

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



**FINAL
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

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 a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Hall, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

1. Briefing and status update on ConnectSA. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Henry Cisneros, ConnectSA Trichair]

Former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros stated that ConnectSA was in the beginning stages of efforts to develop a multimodal transportation framework and provided an overview of planned public outreach. He stated that the focus of the plan was mobility and provided an overview of existing and anticipated traffic congestion from 2010 to 2040 based on growth of up to one million residents. He noted that the plan served to build on existing mobility plans such as Mobility 2040, SATomorrow, and ConnectSA to build a community-wide framework. He stated that the framework was a forum for testing old assumptions and testing for new ideas based on being integrated, multimodal, interactive, cost-effective, and aspirational. He noted that the plan would look beyond light rail and toll roads; embrace “mobility” to include every contemporary or near-future mode of transportation; make all of

our daily mobility activities more sustainable and less harmful to the environment; and be centered on the mobility needs of individual users.

Secretary Cisneros reviewed the recommended goals to provide more choices; manage congestion; increase safety and efficiency; enhance access; connect to jobs; integrate mobility networks; leverage technology; and promote sustainability. He stated that the three fundamental strategies were to expand transportation choices; support smart initiatives; and improve transportation flow and described the components of each. He noted that ConnectSA intended to start 25 projects by 2025 and provided examples. He described how the current mobility system was funded and reviewed proposed projects through 2030. He noted the importance of discovering what San Antonians were willing to pay for the proposed benefits of the plan and provided an overview of the anticipated timeline.

Mayor Nirenberg noted the importance of public support for a transportation framework to mitigate the effects of population growth.

Councilmember Pelaez highlighted the importance of public benchmarking efforts and datasharing and recommended international travel to study successful models.

Councilmember Sandoval expressed support for Councilmember Pelaez's suggestion and noted the importance of an equitable approach.

Councilmember Viagran noted the importance of deliverables to maintain public support and asked of congestion management. Mr. Cisneros replied that San Antonio was likely not in a position to reduce congestion due to population growth so San Antonio needed to provide alternatives to existing roadways. Councilmember Viagran noted the importance of proactive construction and development to prevent future congestion.

Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for ConnectSA and suggested including funding in a future Bond Program.

Councilmember Perry expressed support for innovative technology to address congestion but noted concern with increasing fees to fund the proposed plan. He recommended that San Antonio pursue more funding from the Texas Department of Transportation.

Councilmember Brockhouse expressed concern that the draft plan was developed without sufficient City Council input and asked that public meetings be coordinated with Councilmembers. He recommended beginning with reallocations before seeking additional funding sources.

Councilmember Hall requested a list of existing transportation and mobility organizations and

how they differed or overlapped.

Councilmember Courage expressed support for combining roadway expansion with additional transportation options.

Councilmember Saldaña noted that it may be necessary to seek funding outside of federal sources due to use restrictions.

Councilmember Treviño expressed support for ConnectSA.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked Secretary Cisneros for the presentation.

2. Briefing and update on the implementation of a cite and release policy for eligible offenses. [Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager; William McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief William McManus stated that the authority for cite and release was granted by Chapter 14 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. He reviewed a 2016 Report from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) that found 87% of agencies utilized a Cite and Release Policy. He compared the processes of custodial arrest versus citation. He reviewed the offenses that were eligible for cite and release and noted that graffiti would not be included in the proposed program. He stated that Class B Marijuana Possession accounted for 50% of arrests made for cite and release offenses since 2014.

Bexar County District Attorney Joe Gonzales provided an overview of the proposed implementation and enforcement process. He noted that offenders would have 90 days to complete their portion of the process before court or an arrest were pursued.

Mayor Nirenberg, and Councilmembers Saldaña, Hall, and Pelaez all expressed support for the Cite and Release Policy.

Councilmember Courage also expressed support but asked of plans for repeat offenders. DA Gonzales replied that the decision to arrest based on prior offenses would be at the discretion of the Officer.

Councilmember Gonzales added her support for the Cite and Release Policy.

Councilmember Perry expressed concern that there was insufficient data to support the Cite and Release Policy.

Councilmember Treviño expressed support for the Cite and Release Policy and noted

opportunities to coordinate with the Youth Reengagement Center.

Councilmember Viagran stated that the Cite and Release Policy was a step in the right direction but would like to discuss in further detail. She noted issues with aggressive panhandling within District 3 that she would like to see addressed.

Councilmember Brockhouse stated that he was supportive of the Cite and Release Policy but noted concern with failure to appear.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked everyone for the presentation.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Nirenberg recognized Councilmember Manny Pelaez who celebrated a birthday the previous day. The City Council sang Happy Birthday to Councilmember Pelaez.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 5:08 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).
- C. Legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Litigation matters involving the City, pending or contemplated litigation and/or settlement offers pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney) including:
 - A. John McJilton v. City of San Antonio, et al.
 - B. Steven O'Neil v. City of San Antonio

RECONVENED

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 5:42 pm and announced that no action was taken

in Executive Session. He stated that the Executive Session would continue the following day after the Business Portion of the Regular City Council Meeting.

CEREMONIALS

Mayor Nirenberg presented Compassionate San Antonian Awards to honor San Antonio Area Residents who demonstrate San Antonio's #CompassionateSA Values by performing good deeds and impacting the lives of others in a positive way. It was noted that the purpose of the awards is to recognize individuals who serve the community through acts of kindness and compassion, making a difference in the lives of others.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Joseph Powell spoke of climate action and requested that the City Council take more aggressive action regarding coal plant closures.

Luke Amphlett spoke in support of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and the proposed City and Release Policy.

Artman Bland expressed concern with police conduct and socialism.

Mark Perez expressed concern with permitting and zoning practices.

Mayor Nirenberg excused himself from the meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Sandoval presided.

Briauna Barrera spoke in support of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and noted concerns with gentrification and housing.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez spoke of the Southern Baptist Church and End Times.

Richard Acosta noted the importance of a healthy environment to support neighborhoods.

Justice Lovin spoke in support of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and noted concerns with homelessness.

Maureen Galindo expressed concern with displacement resulting from development.

Jessica Guerrero spoke in support of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

RECESSED

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Sandoval recessed the meeting at 6:42 pm as the Executive Session would be reconvened the following day.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC