

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014  
10:00 A.M.  
PLAZA ROOM B, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, Chair, <i>District 8</i> Councilmember Keith Toney, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Ray Lopez, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Mike Gallagher, <i>District 10</i>
<b>Members Absent:</b>	None
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Jeff Coyle, <i>Director, IGR</i> ; Troy Elliott, <i>Finance Director</i> ; Felix Padron, <i>Director, Culture &amp; Creative Development</i> ; Dr. Thomas Schlenker, <i>Director, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District</i> ; Roderick Sanchez, <i>Director, Development Services</i> ; Robert Murdock, <i>Director, Office of Military Affairs</i> ; Alejandra Lopez, <i>Assistant Director, Economic Development</i> ; Lisa Biediger, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Veronica Zertuche, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Christine Wright, <i>IGR</i> ; Sally Basurto, <i>IGR</i> ; Megan Dodge, <i>IGR</i> ; Eduardo Carrasco, <i>IGR</i> ; Lisa A. Lopez, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
<b>Others Present:</b>	Walter Serna, <i>Serna &amp; Serna</i>

**1. Approval of minutes for the November 12, 2014 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting**

Councilmember Gallagher moved to approve the Minutes for the November 12, 2014 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 2b was addressed.

**2. State Legislative Update** [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

**b) Proposed Amendments to the State Legislative Program**

Jeff Coyle outlined the three proposed amendments to the State Legislative Program that include: 1) Local Procurement Preference; 2) Funding for Cultural Districts; and 3) Healthy Futures Alliance. He elaborated on each amendment and cited the proposed language that would be added to the Legislative Program.

**Local Procurement Preference**

Mr. Coyle spoke of the Local Preference Procurement Statute and delineated the history of noted item. He acknowledged that they were seeking Legislative Action to expand the Statute. He stated that the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislature gave authority to cities with a population over 200,000 to offer Local Preference Points in solicitations that are low-bid in nature. Currently, he noted that they are limited in being able to offer a Local Preference to these types of Procurement Processes, so they are seeking support from the Legislature to expand this. He reported that the proposed language related to Local Procurement Preference is noted as such:

*“The City supports legislation that would expand the ability to give preference points for local bidders in discretionary procurement for non-professional services.”*

#### Funding for Cultural Districts

Mr. Coyle stated that 10 years ago, the Legislature created a mechanism for the Texas Commission on the Arts to designate Cultural Arts Districts across the State. He confirmed that the City has one Cultural Art District designation known as the “King William District”; and there is a second designation in development known as “Zona” located in the Westside of Downtown. He noted that the advocacy group Texans for the Arts is pushing for a Legislative Appropriation to provide funding for the Cultural Districts. He stated that this appropriation would allow Cultural Districts to compete for State Funds for Infrastructure and Major Art Events. Locally, he noted it would incentivize other areas such as the Broadway Reach to potentially pursue this designation. He reported that the proposed language related to Funding for Cultural Districts is as follows:

*“The City supports Legislation that would provide funding for Cultural Districts.”*

#### Healthy Futures Alliance

Mr. Coyle reported that the Healthy Futures Alliance Legislative Agenda includes two items related to reducing teen pregnancies in the community. He stated that they were seeking to improve access to preventive care. He referenced the three different State Programs that provide access to contraception that suffered budget cuts in 2011 but had significant Funding restored last Session; however, it only addresses a small portion of the population. He acknowledged that Schools are allowed to teach Sex Education in schools so the Healthy Futures Alliance opposes any erosion of the District’s ability to provide this education. He reported that the proposed language that would be added to their Legislative Agenda would be as follows:

*“The City supports Legislation that would improve access to preventive care and to evidence based sexual health curriculum.”*

Chairman Nirenberg expressed his appreciation to Staff for their work. He inquired what other cities were doing with regard to Local Procurement Preference. Troy Elliott responded that the cities of Houston and Dallas have been active with their Local Preference Program, with Houston having the most aggressive program in the State. Chairman Nirenberg expressed his support for the Program, noting the importance of continuing to recruit and incentivize businesses.

Councilmember Lopez cited the importance of remaining competitive and expressed support of the Local Procurement Preference Program. With regard to funding for Cultural Districts, Councilmember Lopez inquired whether the Funding would only be for the public component of that District, or would funds be made available to private façade improvements. Mr. Coyle replied that the idea is for Public Benefit that includes Public Infrastructure and Public Events. Felix Padron added that the Texas Commission on the Arts has been meeting with all the Districts to receive input on what their needs are. He stated that the issue of private investment is a serious one and he envisions that these opportunities may exist in the future.

In response to Councilmember Lopez, Dr. Schlenker confirmed that Healthy Future’s Alliance Legislative Position regarding the School’s Curriculum is identical to the City’s position.

Councilmember Viagran expressed support for the language related to the Local Procurement Preference Program.

Councilmember Viagran moved to forward the Proposed Amendments to the State Legislative Program related to: 1) Local Preference Procurement Statute; 2) Cultural Arts Districts; and 3) Healthy Futures Alliance to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Lopez seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **a) Review of Bills Filed to Date**

Jeff Coyle reported that 674 Bills have been filed as of December 10, 2014. He acknowledged that City Staff is tracking 278 of these Bills. He spoke of his Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) Team, and noted that Edward Carrasco was the primary Staff Member tracking Bills. As the Bills get filed, he noted that Mr. Carrasco works with the IGR Team to review the Bills and determine their potential impact to the City. He stated that they also have Legislative Liaisons for each City Department and are in communication with them to produce an analysis on their impact to the City. He stated that many Bills have been filed related to a variety of issues such as Full-Day Pre-K, Cell Phone Ban, Payday Lending, Eminent Domain, Parks Funding, and many related to Transportation Funding. He outlined the Legislative Timeline and noted that the deadline to file a Bill is March 13, 2015, and June 21, 2015 is the last day the Governor can sign or veto Bills.

Chairman Nirenberg cited the new Legislative Committee at the San Antonio Greater Chamber of Commerce and requested that they cooperate with said Committee regarding Bills affecting San Antonio.

Councilmember Lopez inquired whether there was discussion regarding Homestead Exemption. Mr. Coyle replied that he spoke with Representative Jose Menendez who commented that there is discussion about returning revenues to the Public due to the Budget surplus, and his concept is to offer tax relief by increasing the Exemption. However, Mr. Coyle noted that they have not seen a Bill related to Property Tax Exemption filed to date.

Mr. Coyle referenced the State Consultants Contracts approved in October and noted that Luis Saenz with McGuire Woods was selected as the Director of Appointments for Governor Abbott. He informed the Committee that they were losing a valuable Consultant but were comfortable with the Firm of McGuire Woods.

No action was required for Item 2a.

### **3. Military Affairs Update** [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director and Robert Murdock, Office of Military Affairs Director]

#### **a) National Defense Authorization Act/Base Realignment Closure**

Mr. Robert Murdock reported that the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) is the Legislation that authorizes a future Base Realignment Closure (BRAC). Prior to authorizing a BRAC, he stated that Congress has to direct the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct an Excess Infrastructure Study, and the Secretary of Defense has to formally request a BRAC. He noted that the House of Representatives had passed their version of the NDAA but the Senate did not action on said item. After the Elections, he stated both the House and Senate Armed Services Committees convened to draft the final version of the NDAA. He noted that the language that required the Infrastructure Study and articulated the need for BRAC was stripped so the current NDAA does not have this prerequisite for a future BRAC. He reported that the House and Senate have directed that no amendments will be allowed, so the opportunity for any additional language will not take place. Therefore, he indicated that the chances for a BRAC in 2017 were very low. He commented that there has never been a BRAC in an even calendar year due to Elections. The next

opportunity for a potential BRAC will likely be in 2019; however, he emphasized that the Military Services have the ability to move Missions from one location to another, so he encouraged that they continue to promote the Military value of their Installations.

Chairman Nirenberg commented that this was great news; however, they should remain vigilant and push forward on strengthening and supporting the Military Bases. He inquired how Missions could be moved. Mr. Murdock replied that it depends on how the DoD is funded; as their budget continues to shrink, the easiest way to reduce the DoD budget is to reduce manpower and it exacerbates the issue of Excess Infrastructure. He noted that the Army is seeking to reduce their manpower if Sequestration continues in FY 2016 and beyond, and it will result in moving or co-locating Missions. He commented that San Antonio is likely in excellent shape due to the Missions that currently exist in each of the Bases; and the chances of having these Missions moved is likely remote.

Chairman Nirenberg stated that since the threat of a BRAC is unlikely; it was important to think strategically about Economic Development potential in key sectors such as Cyber Security and Military Medical Biosciences, which are fundamental to both Military Development and Civilian economic impact.

Councilmember Gallagher expressed his approval of the information provided regarding the Missions. He noted that they should also look at some of the local features surrounding the Installations. Mr. Murdock stated that they are currently conducting a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) of all three major Installations; Camp Bullis and Lackland Studies have been completed, and Randolph's is currently ongoing and should be completed soon. He indicated that the purpose of the Study is to ensure that the Developers can continue to develop but not infringe upon the Mission of the Installation. He expressed his confidence that they have addressed Encroachment issues that the Installations have faced. Councilmember Gallagher emphasized the importance of working with the City of Schertz to address issues related to Randolph AFB, since they also neighbor the Installation.

Councilmember Lopez cited the long standing relationship with the Military Bases around San Antonio. He indicated that the JLUS work has been a Regional Initiative that includes the small Municipalities that were also affected by it. He noted the importance of protecting the Zones around the Military Bases. He stated that the JLUS process has helped solidify their relationship with the Military and the communities surrounding San Antonio. He stated that many Missions are being relocated to San Antonio, and having this relationship with the Military has served San Antonio well.

Mr. Coyle added that the NDAA is one of the 12 Appropriations Bills that are collectively considered an Omnibus, and there are two other related items that affect the local Missions and World Heritage efforts. He introduced Walter Serna who provided an update on said items.

Walter Serna reported that there were several Land Bills rolled into the NDAA that passed the House, and as a result; San Antonio will receive 137 acres surrounding the local Missions to expand their boundaries. He stated that the Senate would vote on it tomorrow, but a Senator from Mississippi that is opposed to Land Bills being rolled into the NDAA is threatening to filibuster. He noted that there are still enough votes to overcome the filibuster. He delineated the other measures being taken by the House and Senate, and cited the Omnibus Bill that includes World Heritage Commission Language that they have been trying to get approved.

Chairman Nirenberg thanked Mr. Murdock for his work and thanked Councilmember Viagran for creating momentum on World Heritage discussion.

Councilmember Viagran stated that while she was in Washington D.C., she was able to meet the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and invited to San Antonio.

No action was required for Item 3a.

#### **b) Military Installation Support Site Selection**

Mr. Murdock reported that the Air Force had established a new organization known as Air Force Installation and Missions Support Center that will align all the Mission Support Entities under one organization. He noted that this organization will be staffed with initially 350 individuals, and there are four potential locations for this Center. He added that San Antonio is one of the cities being considered. He reported that they had visited San Antonio last week, and he has talked to the Brigadier General of Joint Base San Antonio who reported that they had a good discussion with the Air Force. Mr. Murdock confirmed that they are lobbying the Air Force to select San Antonio as its location.

No action was required for Item 3b.

#### **4. Amendment to the 2011 Medina County ILA for Platting in the ETJ [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director and Roderick Sanchez, Development Services Director]**

Mr. Rod Sanchez cited a Bill approved by the Texas Legislature that requires Cities and Counties to agree on a unified set of Platting Regulations. He provided an overview of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Medina County, and reported that the ILA states that Subdivisions containing habitable tracts less than 0.4 acres would be reviewed and approved by the City of San Antonio in accordance with their procedures and standards. He mentioned that Medina County would review proposed sites with larger lots. However, he noted that the ILA was renegotiated in 2011. There are several large developments in Medina County, and they are not equipped to do these types of reviews so they have asked the City of San Antonio to renegotiate the ILA. As a result, the City of San Antonio would regulate lots between 6,000 square feet to 0.4 acres. He acknowledged that San Antonio and Medina County would work together to inspect roadways, and there would be enforcement of SAWS Water Quality Control and the Pollution Prevention Ordinance. He cited the 90 day notification if any annexation were to occur. He stated that this item would go to the Planning Commission on December 17, 2014, and to the full City Council on January 15, 2015. He noted that Medina County Commissioner's Court has also approved it.

In response to Chairman Nirenberg, Mr. Sanchez confirmed that they would charge their normal fees for the Plat Review Process, and since they are an Enterprise Fund; their fees are established to recover their costs. If there is a change in Medina County policies, Mr. Sanchez stated that there is a 60-day clause where either entity can withdraw from the ILA.

Councilmember Lopez cited the growth near the Medina County area that includes the multitude of construction occurring and the increase in residential lots. Mr. Sanchez clarified that the area referenced by Councilmember Lopez was still in the City's control. He explained that he was referring to the area outside of that particular area. However, Councilmember Lopez added that the growth will continue toward that area, so he indicated that he understood the concerns of Medina County. Chairman Nirenberg pointed out that it still affects San Antonio due to the location of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

Councilmember Lopez moved to forward the Proposed Amendment to the 2011 Medina County Interlocal Agreement to full City Council for approval. Councilmember Gallagher seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Federal Representation Services Contract** [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director and Sally Basurto, Intergovernmental Relations Assistant Director]

Mr. Coyle provided an update on the Federal Representation Services Contract and noted that they were ready to post the RFP. He stated that it would be a 2-year Contract to align with the Congressional Term that begins in January 2015, with an option for a 2-year extension. He noted that the only change would be the subcontractor goal of 25%, and the Contract speaks to the bulk of the work being done in Washington, D.C.

In response to Chairman Nirenberg, Mr. Coyle responded that the current firm is under contract through December 31, 2014, but they have the ability to contract on a short-term basis when the contract expires.

No action was required for Item 5.

**Consideration for Future Meetings**

**6. Next Meeting Scheduled:** January 14, 2015

**Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Ron Nirenberg, Chairman*

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*Lisa A. Lopez, Office of the City Clerk*