

**ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017
1:30 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM**

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| Members Present: | Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>Chair, District 3</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Manny Pelaez, <i>District 8</i> Councilmember John Courage, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i> |
| Members Absent: | None |
| Staff Present: | Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Veronica Zertuche, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Lisa Biediger, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Rene Dominguez, <i>Director, Economic Development Department</i> ; Alejandra Lopez, <i>Assistant Director, Economic Development Department</i> ; Adrian Perez, <i>Assistant Director, Economic Development Department</i> ; Denice F. Trevino, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i> |
| Others Present: | Casey Littlefield, <i>Director, Social Finance</i> ; Ed Davis, <i>Executive Director, SAEDC</i> ; Miguel Ybarra, <i>Audie Murphy VA Hospital</i> ; Hanna Jamal, <i>Associate Director, Social Finance</i> ; Sheli Bloemer, <i>Associate, Social Finance</i> |

Call to Order

Chairperson Viagran called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the September 5, 2017 Economic and Workforce Development Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the Minutes of the September 5, 2017 Economic and Workforce Development Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Briefing and Possible Action on:

2. Briefing on the Veterans Employment Pay for Success Project. [Carlos J. Contreras, Assistant City Manager; Rene Dominguez, Director, Economic Development]

Rene Dominguez stated that the Veteran Employment Pay for Success Project (VEPSP) would be implemented in partnership with Social Finance, the Department of Veteran Affairs, the City of San Antonio, the South Texas Veteran's Health System (STVHS), and the Foundation for Advancing Veterans' Health Research (FAVHR), with Social Finance serving as the project

Manager. He noted that Social Finance was a non-profit organization dedicated to mobilizing capital to drive social progress. He stated that Social Finance was awarded a \$3 million grant from the Department of Veteran Affairs to provide employment outcomes for Veterans with service connected Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with the assistance of matching funds from four local jurisdictions across the country. He noted that San Antonio was selected as one of the four jurisdictions and that the program was aligned with the goals of the Economic Development Department.

Casey Littlefield stated that under the program, Veterans would receive services in accordance with the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Model over a three-year period. She stated that IPS was an evidence-based approach to supportive employment, emphasizing rapid job search for employment that matched an individual's needs and preferences with integrated mental health care. She noted that the outcomes for the Veterans being served by the IPS Model were: 1) Sustained competitive employment; 2) Increased earnings; and 3) Job satisfaction. She stated that the City of San Antonio and the Department of Veteran Affairs would provide funding only if local outcomes were achieved. She noted that the cost of the VEPSP to the City of San Antonio would be \$750,000 to participate in the program. She stated that funds would be provided by private funders/impact investors who would provide working capital to non-profits which would utilize proven interventions to create economic and social value. She noted that the city would only pay for positive outcomes. Additionally, that each client would receive 12 months of services and would be evaluated in 18 months.

Chairperson Viagran asked of the source of the \$750,000. Mr. Dominguez stated that it would come from a dedicated Workforce Fund. Councilmember Viagran asked of the number of participants to be enrolled. Ms. Littlefield stated that 120 participants would be enrolled. Councilmember Viagran stated that she would like to see this process utilized for other projects.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if there was an age range for participants. Ms. Littlefield replied that although there was no age range, it was expected that those between 22-45 years of age would participate.

Councilmember Courage asked if the program was only for unemployed Veterans. Ms. Littlefield replied that the program was for underemployed and unemployed Veterans. Miguel Ybarra stated that the program at the Audie L. Murphy Veterans Administration Hospital included 66 beds and would integrate participants back into the community.

Councilmember Perry asked how the city was matched with the program. Mr. Dominguez replied that staff was made aware of the program. Councilmember Perry stated that the program could be applied to all delegate agencies in existence. Mr. Ybarra stated that this program was specific to employment of participants which other delegate agencies did not provide.

Councilmember Pelaez asked of the number of Veterans which would be affected by the program. Mr. Dominguez replied that 120 Veterans would be affected. Councilmember Pelaez noted that funding was based on outcomes which were desirable.

Chairperson Viagran requested more information on this topic at next month's meeting. She requested a presentation on economic segregation in December 2017.

Councilmember Courage stated that funding was dependent on a positive result.

No action was required for Item 2.

Executive Session

Chairperson Viagran recessed the Economic and Workforce Development Council Committee into Executive Session at 3:08 p.m. for deliberations regarding economic development negotiations and to discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.086 (economic development) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Chairperson Viagran reconvened the meeting at 3:15 p.m. and stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Rebecca Viagran, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,

Denice F. Trevino