipment Renewal and Replacement Fund in the amount of \$783,369.14 which is appropriated in the FY 2020 Adopted Budget. Additional light duty truck purchases are subject to the appropriation of funds. [Ben Gorzell, Chief Financial Officer; Troy Elliott, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Finance]

### **2020-04-23-0279**

8. Ordinance awarding a construction contract including an additive alternate to March 3, LLC in the amount of \$1,240,241.04 for the McAllister Park project, a 2017 Bond funded project. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Director,

Public Works]

9. Approving the following three items related to improvements at Maverick Park, a Downtown Parks 2017 Bond funded project: [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager, Razi Hosseini, Director, Public Works]

**2020-04-23-0280**

9A. Ordinance approving the acceptance and appropriation of a donation from the San Antonio Parks Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for the construction of park improvements at Maverick Park.

**2020-04-23-0281**

9B. Ordinance approving a First Amendment to the Development Agreement between the San Antonio Parks Foundation and the Midtown Board of Directors of Reinvestment Zone #31, granting an additional \$110,000.00, for a total up to \$160,000.00 in reimbursable funds from the Midtown Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) #31 fund; and, approving the appropriation and amending of the FY 2020 - 2025 Capital Improvements Program Budget with these funds for the construction of park improvements at Maverick Park.

**2020-04-23-0282**

9C. Ordinance approving a task order to a Job Order Contract with Amstar, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$639,844.00 for the construction of park improvements for Maverick Park, a Downtown parks 2017 Bond funded project.

**2020-04-23-0283**

10. Ordinance approving a Lease Agreement with Avance - San Antonio for the continued use of approximately 6,719 square feet of office space located at 1226 N.W. 18th St., the Frank Garrett Multi-Service Center, for a five-year term. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; John Jacks, Director, Center City Development and Operations]

**2020-04-23-0284**

11. Ordinance approving the acceptance of funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Grants Services in an amount not to exceed \$2,410,604.00 for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program beginning July 1, 2020 and ending July 30, 2021 and approving an existing personnel complement. [Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD, Assistant City Manager; Dawn Emerick, Ed.D, Director of Health]

**2020-04-23-0285**

13. Ordinance approving Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation to participate in the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program, under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), to accept a forgivable loan up to \$187,500.00. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; John Jacks, Director, Center City Development and Operations]

**2020-04-23-0286**

14. Ordinance approving the issuance by the Las Varas Public Facility Corporation of its Multifamily Housing Governmental Note (Tampico Apartments) Series 2020 (the "Bonds") for purposes of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code. An administrative fee of \$2,500.00, payable by the Las Varas Public Facility Corporation, will be deposited

into the General Fund in accordance with the FY 2020 Adopted Budget. [Ben Gorzell, Chief Financial Officer; Troy Elliott, Deputy Chief Financial Officer].

**2020-04-23-0287**

15. Ordinance approving the issuance by the Las Varas Public Facility Corporation of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (1604 Lofts Apartments) Series 2020 (the “Bonds”) for purposes of Section 147 (f) of the Internal Revenue Code. An administrative fee of \$2,500.00, payable by the Las Varas Public Facility Corporation, will be deposited into the General Fund in accordance with the FY 2020 Adopted Budget [Ben Gorzell, Chief Financial Officer; Troy Elliott, Deputy Chief Financial Officer].

**2020-04-23-0288**

16. Ordinance approving an extension for one year of the current Interlocal Agreement with CPS Energy for emergency response services at Calaveras Lake and the Calaveras Power Station. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Charles N. Hood, Fire Chief]

**2020-04-23-0289**

17. Ordinance extending line-of-duty injury leave for San Antonio Fire Department Fire Engineer Richard Ortiz. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Charles N. Hood, Fire Chief]

**CONSENT ITEMS CONCLUDED**

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

Acting City Clerk Flores read the caption for Item 12.

**Continued**

12. Ordinance approving the submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grant and acceptance upon award of up to \$2,847,532.00, a budget including an in-kind grant match of \$711,883.00, and revised personnel complements for the Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership programs. [Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Melody Woosley, Director of the Department of Human Service, stated that approval of the item would renew the Head Start Partnership Grant for the next five years. She noted that as part of the grant, the City contracted with six non-profit Child Care Centers including Ella Austin. She reported that 62 children were currently enrolled in the program at Ella Austin and staff were recommending that the number of children be reduced by 16. She stated that the reduction would not impact Ella Austin’s ability to enroll children in their program as they would continue to be a licensed Child Care Center.

Ms. Woosley noted that staff worked with Ella Austin over the last five years by providing technical assistance and guidance on regulations which they were out of compliance with. She stated that Ella Austin failed to maintain the teacher/child staffing ratio and the turnover of teachers was high. She recognized that the Ella Austin Community Center was valuable to the community.

Ms. Woosley stated that staff recommended that eight of the slots be moved to the Healey

Murphy Child Care Center and eight of the slots be moved to Blessed Sacrament. She noted that Ella Austin's 2018 Audit indicated that there was a concern for continuing operations as an agency. She added that their 2019 Audit had not been provided and was several months late.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked what had been done recently to see if Ella Austin was in compliance. She stated that Ella Austin now had enough teachers to comply with the teacher/child ratio.

Ms. Woosley replied that Ella Austin was out of compliance in February and early March of 2020 in five out of eight classrooms. She noted that the City had to submit the grant renewal application and recent monitoring continued to demonstrate that the program was out of compliance. She stated that staff would continue to work with Ella Austin and if they become compliant, staff would consider providing additional slots.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if the timeline could be delayed. Ms. Woosley replied that the application was due on May 1, 2020 and the providers would be identified in the application and documentation of non-compliance could jeopardize the entire program.

Councilmember Viagran asked how the slots could be added to Ella Austin in the future. Ms. Woosley replied that the Office of Head Start would occasionally release Request for Proposals (RFPs) for additional slots and would apply for when slots in Bexar County when they became available.

Councilmember Sandoval moved to Continue Item 12 until April 30, 2020. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

Dr. Linda Cherry stated that all teachers were hired for Ella Austin to be in compliance.

Mayor Nirenberg stated that staff would provide clarity on this issue next week.

#### 4. Briefing on the City's response and preparedness on COVID 19.

Jeff Coyle, Director of the Government and Public Affairs Department, stated that a Joint Information Center (JIC) was a structure recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that was activated on March 12, 2020. He noted that all communications were routed through the JIC which was represented by the City of San Antonio, Bexar County staff, and the Hospital Systems.

Mr. Coyle recognized the City of San Antonio COVID-19 communication team members. He noted that the City's communication efforts fell under the following six-pillar strategic framework:

1. Generate a steady drumbeat of content to meet media's needs and deliver critical information to the public
2. Steer the public to central repositories of information (website and hotline)
3. Reach vulnerable populations through targeted outreach
4. Utilize data to help the public understand the scope and stage of the outbreak

5. Distribute usable content for stakeholders to share with their networks
6. Utilize full suite of communications channels to reach audiences

Mr. Coyle stated that the foundation for Item 1 were the daily briefings provided by Mayor Nirenberg and Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff. He noted that press conferences, announcements, and social media have been utilized when needed and prepackaged videos were provided to the media.

Mr. Coyle stated that the COVID-19 website generated 1.9 million clicks since its launch March 2020 and was available in Spanish. He noted that yard signs were distributed to neighborhood associations throughout the city with the website and hotline number. He stated that information on the website and hotline number was distributed via digital billboards and door hangers and to date 70,000 door hangers were distributed in vulnerable Zip Codes. He noted that SAWS and CPS Energy included inserts in bills sent to customers. He described the social media content distributed according to the needs at that time.

Mr. Coyle highlighted the Zip Codes in which Metro Health's Multi-Departmental Community Health Prevention Teams have visited door to door and noted that Telemundo and Univision aired specials on their shows. He stated that a Children's Town Hall and a School District Town Hall was held. He noted that all information was translated into Spanish and there were now 108 languages that the website could be translated into.

Mr. Coyle stated that all media (print, radio, television, digital, and social) were asked which data sets were important to them and staff focused on providing them with that data. He noted that the City distributed usable content for stakeholders to share with their networks and shareable, printable content for businesses.

Mr. Coyle reported that the entire suite of communications to include press releases, social media, the website, all CoSA emails, YouTube, CoSA texts, NextDoor.com, the Ready South Texas Application, and TVSA were utilized to reach the public. He stated that staff provided social media rapid response and questions were answered as they came in.

Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez stated that CPS Energy paid 14% of gross revenues to the City of San Antonio (CoSA). She noted that this represented approximately 30% of the City's General Fund Revenues. She stated that the City received \$6.2 million below the budgeted amount from October 2019 to March 2020 primarily due to milder weather months. She noted that revenues were expected to be down by an additional \$8.4 million from April 2020 to September 2020 due to sales usage reduction and an increase in bad debt expense due to COVID-19.

Ms. Villagómez reported that CoSA collected \$14.4 million in SAWS' revenue from September 2019 to March 2020 which was \$700,000 above Budget. She stated that from April 2020 to September 2020 a loss in revenue of \$1.3 million was expected due to reduced water usage and an increase in bad debt expense due to COVID-19.

Ms. Villagómez stated that the City's Restricted Funds included the Enterprise Fund, Grant Funds, Special Revenue Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Trust Fund. She provided the following update of the Restricted Funds which would likely be impacted by COVID-19:

| FUND | FY 2020 | Potential |
|------|---------|-----------|
|------|---------|-----------|

| (\$ in millions)                     | Budget  | Impact   |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Airport                              | \$148.5 | (\$43.2) |
| Hotel Occupancy Tax                  | \$96.1  | (\$40.1) |
| Alamodome & Convention Center        | \$33.2  | (\$14.7) |
| ATD Tax                              | \$18.5  | (\$2.9)  |
| Linear Creekways and Edwards Aquifer | \$39.6  | (\$6.7)  |
| Parking                              | \$11.3  | (\$2.8)  |
| Market Square                        | \$3.1   | (\$1.2)  |
| Development Services                 | \$37.8  | (\$1.0)  |
| Juvenile Case Manager                | \$0.84  | (\$0.41) |
| Municipal Court Technology           | \$0.71  | (\$0.18) |
| Municipal Court Security             | \$0.58  | (\$0.24) |
| Child Safety Fund                    | \$2.2   | (\$0.14) |

Ms. Villagómez stated that the impact of COVID-19 on the following Restricted Funds was unknown at this time:

- Solid Waste Fund
- Tree Fund
- Environmental Parks Fund
- Storm Water Operating Fund
- Regional Facilities Fund
- City Cemetery Fund
- Public Education & Government Fund
- Right-of-Way Fund
- Golf Course

Ms. Villagómez reported that Emergency Response Expenses through April 15, 2020 was \$12.2 million of which \$3.7 million were for personnel.

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the individuals registered to speak.

Dan Kachik listed the efforts that would be taken in his gym to halt the spread of COVID-19.

Adrian Lopez outlined the warnings that the U.S. Government received on COVID-19.

Councilmember Perry asked of the source of funds utilized for Emergency Response expenses. Ms. Villagómez replied that the majority of the funds came from the General Fund and staff was gathering information on the reimbursement of funds from the Federal Government.

Councilmember Perry asked of the amount which the City would be responsible for. Ms. Villagómez replied that would depend on what expenses the City could be reimbursed. She stated that she would provide an estimate the following week.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if the estimated \$8.4 million loss in CPS Energy revenues could be reimbursed by the Federal Government. Mr. Walsh replied that staff was reviewing that and would report back to City Council.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the number of bilingual call takers at 3-1-1. Mr. Coyle

reported that there were at least 15 bilingual call takers at 3-1-1. Councilmember Viagran asked if a Mitigation Plan was in place for the Edwards Aquifer and the Linear Creekways. Ms. Villagómez replied that a Mitigation Plan had not been developed but the City would collect the Venue Tax up to the ceiling amount although it might take longer.

Councilmember Courage asked what the City could be reimbursed for under the CARES Act. Mr. Walsh replied that staff would review expenses reimbursable from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and from the CARES Act which was staff's number one priority.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked if staff was following up on the initial contacts with vulnerable populations. Dr. Bridger replied that the initial outreach was ongoing and staff had not provided a follow-up to the initial outreach at this time.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked what was spent in preparation for the arrival of the Lackland Evacuees and if those expenses could be reimbursed. Mr. Walsh replied that the expenses were included in the \$12.2 million for the Emergency Response.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda asked if expenses for the community engagement efforts could be reimbursed. Mr. Coyle replied that expenses for public outreach efforts could be reimbursed. Mr. Walsh stated that expenses for enhanced communication from Councilmembers' individual Budgets should be tracked.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if major items were translated into Safe Harbor Languages. Mr. Coyle replied that Metro Health translated the top ranked languages and the Disability Office was working to modify key documents.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked Craig Hopkins, Director of Information Technology Services Department (ITSD) and Audio/Visual Personnel for their efforts.

#### **2020-04-23-0276**

5. Ordinance approving Substantial Amendment #3 to the FY2020 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Action Plan and Budget in response to COVID-19 to program funding awarded under the CARES Act for amounts up to \$7,707,015.00 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funds and up to \$297,456.00 of Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) funds, and to reprogram up to \$5,009,768.00 of FY2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and up to \$3,506,840.00 of FY2020 HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds; and authorizing an amendment of the HUD FY2016-2020 Consolidated Plan to include expedited public notice procedures and authorize virtual public hearings. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Verónica R. Soto, Director, Neighborhood and Housing Services]

Assistant City Manager Lori Houston stated that Amendment Number 3 to the FY 2020 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Action Plan and Budget would reprogram \$7.7 million in funding from the CARES Act; \$5 million in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$300,000 in Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funding; and \$3.5 million in Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) to fund the COVID-19 response.

Ms. Houston stated that the need for housing assistance in the community increased from 57 inquiries per week to over 5,300 inquiries per week. She noted that staff in the Fair Housing

Office increased from 8 to 41 and an online application was launched. She stated that the application process was streamlined and questions were addressed regarding the safety of the applicant/family to include food insecurity and domestic violence. She noted that the application included information on the Unemployment filing process and the Federal Stimulus Package funds.

Ms. Houston stated that the Risk Mitigation Fund Policy was adopted October 2018 and provided relocation assistance, emergency housing assistance, and legal support. She noted that the balance of the fund was \$350,000. She described the criteria for obtaining assistance from the fund. She stated that the COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program was created with the same eligibility criteria but expanded eligibility to include direct cash assistance for groceries, medicine, and fuel, noting that the program would sunset on July 31, 2020.

Ms. Houston provided details and additional criteria for rental, mortgage, and utility assistance. She presented the following COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Budget:

| <b>COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance</b>   |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Funding Source</b>  | <b>Amount</b>       |
| Affordable Housing Budget  | \$3,524,313         |
| Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Reprogramming   | \$2,252,506         |
| San Antonio Housing Trust Foundation, Inc. (SAHTF) and San Antonio Housing Trust Public Facility Corporation (SAHTPFC) | \$2,000,000         |
| CARES Act  | \$7,707,015         |
| Risk Mitigation Fund balance   | \$350,000           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$15,833,834</b> |

Ms. Houston reported that approximately 7,800-13,000 individuals had received assistance. She stated that the City partnered with the San Antonio Housing Trust and the San Antonio Area Foundation to solicit donations from the community businesses, corporations, and philanthropic partners would be collected via email. She noted that additional non-Federal funding would be committed to individuals which were not eligible to receive Federal funding.

Ms. Houston reported that 1,400 applications were completed by individuals with 67% having an income which was less than 10% of the Area Median Income (AMI). She reviewed the City's outreach and marketing efforts and provided a comparison of other City/County programs.

Assistant City Manager Colleen Bridger stated that the Family Independence Initiative (FII) through its Up Together Initiative included a \$1 million investment and began in the Fall of 2019. She noted that the initial \$1 million investment was provided by the H. E. Butt Foundation, San Antonio Area Foundation, McGuire Family Foundation, Methodist Healthcare Ministries, and City of San Antonio, Department of Human Services. She stated that the Up Together Initiative provided direct cash assistance of \$3,200 to local participants over a 24-month period. She noted that FII provided the direct cash transfers, training, participant technology, and peer support groups to share resources.

Dr. Bridger reported that in response to COVID-19, FII provided \$3 million with the potential for additional future investment from donations in the Direct Assistance Fund. She noted that CoSA contributed \$1.9 million and FII national and local community funders contributed \$1.1

million.

Dr. Bridger indicated that the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department (NHSD) funding agreement with FII would allow for direct cash assistance through the program ranging from \$150 to \$500 through the Risk Mitigation Program, the Department of Human Services, and area non-profits.

Dr. Bridger stated that staff recommended the establishment of the COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program with an initial Budget of \$15,833,834, acceptance of up to \$2 million from the San Antonio Housing Trust (SAHT) Foundation and the Public Facilities Corporation (PFC), and other contributions or private donations. She noted that staff recommended the revision of the FY 2020 Affordable Housing Budget to reflect the reductions and reallocations necessary as the result of COVID-19, and approve a funding agreement with FII. She stated that the actions would result in total direct assistance to the community of \$17,733,834.

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the individuals registered to speak.

Father Ryan Zamora requested the Mayor and City Council to budget \$25.8 million for the Emergency Housing Assistance Program.

Linda Davila thanked the Mayor and City Council for their rapid and thorough response to the COVID-19 crisis. She requested that the Budget for the Emergency Housing Assistance Program be increased to \$25.8 million.

Acting City Clerk Flores announced that written testimony was received from Bonnie Stewart. She requested that the City provide additional funds of at least \$10 million from the CARES Act to assist those in need.

Councilmember Treviño announced that written testimony was received from Laura Molinar, Executive Director of Suenos Sin Fronteras urging the City Council to vote for the allocation of \$10 million to the Risk Mitigation Fund for the San Antonio Community.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked how day laborers or cash and tip only workers could qualify or apply for funds from the Risk Mitigation Fund.

Ms. Houston replied that staff would assist those workers in proving residence and a reduction in income and would be flexible in doing so.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if funds could be distributed through non-profit agencies. Dr. Bridger replied that staff partnered with the Family Service Association, Good Sam, AVANCE, RAICES, and Communities and Schools, to distribute cash payments to their clients. She noted that one of the three ways to access funds was through area non-profit agencies participating in FII. She added that more support received would be utilized for cash payments through non-profit agencies.

Councilmember Viagran asked of assistance provided by Bexar County. Dr. Bridger stated that the Housing Authority of Bexar County would administer \$4 million to those who did not qualify for the City program and lived in Bexar County. Councilmember Viagran requested the number of families which were referred to the Housing Authority of Bexar County. Dr. Bridger

stated that she would provide that information.

Councilmember Sandoval asked how families would be targeted for outreach for the Emergency Housing Assistance Program. Ms. Houston replied that staff would partner with Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS) Metro Alliance, and property associations. She added that landlords could distribute information to tenants. She noted that City staff would contact the Chief of Staff for each Councilmember for recommendations for targeted outreach and would provide the application and policy in English and Spanish. She added that staff would partner with non-profit housing providers. Councilmember Sandoval asked if Catholic Charities and RAICES were included. Ms. Houston replied that they were not but would be included.

Councilmember Courage asked of efforts by the City to assist businesses. City Manager Walsh stated that the Economic Development Department partnered with Lyft Fund to provide assistance and some businesses received funding from the Small Business Administration. He noted that staff would continue to review guidelines from the Federal Government to determine eligibility.

Councilmember Pelaez expressed support for the reprogramming of funds for housing assistance.

Councilmember Perry expressed concern that the need had not been identified before resources were allocated.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia paraphrased written testimony submitted by Andrea Osorio who stated that her family was excluded from receiving Federal assistance because they were not United States Citizens. She asked the City Council to approve additional funding for those ineligible for Federal assistance. Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if payroll deduction was available to those who wanted to make donations. Ms. Houston replied that it was not but would be reviewed.

Mayor Nirenberg stated that the Community Action Working Groups were formed to identify needs due to the COVID-19 crisis. He noted that \$30 million would not cover all of the needs and the most disadvantaged members of the community should not be left behind. He expressed support for the item.

Councilmember Sandoval moved to approve Item 5. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

**2020-04-23-0277**

6. Ordinance approving the creation of the COVID 19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program, accepting up to \$2,000,000.00 from the San Antonio Housing Trust Foundation and Public Facilities Corporation to be included in the proposed budget for the Program totaling \$15,833,834.00, authorizing the acceptance of any additional funds that may result from the solicitation of donations for the COVID 19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program, amending the FY2020 Affordable Housing Budget to reflect reallocations and reductions that are necessary as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, and authorizing a funding agreement with Family Independence Initiative for an initial amount of \$1,900,000.00 to help leverage additional funds for local non-profits. [Lori

Houston, Assistant City Manager; Verónica R. Soto, Director, Neighborhood and Housing Services]

City Attorney Segovia noted that Items 5 and 6 were closely related Ordinances regarding COVID-19 funding. He recommended a motion be made to approve Item 6 as amended by the proposed language. Councilmember Treviño moved to amend Item 6. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**AYE:** 10 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, and Courage

**NAY:** 1 - Perry

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **18. City Manager's Report**

City Manager Erik Walsh played a video highlighting the work of the City's Epidemiologists and the Community Health and Prevention Teams. He stated that the Epidemiologists led contact tracing efforts and the Community Health and Prevention Teams performed outreach and provided education in vulnerable areas of the City.

Councilmember Perry recognized April as the month of the Military Child, who along with their parents, support us and our freedom. He highlighted the McAllister Park Project where improvements would soon be made.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Nirenberg recessed that meeting at 1:15 pm to convene in Executive Session.

- 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.** Legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D.** Legal issues related to litigation involving the City pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E.** Discuss legal issues relating to COVID-19 preparedness pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney].
- F.** Deliberate the appointment, evaluation, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters) and related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

**G.** Discuss legal issues related to proposed rental assistance programs pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 2:44 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 2:44 pm.

**APPROVED**

**RON NIRENBERG**  
Mayor

Attest:

**TINA J. FLORES**  
Acting City Clerk