

**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, August 29, 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. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call noting the following Councilmembers present:

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

1. Staff presentation on the FY 2019 Proposed Budget focusing on, but not limited, the following City Departments: [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management and Budget]
  - A. Convention and Sports Facilities
  - B. Visit San Antonio
  - C. Arts and Culture
  - D. World Heritage

Mayor Pro Tem Viagran presided over the budget presentations in the absence of Mayor Nirenberg. Mayor Nirenberg returned and presided over the 6:00 pm Public Hearings.

**CONVENTION AND SPORTS FACILITIES**

Patricia Muzquiz Cantor stated that the department aimed to enrich San Antonio’s economy

and community through exceptional people, events, and facilities. She noted that the department provided oversight for the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, Alamodome, and Carver Community Center and managed leases for the Nelson Wolff Stadium, Grand Hyatt Hotel, and Toyota Field. She stated that revenue was increasing annually and highlighted a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Alliance of American Football. She noted that FY 2019 goals included a Comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan; marketing the facility for soft months in 2019 and 2020; partnering with Visit San Antonio on a Rate Plan Study; partnering with the San Antonio Local Organizing Committee (SALOC) and SA Sports; and revamping the Alamodome's booking and marketing strategy. She stated that the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Fund was utilized to support San Antonio's Tourism, Convention, and Arts and Culture Programs. She noted that the current HOT Rate was set at 16.75% with 7% allocated to San Antonio. She stated that the proposed FY 2019 Community and Visitor Facilities Fund totaled \$46.6 million. She noted that San Antonio was selected to host the NCAA Men's Final Four again in 2025 and the proposed Capital Budget had an associated recommended enhancement of \$2 million. She requested five additional personnel to enhance security at the Convention Center and obtain the Homeland Security Safety Act Certification. She stated that the FY 2019 Proposed Budget for the Carver Community Cultural Center totaled \$1.65 million and noted a proposed ticket fee increase and rental fee increase at the Carver.

### **VISIT SAN ANTONIO**

Cassandra Matej stated that the travel industry improved quality of life, supplied employment, and had a positive economic impact. She stated that Visit San Antonio was in the process of updating their Strategic Plan including an updated Mission Statement and Vision Statement. She outlined the Board of Directors, FY 2018 Accomplishments, and performance metrics. She noted the approval of a proposed Tourism Public Improvement District (TPID) and stated that San Antonio Hotel and Lodging Association (SAHLA) took the lead to gather necessary petition signatures to move forward. She noted that FY 2019 Board priorities include the TPID; Strategic Plan; financial stability; sales and marketing; and support of organizational principles. She spoke of organizational priorities: strategic sales and marketing; proactive partner and community engagement; collaborative destination management; and innovative and results-oriented organization. She noted that strategies would be tailored toward International, Texan, and Non-Texan Travelers and would be based on persona-driven marketing on the following identified personas: History, Arts, and Cultural Travelers; Urban Traveler Families; High Energy Educated Urbanites; and Foodies. She stated the Proposed FY 2019 Budget totaled \$26.49 million with 90% from HOT Funds.

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

Debbie Racca-Sittre stated that the department served to enrich quality of life by leading and investing in San Antonio's Arts and Culture. She noted four focus areas: 1) Arts Funding Leadership; 2) Cultural Events and Exhibits; 3) Public Art San Antonio (PASA); and 4) Film, Music, and Media. She highlighted the Poet Laureate Program, Distinction in the Arts Award, and Galleries at Plaza de Armas and Centro de Artes. She described the development of Strategic Plans for Film and Music. She highlighted the accomplishments of PASA and Arts Agency Funding in FY 2018. She stated that the proposed FY 2019 Budget totaled \$11.4 million with increases for Arts Funding. She noted public outreach efforts to develop a Public Art Plan for the 2017 Bond Program and described new priorities for Arts Agency Funding. She stated that the department would implement a new reporting system to ensure accountability from funding recipients and track performance and Return on Investment (ROIs). She reviewed the components of the Cul-TÚ-Art Cultural Plan and stated that the next phase would focus on Cultural Districts.

**WORLD HERITAGE**

Colleen Swain stated that the San Antonio Missions were designated as a World Heritage Site and San Antonio was the second UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy in the United States. She noted that the department served to maximize the impact of the World Heritage and Creative Cities Designations and enhance experiences for visitors and residents. She stated that the department implemented and managed Work Plans and managed and programmed the Spanish Governor's Place and Mission Marquee Plaza. She noted that key focus areas for FY 2019 would include the World Heritage Work Plan; programming at managed sites; and developing as a Creative City of Gastronomy. She highlighted FY 2018 partnerships and accomplishments including Large Area Rezoning, the Legacy Business Program, World Heritage Festival, and the hosting of the King and Queen of Spain. She stated that the proposed FY 2019 Proposed Budget totaled \$1.3 million and highlighted the addition of a staff position and proposed Capital Improvements associated with the World Heritage Work Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Viagran asked of the anticipated level of improvements needed for the Alamodome prior to the 2025 Final Four. City Manager Sculley replied that they totaled \$25 million. Mayor Pro Tem Viagran asked of comparisons to other cities in terms of Exhibit Hall occupancy. Ms. Cantor replied that San Antonio's occupancy rate was above average. Mayor Pro Tem Viagran asked of the diversification of targeted experiences for visitors. Ms. Matej replied that Visit San Antonio visited sites throughout San Antonio to seek out unique experiences and communicate them to visitors.

Councilmember Perry asked of the anticipated implementation of the TPID. Ms. Matej replied that their goal was to return to City Council to begin collections in Spring 2019.

Councilmember Perry asked of plans for Wolff Stadium and the San Antonio Missions. Carlos Contreras replied that the San Antonio Missions were looking for a new stadium as they transition to AAA but improvements would be performed at Wolff Stadium in the interim. Councilmember Perry expressed support for proposed performance tracking for Arts Agencies.

Councilmember Sandoval asked of plans for Cultural Districts. Ms. Racca-Sittre replied that staff would coordinate with other departments to establish the City's role in establishing and managing Cultural Districts.

Councilmember Gonzales expressed concern that Visit San Antonio was not providing updated information on their website and asked of communications tailored to Mexican Travelers. Andres Muñoz replied that the website automatically translated to Spanish and highlighted content changed when accessed from Mexican IP Addresses. Councilmember Gonzales asked of membership and recruitment. Ms. Matej replied that there were 500 members and there was a staff member dedicated to recruiting community partners. Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for communicating authentic experiences for both residents and visitors and asked for increased support for the Westside Arts Coalition.

Councilmember Courage asked of the allocation of a Restricted Fund Mandate for Visit San Antonio. María Villagómez replied that it was for Hosting Obligations and the funds were managed by Convention and Sports Facilities to attract events.

Councilmember Brockhouse asked that the City Council be involved in conversations regarding Wolff Stadium and requested that staff investigate how to market the area around Lackland Air Force base as a tourist destination. He requested additional support for the Westside Arts Coalition.

Councilmember Treviño asked to review the Visit San Antonio Website with staff to update imagery and showcase diversity. He expressed support for the development of the San Antonio T Public Art Garden and the Cul-TÚ-Art Plan.

Councilmember Shaw expressed support for communicating diversity as a significant part of San Antonio's story and culture.

Councilmember Sandoval expressed support for the Westside Arts Coalition and requested updates as changes were made to the Visit San Antonio Website.

### **RECESSED**

The Executive Session was not held. Mayor Pro Tem Viagran recessed the meeting at 4:53 pm and announced that the meeting would resume at 6:00 pm for the Public Hearings.

- 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).

**RECONVENED**

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 6:02 pm and addressed Item 2.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 2:

- 2. Public Hearings on the City's 2018 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the FY 2019 Proposed Budget. [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

María Villagómez provided a brief overview of the proposed FY 2019 Budget.

Mayor Nirenberg opened the first Combined FY 2019 Budget & 2018 Tax Rate Public Hearing and called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Mark Perez expressed concern with wasteful spending on public safety and lost fees due to permitting exemptions.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez expressed support for tax exemptions for seniors and expressed concern with rising utility rates. He asked that City Council ensure nonprofits were meeting their goals when provided funding.

Jerry Saavedra expressed support for funding sidewalks and bike lanes noting the health benefits of walkable neighborhoods.

Antonio Diaz expressed concern with rising costs of living and property tax burdens.

Diana Uriegas expressed support for increasing funding to improve education and infrastructure.

Mayor Nirenberg announced that the second Combined Budget & Tax Rate Public Hearing would be held on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 beginning at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, 105 Main Plaza. He stated that the City Council would vote on the City of San Antonio Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2018 at its meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2018, which will begin at 9:00 am and will be held in the City Council Chamber, 105 Main Plaza. Having heard all comments from those citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the first Combined FY 2019 Budget & 2018 Tax Rate Public Hearing closed.

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 3:

3. Public Hearings for Delegate Agencies funded through the FY 2019 and FY 2020 Consolidated Funding Process for Human and Workforce Development Services. [María Villagómez, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the first Delegate Agencies Public Hearing for those Agencies whose names begin with A through J.

Melody Woosley provided a brief overview of proposed Delegate Agency Funding for FY 2019.

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the Agencies registered to speak.

Ramon Vasquez, Executive Director of American Indians in Texas, expressed concern that they were not recommended for funding.

Crystal Calvillo, Case Management Director of Any Baby Can, and Ednita Galvan, Grants Administrator, expressed concern that the Prescription Assistance Program was not recommended for funding.

Dr. Berenice de la Cruz, Chief Operating Officer of Autism Community Network, spoke of the increasing prevalence of autism and described education and training opportunities for parents and caregivers.

Susan Steves Thompson, Executive Director of AVANCE, spoke of providing high quality early childhood education and programming for families.

Michelle Mayfield Durham, Executive Director of Beat AIDS, thanked City Council for their support and highlighted Glenda Small, a recipient of Beat AIDS services.

Lisa Cunningham, Executive Director of the Bexar County Family Justice Center, spoke of the Victim's Empowerment Counseling Center providing mental health services for victims of domestic violence.

Denise Barkhurst, President and Chief Executive Officer of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas, thanked the City Council for their consideration of funding for Community Based Mentoring and Training. She expressed concern that their Workplace Mentoring Program was not recommended for continued funding.

Angie Mock, Chief Operating Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Antonio, described the positive impact of their educational efforts on children in all zip codes of San Antonio.

J. Antonio Fernandez, President and Chief Operating Officer of Catholic Charities, spoke of challenges in offering services due to reductions in funding and the increasing need to feed the homeless. Lizzy Nemeth, Director of the Guadalupe Community Center, expressed concern that funding was no longer recommended for the Center.

Kim Abernethy, Chief Executive Officer of ChildSafe, noted the impact of their Prevention and Awareness Program to address trauma in children. Kayla Bailey, Director of Community Awareness, described the need for trauma-sensitive school policies and services.

Nino Tarantino, Chief Executive Officer of Chrysalis Ministries, spoke of improving outcomes for formerly incarcerated clients through community partnerships and employment assistance.

Jessica Weaver, Chief Executive Officer of Communities in Schools, described programs to empower children to stay in school and achieve in life.

Robbye Floyd, Executive Director of Dress for Success San Antonio, expressed concern with the funding decrease for FY 2019.

Anthony Hargrove, Chief Executive Officer of Ella Austin Community Center, expressed concern with the level of recommended funding for the Youth Development Program and spoke of the increasing need for services in the area.

Bert Pfiester, Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Children's Bereavement Center, spoke of the challenges for youth who experience the death of a loved one. He stated he was pleased to bring their services to the City of San Antonio.

Erica Martinez, Fairweather Family Lodge Coordinator for Family Endeavors, spoke of providing wraparound services for the homeless and for single mothers.

Ankur Chopra, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Family Violence Prevention Services, spoke of the links of family violence to other public health issues.

Caroline Medina, Kayla Isbell, and Catarina Parafina, Girl Scout Board Members, spoke on behalf of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas promoting their community service and leadership development.

Lea Rosenauer, President and Chief Executive Officer of Girls Inc. of San Antonio, highlighted the development of STEM-based skills to help girls become smart, strong, and bold. Anel Cavazos, a service recipient, was recognized.

Simon Salas, Chief Executive Officer of Good Samaritan, referenced their services in San Antonio for 67 years and costs had increased. Jennifer Cook, Director of Programs, expressed concern that funding was not recommended for all Early Childhood Programs.

Steven Hussain, Chief Mission Officer of Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, stated that the City's investment would be used to open the City's first Reengagement Center.

Andrea Longoria Contreras, Director of the HOPE Parenting Program of Guardian House, spoke of the need for parent education. She recognized Stephanie, a recent graduate of the HOPE Parenting Program.

Doug Watson, Executive Director of the Healy-Murphy Center, described services to encourage educational success for vulnerable youth.

Jared Boggs and Mark Singh with JOVEN highlighted the Leaders of America Program that provides teens work experience over the summer. They requested additional assistance for the Creando La Vision Program.

Mayor Nirenberg announced that the second Delegate Agency Public Hearing for those Agencies whose names begin with K through Z would be held on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, beginning at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, 105 Main Plaza. Having heard all comments from the citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the Delegate Agency Public Hearing closed.

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 4:

4. First public hearing regarding the November 6 annexation election for voters to choose between limited purpose annexation or land use controls within five miles of



the boundary of Camp Bullis and Camp Stanley Military Bases and the Lackland Air Force Base and Medina Training Annex. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Bridgett White, Director, Planning]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the first public hearing regarding the November 6th Annexation Election.

Bridgett White provided a brief overview of the options for voters in the Annexation Election.

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Dr. Richard Taverna expressed concern with the proposed annexation due to lack of clarity in regulations, restrictions, and fees.

Jane Lucio stated that land use did not apply to land that was already developed and expressed opposition to the election.

Diana Uriegas spoke in opposition to annexation.

Mayor Nirenberg announced that the second public hearing regarding the November 6th Annexation Election would be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, beginning at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, 105 Main Plaza. Having heard all comments from the citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the first public hearing regarding the November 6th Annexation Election closed.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

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

Paul Gescheidle asked that the Cenotaph remain in place and expressed concern with the public input process for the Alamo Master Plan.

Mayor Nirenberg excused himself from the meeting at this time and Mayor Pro Tem Viagran presided.

Rev. Rick McClatchy spoke on behalf of the San Antonio Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. He expressed concern with messages of exclusion during City Council Meeting Invocations. He provided recommendations for Invocations to ensure positive, inclusive messaging.

Mark Perez expressed concern with businesses operating without the necessary permits.

Keri Hillyer expressed dissatisfaction with efforts to communicate with City Staff regarding the cost of moving the Cenotaph.

Lamar Henry asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor Veterans and History.

Ethel Garrett, Lily Quintanilla, and Greg Jackson spoke on behalf of West End Hope in Action to request that Parks and Recreation Programs be reinstated at the Frank Garrett Community Center.

Krystal Ross asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Lee White asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor History.

Antonio Diaz spoke of Indigenous History at the Alamo and requested the removal of fencing at the Guadalupe Cultural Plaza.

Maria Torres, Chairwoman of the Pacuache Indian First Nation, asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor Indigenous Defenders.

Ramon Garza spoke of statewide opposition to moving the Cenotaph and asked that it remain in place to honor History.

Michael Garza stated that moving the Cenotaph would violate the law. He asked that dockless scooters be provided at the Medical Center.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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