

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



**Meeting Minutes  
City Council B Session**

No in-person access to this meeting

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

**2:00 PM**

**Videoconference**

**ROLL CALL**

The City Council convened in a Regular Meeting. City Clerk Tina J. Flores took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** 10 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

**ABSENT:** 1 - Sandoval

Mayor Nirenberg stated that in the nation, more than 500,000 of our friends and family, and 2,500 San Antonians were lost to COVID-19. He noted that he invited leaders representing all faiths to stand alongside us and for us to stand together in remembrance of those who had been lost.

Mayor Nirenberg acknowledged Archbishop Garcia-Siller, Archbishop Vivian Vance, Bishop David Copeland, Manuel Jones Span, Pastor Kenneth Kemp, Reverend Herman Price Jr., Dr. Rob Murphy, Bishop David Reed, G.P. King, Eman Kerr, Rabbi Mara Nathan, Elder Villarreal, Sally Watson, Reverend Helmke and others for their virtual and visual presence.

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller led the meeting in a moment of silence to honor and remember those lost to COVID-19.

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 2:14 pm to discuss the following:

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 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. Legal issues related to litigation involving the City pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Legal issues relating to COVID-19 preparedness pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Legal advice regarding election laws and open meeting procedures pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
- G. Deliberate competitive matters regarding CPS Energy and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.086 (competitive matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 4:18 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session and two of the Items would be carried over to March 4, 2021.

Once a quorum was established, the City Council considered the following:

- 1. Briefing on the Status of the Strategic Development Plan for the San Antonio International Airport. [Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager; Jesus Saenz, Director, Aviation]

Aviation Director Jesus Saenz thanked John Dickson and the Airport System Committee for their continued support and participation. He reported that the following needs specific to the airfield layout were identified:

- Enhance safety by resolving FAA Hotspot, extending runway 13R-31L 340 feet to southeast
- Enable service to farther international destinations, extending runway 13R-31L on-airport to 10,000 feet
- Accommodate long-term projected growth, optimizing the existing runway and building a parallel runway if needed

Mr. Saenz noted that each of the solutions would satisfy the Airport's airfield requirements for the next 20 years. He indicated that extending runway 13R-31L and Engineer Material Safety Area extensions

on the existing property would improve arrival and departure flow rates.

Mr. Saenz reported that there were three terminal alternatives for consideration which had taken design criteria, current needs, and recent community survey results and comments into consideration. He stated that the existing conditions included:

- Terminals undersized by 13%
- Separate security checkpoints
- No secure connection between terminals A and B
- Terminal A systems obsolete
- Concourse A too narrow
- Baggage handling undersized
- Inadequate concession space and revenues
- Short 12 gates by 2040

Mr. Saenz presented a technical planning illustration for a 110-foot domestic concourse and options for a 120 to 140-foot concourse that would permit parking of international wide body aircraft on one side. He stated that the Aviation Department was planning for high growth by 2040 so that expansion planning efforts would not have to be made again or too soon. He indicated that traveler input would be taken into consideration for plans for a future terminal complex. He reported that concessions, terminal expansion, passenger experience, accessibility, amenities, security screening, signage/wayfinding, art/entertainment, seating, and modernization were identified as important in survey responses.

Mr. Saenz reviewed the terminal needs and solutions:

<b>Accommodate high growth passenger demand</b>	<b>Provide world class customer experience</b>	<b>Address Terminal A inadequate concourse width and functional obsolescence</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan a new terminal complex to at least 35 total gates, including three wide body, international gates</li><li>• Increase total terminal space to 1.2 million square feet</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build a consolidated, central terminal complex with a single checkpoint</li><li>• Plan for increased concession space</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct a new Concourse A at least 110 feet wide</li><li>• Rebuild Terminal A with modern systems and passenger amenities</li></ul>

Mr. Saenz presented the three alternatives developed to accomplish the solutions.

Mr. Saenz reviewed the existing roads and major airport entry points. He reported that the roadway needs and solutions included:

<b>Improve the roadway experience</b>	<b>Reduce congestion and accommodate projected growth</b>	<b>Provide airport entrance gateway</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease weaving and signals</li> <li>• Increase decision-making distances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce intersections and provide more continuous flow</li> <li>• Increase use of airport direct connector ramp from US 281 northbound</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidate inbound airport traffic earlier</li> <li>• Simplify on-airport road system</li> <li>• Facilitate multimodal options</li> </ul>

Mr. Saenz reviewed the preliminary roadway improvement alternatives, potential roadway improvements and the Strategic Development Plan and Overview and schedule.

Mayor Nirenberg congratulated the Aviation Department as the recipient of a 2020 Airport Service Quality Award. He reported that there were no individuals signed up to speak at the Public Comment Meeting.

Mayor Nirenberg asked his Council Colleagues to partner with Mr. Saenz to provide outreach and gather input at their respective town hall and neighborhood association meetings. He stated that as the City grew, it would provide first class air service that would be expected from a Tier 1 city. He thanked John Dickson for his service on the Air Service Development Committee (ASDC).

John Dickson stated that the City had the opportunity to build a world class facility. He commended Mr. Saenz for his leadership and noted that the ASDC provided feedback to Mr. Saenz and his team which reinforced what the consultants and the leadership had done.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda asked how the airport and Visit SA shared information on projected growth. Mr. Saenz stated that the two entities exchanged information and reported information on performance to each other.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked who was identified as a swing user. Mr. Saenz stated that a swing user referenced travelers who were not committed to one airline or airport.

Councilmember Courage asked what the maximum cost would be and how much could be afforded. Mr. Saenz reported that staff were working with the estimators to determine the cost and would present alternatives to the City Council in two or three months. He stated that staff would review revenues and expenses to determine what could be afforded.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked how climate change, such as the recent winter storm would be addressed in the plans to upgrade the airport. Mr. Saenz stated that the return on investment for the purchase of equipment to address climate change was low and staff were able to create a forecasted

plan in advance of the winter storm.

Councilmember Perry asked of the efforts taken to prevent an increase in the number of homes affected by noise from the airport. Mr. Saenz stated that staff would meet with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Tower management to ensure that pilots were taking the correct routes and staying within the contours established. Councilmember Perry questioned the need for a longer runway at this time. Mr. Saenz stated that the runway would not be lengthened until there was a demand for it.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting at 5:34 pm.

**APPROVED**

**RON NIRENBERG**

Mayor

Attest:

**TINA J. FLORES**

City Clerk