

**COMMUNITY HEALTH AND EQUITY  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2018  
2:00 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Ana Sandoval, Chair, *District 7*  
Councilmember William Cruz Shaw, *District 2*  
Councilmember Rey Saldaña, *District 4*  
Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, *District 6*  
Councilmember Manny Pelaez, *District 8*

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**Members Absent:** None

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**Staff Present:** Rod Sanchez, *Assistant City Manager*; Maria Villagómez, *Assistant City Manager*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Jeff Coyle, *Director, Government and Public Affairs*; Michael Shannon, *Director, Development Services Department*; Xavier Urrutia, *Director, Parks and Recreation Department*; Homer Garcia III, *Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department*; Douglas Melnick, *Chief Sustainability Officer, Office of Sustainability*; Mark Bird, *City Arborist*; Ross Hosea, *City Forester*; Rebecca Flores, *Department of Human Services*; Denice F. Treviño, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Others Present:** None

**Call to order**

Chairperson Sandoval called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of the Minutes for the October 2, 2018 Community Health and Equity Committee Meeting**

Councilmember Shaw moved to approve the minutes for the October 2, 2018 Community Health and Equity Committee Meeting. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Citizens to be Heard**

There were no citizens registered to speak.

**Briefing and Possible Action on:**

**2. A Briefing on the FY 2019 Tree Programs.** [Xavier D. Urrutia, Director, Parks and Recreation]

Xavier Urrutia described the following benefits to having an Urban and Community Forest:

- Make communities desirable
- Improve air quality
- Mitigate urban heat island
- Enhance quality of life

Mr. Urrutia noted that in 1997, a Tree Preservation Ordinance was created to maximize tree preservation and urban tree canopy. He stated that under the Ordinance, a tree permit must be obtained prior to any land development and the developer must submit a tree preservation plan or pay into the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund. He noted that this applied to development within the city and the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction. He stated that the Ordinance was implemented by the Development Services Department (DSD). He noted that the following three strategies were utilized for use of the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund:

1. Tree planting initiatives
2. Community education and tree adoptions
3. Tree partnerships

He reviewed the amount of funds utilized on the strategies for 2006, 2012, and 2018. He presented the following highlights from FY 2018:

- ❖ TREEcentennial plantings
- ❖ Oak Wilt prevention
- ❖ Under One Roof
- ❖ San Antonio Housing Authority
- ❖ Westside creeks forestation
- ❖ Neighborhood Tree Program

Mr. Urrutia stated that the following were included in the FY 2019 programs:

- Under One Roof
- CPS Energy Green Shade
- Oak Wilt prevention
- Neighborhood Tree Program
- Campus partnerships
- City-wide tree adoptions
- Westside creeks
- Greenway trailheads

He reviewed the following FY 2019 highlights:

- Neighborhood Tree Program
- College and University Tree Planting Partnership
- Expanded city park tree planting
  - Westside Creeks Forestation

Mr. Urrutia stated that a Council Consideration Request (CCR) was submitted by former Councilmember Joe Krier regarding the impact of Oak Wilt on the Urban Forest. He noted that the Solid Waste Department provided education on when to trim Oak Trees and the proper procedure for doing so. He stated that DSD could assist in the selection of a tree trimming service which was familiar with the proper procedure. He noted that education on the Oak Wilt Prevention Program was disseminated through:

- Bilingual Oak Wilt Info/reference card
- Oak Wilt door hanger delivered with brush collection notices
- Social media quick facts

Councilmember Brockhouse entered the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Saldaña stated that he was pleased that the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund had grown over the years. He asked of changes to the Ordinance since 1997. Mark Bird stated that the Ordinance had been amended in 2003, 2006, 2009, 2010, and 2015 and would be amended in 2020.

Councilmember Pelaez asked if DSD was consulted regarding The Alamo Plan. Mr. Shannon replied that they had not yet but the Plan would be subject to the Tree Ordinance. Councilmember Pelaez requested that DSD use the opportunity to tell the story of The Alamo with trees that were there at that time.

Councilmember Brockhouse stated that additional regulations were unnecessary and noted the financial impact to developers and residents.

Chairwoman Sandoval requested data on energy savings to homeowners provided by tree canopy and asked of long-term metrics and goals. Ross Hosea stated that Texas A&M University was conducting a study which would include an Urban Forestry Inventory and would provide said metrics. Mr. Urrutia added that the long-term goal was to reach 40% canopy.

No action was required for Item 2.

**3. Briefing and Possible Action on Head Start Program Items and Fiscal Activities for the period of July 2018 to August 2018.** [Maria Villagómez, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Department of Human Services]

Rebecca Flores stated that the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Head Start Budget was \$28.3 million and the Early Head Start Budget was \$3.4 million. She noted that fiscal expenditures were on target for FY 2018. She stated that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) required a comprehensive Community Assessment every five years and a Community Assessment Update for all years in between. She noted that in 2018, a Community Assessment Update was proposed for approval to include:

- Demographic indicators
- Education, health, nutrition and social services needs
- Eligibility estimates

- Social services
- Strengths of the community

Ms. Flores stated that over 50% of children in the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs were classified as unhealthy. She noted that Head Start has been working with a Nutritionist to address this problem. She stated that 4% of Edgewood Independent School District parents had higher educational attainment and efforts were being made to address same. She stated that in 2018, there were 3,645 children served by Head Start and Early Head Start while there were 6,903 eligible children not served by Head Start and Early Head Start. She stated that there was a projected 14% increase in children eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start in Bexar County by 2028. She noted that a parent handbook was distributed to parents at the start of the school year. She noted that Head Start and Early Head Start directed staff to conduct home visits to discuss student and family goals. She stated that these home visits introduced families to the program, built a foundation, and permitted staff to make a connection. She noted that expectations for the school year were set at these visits. She stated that developmental and behavioral screenings were conducted and approximately 40% require additional follow-up.

Councilmember Brockhouse requested more information on services provided to parents and expanding same at a future meeting.

Councilmember Pelaez suggested that the Battered Women and Children's Shelter and Family Violence Prevention Services be added to page 26-27 of the Head Start parent handbook. He stated that Payday Loans, Ponzi schemes, predatory insurance products, etc. should be discussed with parents.

Chairwoman Sandoval asked of city funding for Head Start. Ms. Flores stated that the city provided a 20% in-kind match. Chairwoman Sandoval asked of increasing Federal Funding. Maria Villagómez stated that she would work with Jeff Coyle to possibly lobby for more Federal Funds.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the submission of the Head Start Community Assessment Update to HHS. Councilmember Pelaez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

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*Ana Sandoval, Chair*

***Respectfully Submitted***

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***Denice F. Treviño, Office of the City Clerk***