

**State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio**



**DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

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, Treviño, Shaw, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

1. Briefing on proposed dockless vehicle regulations. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; John Jacks, Director, Center City Development and Operations]

Lori Houston stated that San Antonio would be one of the first cities in the nation to adopt a Dockless Vehicle Policy. She noted that the recommendations were developed with a high level of community and stakeholder input. She stated that there were currently two operators: Bird with 1,700 scooters and Lime with 300 scooters. She noted that five additional operators expressed interest in the San Antonio Market. She stated that input methods included a Center City Development Office (CCDO) Public Hearing; Online survey; Focus group; and vendor meetings. She noted that survey results indicated 75% positive or positive opinions on dockless scooters. She provided a comparative analysis to cities with existing or developing policies in terms of vehicle type, maximum vehicles, application fees, per vehicle fees, and sidewalk prohibitions.

Mrs. Houston outlined the following vendor recommendations over a six-month Pilot Program: \$10 per vehicle fee with a \$500 Vendor Application Fee; No cap on vehicles or vendors; Mandatory maintenance of a San Antonio-based Fleet Manager; No geographic limitation; Monthly reporting requirements on usage, violations, and trip data; Vendor mobile application to include education on rider safety, prohibited riding areas, and safe and lawful parking. She recommended the following safe ridership requirements: Minimum age requirement of 16 years; Dockless vehicles must always yield to pedestrians; Riders must utilize bike lanes when available; Allowance to ride on sidewalks in the absence of a bike lane with a two-foot pedestrian path; Allowance to ride on streets in the absence of a bike lane with speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less; Mandatory light on the front and red light on the back; and Mandatory bell, horn, or other sound mechanism. She stated that dockless vehicles would be prohibited on the Riverwalk, Trails, Creekways, and in parks except on intersecting public streets. She noted that dockless vehicles could be parked on sidewalks with a three-foot pedestrian clearance or in bike racks and outlined the following prohibitions: Within eight feet of a bus stop; In commercial or pedestrian loading zones; Within four feet of street furniture requiring pedestrian access; Interference with curbs, ramps, entryways, or driveways; Within eight feet of a building entrance; B-Cycle docking stations; Parks, plazas, trails, and the Riverwalk.

Mrs. Houston provided photo examples of parked scooters that were compliant and non-compliant with the proposed regulations. She stated that vendors would have two hours to correct violations or one hour in prohibited areas. She noted that vendors would be required to lock vehicles reported as broken and pick them up within one hour. She stated that CCDO would administer permits; parking enforcement would enforce regulations; Centro Ambassadors and Parking Enforcement would correct and report parking violations; and SAPD would enforce areas where use is prohibited. She noted that violations could be reported directly to vendors and 3-1-1. She stated that the City expected to incur costs from permit review and monitoring, relocation of vehicles city-wide, cataloging property, and holding hours when companies can pick up their property. She noted that Program Assessment would include evaluation of staff time and costs; usage and trip data; violations, 3-1-1 calls and Accident Reports; stakeholder input; rider education; dedicated scooter parking; and geofencing to prevent rides from ending in prohibited areas. She stated that the proposal would come to the full City Council for approval on October 11, 2018 and recommendations for changes would be brought before the City Council in Spring 2019.

Mayor Nirenberg asked of plans following the Pilot Program. Mrs. Houston replied that the program would be subject to review by a Council Committee and the full City Council if necessary. Mayor Nirenberg expressed support for the recommendations for street and sidewalk riding, helmets, and rider age.

Councilmember Viagran expressed support for the proposed fees and asked of common

themes in positive and negative survey responses. Mrs. Houston replied that positive responses included convenience, affordability, and flexibility; and negative responses included sidewalk obstruction and rider safety. Councilmember Viagran asked of the City's liability for dockless vehicles. Mrs. Houston replied that the operator carried all liability. Councilmember Viagran expressed support for the Pilot Program.

Councilmember Courage expressed support for limiting the number of scooters and for fee comparisons with other cities. He expressed concern that scooter usage would lead to increased injuries and asked that local healthcare facilities be notified of the Pilot Program. He noted the importance of ensuring consumers were aware of privacy and usage requirements and comprehensive data sharing.

Councilmember Treviño noted the importance of infrastructure that allows accessibility for all pedestrians and users of motorized vehicles.

Councilmember Pelaez expressed support for the Pilot Program and asked if impoundment would be an enforcement method. Mrs. Houston replied that confiscation and a release fee were recommended but penalties would be re-examined following the Pilot Period. Councilmember Pelaez expressed concern with potential scooter-related accidents but noted support for the Pilot Program.

Councilmember Brockhouse expressed the importance of collaboration and data sharing with dockless vehicle partners and asked to require same. He noted support for the Pilot Program.

Councilmember Perry asked of fee determination. Mrs. Houston replied that they were determined based on comparative analysis and stakeholder input. Councilmember Perry asked of scooter-related accidents. Mrs. Houston replied that 20 were reported through SAPD and EMS since July 1st.

Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for the Pilot Program and utilizing data to determine the need for multi-modal traffic lanes.

Councilmember Shaw asked of SAPD's involvement. Mrs. Houston replied that SAPD could issue citations for violating existing and proposed regulations. Councilmember Shaw expressed concern with utilization of dockless vehicles under the influence of alcohol and expressed support for related education.

Councilmember Saldaña expressed support for a light touch in dockless vehicle regulation and for continuing community input throughout the Pilot Program.

Councilmember Sandoval expressed support for allowing scooters to operate in the city and asked that the Transportation Council Committee preview the operator application.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked staff for the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 3:11 pm to discuss the following:

- 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 6:04 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session. He announced that the Executive Session would resume after the Business Portion of the City Council Meeting the next day. He addressed Item 2.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 2:

- 2. Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2019 Storm Water Utility fee. [Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the Storm Water Utility Fee Public Hearing and called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Theresa Berlanga expressed concern with the state of storm water infrastructure in her neighborhood.

Artman Bland expressed concern with negative health impacts related to storm water.

Having heard all comments from the citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the Storm Water Utility Fee Public Hearing closed.

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 3:

3. Second public hearing regarding the November 6, 2018 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 Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; Bridgett White, Director, Planning]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the second Public Hearing regarding the November 6, 2018 Annexation Election.

Jane Lucio expressed concern with increased fees resulting from annexation.

Having heard all comments from the citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the first public hearing regarding the November 6, 2018 Annexation Election closed.

City Clerk Vacek read the caption for Item 4:

4. Public Hearing to gather community input on the proposed dockless vehicle ordinance. [Iori Houston, Assistant City Manager; John Jacks, Director, Center City Development & Operation]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the Dockless Vehicle Public Hearing.

Casey Whittington spoke on behalf of Blue Duck Scooters in favor of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program.

Michael Vu expressed support for Dockless Vehicles to reduce automobile usage and improve public safety. He asked that operation be permitted on trails.

Lani Cabico expressed support for the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program and suggested public education to encourage safe operation.

Jennifer Hermann expressed support for public education to encourage safe scooter operation and expressed concern with intoxicated users.

Lydia Kelly expressed concern with the lack of public education regarding pedestrian and vehicle clearance. She noted support for more bicycle facilities and infrastructure.

Rodney Kidd suggested organizational partnerships to enhance data sharing and public safety.

Aaron Rodriguez expressed support for regulating Dockless Vehicles and traditional bicycles similarly. He noted the importance of public education to encourage safe operation.

David Heard spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program.

Lauro De Leon spoke on behalf of the Walk Westside Coalition in opposition to Dockless Vehicles operating on sidewalks.

Debra Innocenti-Placette spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program.

Andrew Velis spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program to improve mobility and change negative perceptions of scooter users.

S.T. Shimi spoke in opposition to allowing Dockless Vehicle operation on sidewalks and expressed support for signage and public education to encourage safe operation.

Debra Walker spoke in opposition to the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program due to public safety concerns.

Roselyn Cogburn spoke in opposition to the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program due to public safety concerns.

Bill Cogburn spoke in opposition to the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program due to public safety concerns.

Stephen Walker spoke in opposition to the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program due to public safety concerns.

Abel Ramirez spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program and encouraged public education.

Patti Zaiontz spoke in opposition to the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program due to public safety concerns.

Blanca Laborde spoke on behalf of Bird in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program. She noted the implementation of Bird Watchers to monitor scooter usage and parking.

James Laform spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program to enforce responsible ridership.

Paul Francis spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program but expressed opposition to Dockless Vehicle operation on sidewalks.

Having heard all comments from the citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the Dockless Vehicle Public Hearing closed.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

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

Randy Barnes spoke of Alamo History.

Theresa Berlanga asked that Alamo Plaza remain unchanged and expressed dissatisfaction with historic preservation efforts.

Artman Bland expressed concern with drug-related activity and infrastructure needs.

Brandy Ralston-Lint asked the City Council to install flashing stop signs outside Brandeis High School prior to traffic light installation to enhance public safety.

Tom Cummins spoke in opposition to the issuance of Education Revenue Bonds for IDEA Public Schools.

Lamar Henry asked that Alamo Plaza remain unchanged and that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Krystal Ross asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor History.

Keri Hillyer expressed concern with transparency regarding the Alamo Master Plan.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez spoke of religion and criminal activity.

Lupe Rivera expressed concern with the message of la Antorcha de la Amistad and with proposed changes to Alamo Plaza.

Antonio Diaz expressed concern with the use of Federal Funds for the Alamo Master Plan and asked the City Council to commemorate Indigenous Peoples Day.

Ramon Garza read online comments in opposition to moving the Cenotaph.

Michael Garza spoke in support of the Dockless Vehicles Pilot Program based on community input.

Juan Macias spoke of the Mexican Mafia's involvement in San Antonio.

RECESSED

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting at 8:02 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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