

**TRANSPORTATION, TECHNOLOGY, & UTILITIES COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
11:00 AM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Members Present:	Councilmember Ray Lopez, Chair, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Joe Krier, <i>District 9</i>
Members Absent:	Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Staff Present:	Peter Zanoni, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Ben Gorzell, <i>Chief Financial Officer</i> ; Martha Sepeda, <i>Acting City Attorney</i> ; Mike Frisbie, <i>Director of TCI</i> ; Lisa Biediger, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Debbie Sittre, <i>Assistant Director of TCI</i> ; Terry Bellamy, <i>Assistant Director of TCI</i> ; Buddy Vargas, <i>Audit Manager</i> ; Danny Zuniga, <i>Auditor IV</i> ; Melissa Sparks, <i>Public Relations Manager</i> ; M'kynzi Newbold, <i>Budget Management Analyst</i> ; Christie Chapman, <i>Executive Assistant</i> ; Justin Renteria, <i>District 9</i> ; Errol Reid, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Alexander J. Pytel, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Councilmember Roberto Treviño, <i>District 1</i> ; Gilbert Garcia, <i>San Antonio Express News</i> ; Katherine Blunt, <i>San Antonio Express News</i> ; Brendan Gibbons, <i>San Antonio Express News</i> ; Anusha Roy, <i>Kens-5</i>

Item 1. Approval of the Minutes for the September 9, 2015 and October 7, 2015 Transportation, Technology, and Utilities Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Krier moved to approved the Minutes for the September 9, 2015 and October 7, 2015 Transportation, Technology, and Utilities Council Committee Meetings. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Chairman Lopez recessed the Transportation, Technology, and Utilities Council Committee Meeting into Executive Session at 11:02 a.m. to discuss legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Chairman Lopez reconvened the meeting at 11:22 a.m. and stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

Item 2. A Briefing by City and VIA Metropolitan Transit Staff on the City's Advanced Transportation District Sales Tax Allocation and Alternative Use Options

Mr. Mike Frisbie detailed the Advanced Transportation District as a Traffic Management System established by Texas Statute and stated that Multimodal Transportation was critical to managing the City's future traffic. He reported that the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, VIA Metropolitan Transit, and the Texas Department of Transportation receive funding from the Advanced Transportation District Sales Tax which was approved by voters in 2004 for an annual amount of approximately \$64 million. He highlighted Advanced Transportation District Programs and objectives.

Mr. Jeff Arndt discussed the sources of funding currently available for VIA and highlighted previous projects and current programs funded by the Advanced Transportation District Sales Tax. He discussed the impact of the frequency of service to community connectivity and noted that there was an approximate \$30 million gap in annual operating costs for increases in Premium Services and Line Service.

Mr. Frisbie discussed the proposal to reallocate funding from the City's Advanced Transportation District (ATD) to VIA which would result in a 7% increase in revenue and eliminate City ATD Funded Projects and Staff.

Chairman Lopez asked for detail regarding funding and proposed projects. Mr. Arndt responded that there was funding for projects included in the 5 Year Plan, while projects beyond that time frame would require additional revenue and allocations. He noted that VIA was ineligible to receive funding for Operational Costs from many Programs due to their previous allocation to Capital Costs. He stated the need to examine growth on a regional basis and the need for innovation in order to fund long range programs.

Councilmember Saldaña noted the increasing need for greater funding for connectivity and Multimodal Transportation Projects and highlighted issues of underfunding, commuter quality of life, new markets for VIA, and planning for the City's future infrastructure. He discussed the possibility of reallocating ATD Funds to VIA Projects.

Councilmember Gonzales discussed the cultural shift needed to accept alternative modes of transportation and highlighted the role of transportation investment in accomplishing Vision Zero Objectives. She asked how ATD Allocation to VIA would impact City Programs. Mr. Frisbie reported that City Services and Positions would be cut without the addition of any further funding.

Councilmember Krier discussed the needs of discretionary bus commuters including senior citizens relying on mass transit. He highlighted the Metro Transit System of Washington D.C. and stated the need for thoughtful consideration of different audiences and unique needs of San Antonio Residents.

Councilmember Treviño added his support for the item to be discussed at a City Council Meeting.

Mr. Zanoni reported that the item was scheduled for consideration at a future B Session.

No action was required for Item 2.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Lopez, Chairman

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

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