

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016
1:30 PM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM**

Members Present:	Councilmember Joe Krier, Chair, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Members Absent:	None
Staff Present:	Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Jeff Coyle, <i>Director of Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Major General Juan Ayala, <i>Director of Military Affairs</i> ; Sally Basurto, <i>Assistant Director of Intergovernmental Relations</i> ; Edward Gonzales, <i>Assistant Director, Department of Human Services</i> ; Megan Dodge, <i>IGR</i> ; Christine Wright, <i>IGR</i> ; Alicia K. Beckham, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Tom Downs, <i>Venable</i> ; Walters Serna, <i>Serna & Serna</i>

Item 1. City of San Antonio's Federal Legislative Program for the 115th U.S. Congress [Jeff Coyle, Director, Government & Public Affairs]

Jeff Coyle provided an overview of the Federal Legislative Program for the 115th U.S. Congress and noted that the item was scheduled for City Council on December 15, 2016. He highlighted the fact that there was a newly elected 45th President of the United States beginning January 20, 2017 and that the Republican Party maintained the majority in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. He stated that the Presidential Transition Teams were preparing reports on what programs would be continued at the agency level and the start of new initiatives. He noted the following structure of Federal Legislative Program:

- Federal Priorities
- Legislative Issues
- Agency Initiatives
- Partnerships

Mr. Coyle highlighted the Federal Priorities: FAA Reauthorization, Military Protection, and Transportation Funding. He noted that the current FAA Reauthorization would expire September 30, 2017 and would be a priority of Congress. He reported that the City used Historic Tax Credits to fund Downtown Redevelopment Projects. He noted that the City had applied to become a Downtown National Historic District through the National Registry and was pursuing funding for the San Antonio Missions and the National Park. He added that staff has worked with community partners to develop an agenda for the City Council's SA to DC 2017 Trip.

Chairman Krier asked if there was data that reflected the results from the Promise Zone Program. Mr. Coyle responded that staff would be able to get the Committee data that showcased results from the Promise Zone Program. Tom Downs stated that there was a conference call with 20 of the 22 Federally Designated Promise Zone Areas. He noted that a Representative from Evanston, Indiana proposed to

develop a statement that identified the impact that the Promise Zone Program had on the designated areas nationally. Chairman Krier asked if the City was seeking to have Congress fund anything for the San Antonio Tricentennial. Sally Basurto stated that they were collaborating with Congressman Lloyd Doggett's Office to apply for a Commemorative Tricentennial Stamp through the United States Postal Service.

Councilmember Viagran asked if staff was aware of who would be appointed as United States Secretary of Interior. Mr. Coyle stated that the list of contenders was not an official list. Councilmember Viagran asked how the City would be impacted if the Municipal Tax Bond is eliminated. Mr. Coyle stated that the Interest Rate for a customer to purchase a Bond would increase. He noted that the City would lose a competitive edge and would be competing with the entire financial market. Walter Serna stated that the Municipal Bond Tax Exemption could be eliminated in the 2017 Session with the Republican Party being the majority of all three Legislative Branches. Councilmember Viagran asked what information had been shared concerning public transportation. Mr. Coyle replied that there had not been any details disclosed. Councilmember Viagran asked that staff continue to identify funding for Transportation at the Federal and State Levels. Mr. Serna noted that the Republican Caucus voted for the return of Earmarks and could be an opportunity for funding.

Councilmember Nirenberg suggested that staff determine how much of the City's Budget and Operation was funded at the Federal Level.

Chairman Krier stated that he would like for the City to have more than a collectable stamp to commemorate the San Antonio Tricentennial.

Councilmember Viagran moved to forward the Federal Agenda for the 115th U.S. Congress to the full City Council subject to the B Session Briefing. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 2. State Legislative Update [Jeff Coyle, Director, Government & Public Affairs]

Mr. Coyle reported that the pre-filling of bills started on November 14, 2016 and there were 741 Bills filed as of December 2, 2016. Mr. Coyle reported that the Lieutenant (Lt.) Governor and the Speaker each had five priorities that impact the City: 1) 2017 Budget Proposal; 2) Property Tax Reform; 3) Sanctuary Cities; 4) Photo Voter ID; and 5) Women's Privacy Act. He added that the Speaker's Top Priorities that affected the City include: 1) Child Protective Services Reform; 2) Education Finance; 3) Mental Health; 4) Cybersecurity and Data Security; and 5) Promotion of Entrepreneur.

a) Committee Interim Reports

Mr. Coyle reported that the Senate selected a Committee on Property Tax Relief and Reform and that the Committee recommended a 4% Revenue Cap. He stated that the cap was down from 8% with an election to be held in November 2017 if a Local Government Entity exceeds 4% revenue growth. He noted that the Property Tax Relief and Reform Policy addressed the issues of Legislation strengthening the balance between cities wanting to expand and safe guarding public property rights. He added that the Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee discussed being transparent with Debt Issuance and Bond Elections. He indicated that the Senate Veteran and Military Affairs Committee expressed support for continued Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant Funding. He mentioned that they called for codifying some statutory safe guards to prevent encroachment. He highlighted that the Senate State

Affairs Committee addressed Cities being limited in their abilities to pass Non-Discrimination Ordinances.

b) Pre-filing of Legislation

Mr. Coyle reported on the following bills of interest:

- Revenue Caps
- Annexation
- Non-Discrimination
- Transportation Network Companies
- Sanctuary Cities/Immigration
- Cell Phone Bans
- Use of Public Funds
- Local Debt/Transparency

c) Session Process and Schedule

Mr. Coyle stated that staff would be proposing that there be a weekly Intergovernmental Meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. He noted that staff would submit a written update to the Full City Council.

Chairman Krier recommended that staff collaborate with other Texas Big Cities to convey to Legislators that they generate the greatest job growth in Texas. He stated that the collaboration would communicate to Legislators that the Revenue Cap would not benefit Texas Big Cities. Mr. Coyle noted that the Texas Municipal League reported that for the past decade, 75% of job growth came from the major metropolitan areas in Texas. Chairman Krier suggested that staff express to General Heather Pringle the importance of getting familiar with individuals at the State Capitol, because High Ranking Officers are more influential at the State Capitol than Local Legislators. He stated that she could be an advocate for the City at the State Capitol.

Councilmember Viagran asked if the Lt. Governor's priority for the Women's Privacy Act had any relation to Women's Healthcare. Mr. Coyle responded that there were studies that debunk the theory that woman were in danger inside restrooms. He stated that the Texas Association of Business released an Economic Impact Study that was conducted with Saint Edwards University; and they projected that anywhere from \$9 million to \$8.5 billion of States' GDP would be lost and that there would be a loss of 185,000 jobs if Texas were to present a Bill similar to North Carolina's House Bill 2. Councilmember Viagran suggested that staff provide the report from the Texas Association of Business to the Committee. She asked staff to distinguish how much of the Economic Development Fund had helped the City; and if it was defunded, what would be the impact to the City. She requested that staff provide information on the impact that Immigrants have in Texas and San Antonio.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked if staff had communicated with other Local Public Agencies on their Legislative Agenda. Mr. Coyle responded that the Public Agencies were in the City's Revenue Cap and that there was language included to protect Municipally-Owned Facilities. Councilmember Nirenberg asked if there were any particular requests from those Agencies. Mr. Coyle stated that there were no requests from the Agencies.

No action was required for Item 2.

Item 3. Federal Representation Services

Chairman Krier recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 3:58 P.M. to discuss Federal Representation Services. He reconvened the meeting at 4:13 P.M. and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Consideration for future meetings:

Item 4. Next Meeting Scheduled: January 10, 2017

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 PM.

Joe Krier, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,

*Alicia K. Beckham
Office of the City Clerk*