

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020
10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

Members Present:	Councilmember Manny Peláez, <i>Chair, District 8</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Adriana Rocha Garcia, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Ana Sandoval, <i>District 7</i>
Members Absent:	Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda, <i>District 6</i>
Staff Present:	Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Ed Guzman, <i>Deputy City Attorney</i> ; Maj. Gen. Juan Ayala, <i>Director, Office of Military and Veterans Affairs</i> ; Michael Shannon, <i>Director, Development Services</i> ; Jeff Coyle, <i>Director, Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Sally Basurto, <i>Assistant Director, Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Art Reinhart, <i>Interim Deputy Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements</i> ; Christine Wright, <i>State Relations Manager, Government & Public Affairs</i> ; Nancy Cano, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Belinda Hartwig, <i>Vice President of Economic Development, San Antonio Chamber of Commerce</i> ; Curt Seidlits, <i>CEO, Focused Advocacy</i>

Call to Order

Chairman Peláez called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the June 12, August 21, and October 14, 2019 meetings of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia moved to approve the Minutes from the June 12, August 21, and October 14, 2019 meetings of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee with the requested revision that she be added to “Others Present” on the June 12, 2019 Minutes as an attendee, as she was not a Councilmember at the time. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion with the changes as read. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Briefing and possible action on a federal update on Congressional advocacy, appropriations, and SA to DC 2020 [Jeff Coyle, Director, Government & Public Affairs]

Sally Basurto provided a recap of the 12 Appropriations Bills for FY 2020 which were approved by Congress and signed by President Trump. She stated that an annual Congressional spending bill was passed in December 2019 and the 12 Appropriations would fund Federal Agencies through September 30, 2020, as follows:

- Defense: \$738 billion
- Non-Defense: \$632 billion
- Additional Budget Cap Funding Increase Across all Federal Spending \$48 billion

Ms. Basurto identified the following Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Appropriations as priority items within the SAtoDC Program Agenda:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): \$3.4 billion, increased by \$100 million
- HOME Investment Partnerships: \$1.35 billion, increased by \$100 million
- Healthy Homes & Lead Hazards: \$90 million, increased by \$10 million
- Homeless Assistance Grants: \$2.8 billion, increased by \$41 million
- Choice Neighborhoods Initiative: \$175 million, increased by \$25 million

Ms. Basurto reported on the following Appropriations for priority programs within the City's Federal Legislative Program:

- BUILD Grant Program: \$1 billion, increased by \$100 million; funding sought for the proposed VIA Thompson Center.
- Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants (JAG): \$547 million, increased by \$123 million; Two SAPD detective positions working with child-related crimes were funded by JAG.
- Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS): \$23 million, increased by \$10 million; 25 SAPD police officer positions were funded by COPS.
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA): \$502 million, increased by \$5 million; 10 grants have been identified for the City to apply for.
- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI): \$665 million, increased by \$25 million; the City was ranked 25 in FY 2019, with only the top 25 ranked cities eligible for funding; UASI was included as part of the SA to DC Agenda.
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant: \$335 million increased by \$5 million; funding sought to replace a 10-year old emergency AmBus vehicle.
- Brownfields Project Grant Program: \$89 million, increased by \$2 million; funding of two revolving loans for contamination clean-up activities.
- 2020 Census: \$6.69 billion.
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program: \$3.7 billion, increased by \$50 million.
- Community Services Block Grant \$740 million, increased by \$15 million; \$2.1 million local grants for jobs, workforce training and financial literacy.

Ms. Basurto highlighted the following Appropriations for Military Construction – Joint Base San Antonio:

- BMT recruit dormitory: \$74 million; Lackland AFB
- Aquatics tank: \$69 million; Lackland AFB
- Ground based training system simulator: \$9.3 million; Randolph AFB
- Training System Centralized Training Facility: \$19 million; Randolph AFB

Ms. Basurto presented program information for the 42nd Annual SAtoDC Event scheduled for February 3-6, 2020. She stated that approximately 185 San Antonio stakeholders and business partners would attend keynotes, panels, and issue team meetings with Congressional Leaders and staff to advocate for prioritized local community issues.

Councilmember Viagran introduced the National League of Cities (NLC) Leading Together Cities' Agenda for the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election. She stated that the NLC would be asking all presidential candidates to endorse the NLC's four non-partisan priority Agenda items, as follows:

- Building sustainable infrastructure
- Creating a skilled workforce
- Ending housing instability and homelessness
- Reducing gun violence

Councilmember Viagran noted that the NLC Agenda was closely aligned with the City's Federal Legislative Program. She proposed that the City take up a Resolution in support of the Agenda, as a member city of the NLC.

Councilmember Sandoval moved to recommend and forward a Resolution in support of the NLC Leading Together Cities' Agenda to the City Council for consideration prior to January 30, 2020. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Councilmember Viagran asked if funding was redirected from military bases for the building of a border wall. General Ayala stated that approximately \$300 million in military construction funding from a prior year was diverted from Texas, to include approximately \$18 million in proposed funding to replace a 1933 dining hall at Camp Bullis. He stated that the Legislative Team was still advocating for funds for the dining hall, and that an anticipated \$7 billion was to be diverted from military construction funding for the building of a border wall in FY 2020.

3. Briefing and possible action on the 86th State Legislature's Interim Charges [Jeff Coyle, Director, *Government & Public Affairs*]

Christine Wright discussed the policy issues that have been assigned to legislative committees for analysis and evaluation in preparation for the upcoming 87th Legislative Session in 2021. She identified 35+ of the total 291 total charges to be city-related and provided the following key highlights:

- Speaker Dennis Bonnen: Speaker Bonnen would not be seeking re-election; The House General Investigation Committee concluded its ethics investigation of Speaker Bonnen with no further action; a new Chair of the Appropriations Committee to take place of the retired Chair was still not appointed.
- Elections: Primary elections are scheduled for March 2020; Senate seats are predicted to remain the same with only some competition expected for a single seat in District 19, incumbent Senator Pete Flores.
- Texas Municipal League (TML): Director Shanna Igo announced her retirement after 31 years; in transition, the TML Legislative Services Department would now be called the Grassroots and Legislative Services Department with an increased focus on engagement of city officials and community involvement.
- Open Record Request (ORR): State Rep. Mayes Middleton sent an Open Records Request (ORR) to every city, county and school district statewide requesting disclosure of legislative consulting contracts. Ms. Wright stated that in full transparency, the City had

posted a 10-year itemization of its consulting contracts online, and that a copy of same was sent to Rep. Middleton's office.

Ms. Wright highlighted City-related Interim Charges and scheduled Hearings that the Federal Legislative Team would be monitoring. She mentioned the City's State Representation Services and the development of the City's State Legislative Program.

Councilmember Viagran expressed concern about the City's lack of representation on the Advisory Committee for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas. Mr. Coyle replied that although the City's direct representative Rep. Larson had been removed from the Advisory Committee, he continued to serve as Chair for the House Natural Resources Committee which was the primary committee for all state water-related issues.

Chairman Peláez expressed concern regarding cyber security and requested that the Legislative Team explore ideas, to include a possible Resolution, to urge the State Legislature and the Governor to provide cyber security measures for local municipalities. Mr. Coyle replied that cyber security measures would be added to the City's State Legislative Program. Carlos Contreras added that the Legislative Team would explore cyber security Resolutions with TML officials next week and that member cities could collectively impact state budgeting for next year.

No action was required for Item 3.

4. A briefing and possible action on renewal of Interlocal Agreement between the City of San Antonio and the twelve school districts within its boundaries. [Roderick Sanchez, *Assistant City Manager*; Michael Shannon, *Director, Development Services*]

Michael Shannon discussed a 2004 Interlocal Agreement (ILA) that was established to streamline development permitting and construction activities to better promote timely project completion and by working closely with school districts. He stated key initiatives for the 10-year contract renewal of the ILA would be clarifications to drainage studies by and changes to Fee-In-Lieu-Of (FILO). He stated that the waiver of requirement to perform and submit drainage studies would be removed and that a level of study would be required. He added that FILO would be reduced by the amount of drainage study cost and would be paid through bond funding or at the rate of the bond project, allowing for more flexibility in FILO fee allocation.

Councilmember Viagran asked if local Charter Schools were included in the ILA, and expressed concern regarding Charter School traffic control devices funded by the City. Mr. Shannon replied that the ILA is specific to school districts, but the City shared a similar participation process with Charter Schools. Art Reinhart explained that specific language had been embedded in agreements with Charter Schools outside of the ILA to better optimize traffic flow. He added that most Charter Schools have a parent drop-off system and do not have established school zones. He stated that Charter Schools are now required to implement warning flashers that could be upgraded to a formal school zone in the future, as needed.

Councilmember Viagran moved to recommend and forward the renewal of an ILA between the City of San Antonio and the twelve school districts within its boundaries to the City Council for consideration. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Councilmember Sandoval identified a traffic circulation problem at Longfellow Middle School. She noted that the school was built 60 years ago, prior to a time when school traffic circulation plans were required. She requested that the Transportation & Capital Improvement Department work jointly with Longfellow Middle School officials to implement a traffic circulation plan. Mr. Reinhart agreed.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Manny Peláez, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Cano
Office of the City Clerk