

**Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee
Special Meeting
Minutes**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2010
Municipal Plaza Room B
9:30 a.m.**

Members Present: Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, *Chair, District 7*
Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember Jennifer V. Ramos, *District 3*
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Carlos Contreras, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Martha Sepeda, *First Assistant City Attorney*; Sally Basurto, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Christine Wright, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Stephanie Johns, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Lisa Biediger, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Joe Farias, *State Representative*; Baltazar Serna, *Patton Boggs*; Marc Rodriguez, *Consultant*; Bobby Perez, *Shelton & Valadez*; Joe Sanchez, *AARP*; Luis Wilmot, *NLCUP*; Adrian Martinez, *SAHCC*; Ester Geffre, *Catholic Charities*; Janet Ahmad, *HOWBB*

1. Call to order

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes for the September 8, 2010 and October 6, 2010 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings

Councilmember Lopez moved to approve the minutes for the September 8, 2010 and October 6, 2010 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Issues to be considered

a. State Legislative Update and Possible Action
Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

i. Discussion and consideration of Possible Amendments to the 82nd State Legislative Program

Citizens To Be Heard

Representative Joe Farias provided information regarding legislation to close the Credit Service Organization (CSO) loophole that allows payday and auto title loan stores to evade existing laws that cap fees and rates for consumer loans. He requested a Resolution of support from the City

of San Antonio for the Texas State Legislature to compel payday and auto loan stores to stop usurious lending and comply with the same standards as licensed lenders in Texas.

Joe Sanchez, Associate State Director of AARP, expressed concern with the lending practices of payday and auto title loan stores and spoke in support of a Resolution from the City of San Antonio to stop such lending practices.

Luis Wilmot, NLCUP, provided alternatives in the event that legislation regarding the regulation of payday and auto title loan stores was not passed. He noted that the City of San Antonio, Texas Credit Union League, and the United Way can work together to provide alternatives to payday loan operations.

Ester Geffre, Catholic Charities, expressed concern with payday loan lending practices and spoke in support of a Resolution to regulate the operations.

Janet Ahmad, HOWBB, requested support of legislation regarding the licensing of Homebuilders and a Home Lemon Law. She asked that the City coordinate with Bexar County regarding those issues.

Carlos Contreras provided information on a Resolution of support regarding the regulation of payday and auto title loan stores that would: 1) Close the CSO loophole in State Law; 2) Require licensing of payday loan brokers and lenders; and 3) Create a system to collect consumer loan data. He noted that that the City's State Legislative Plan was a fluid program adopted by the City Council on October 14, 2010 and that the proposed Resolution could be included as an endorsement. Chairman Rodriguez requested to establish a timeline for amendments to the Legislative Plan and that all amendments be presented to the City Council at one time. Mr. Contreras confirmed that there were additional issues pending and stated that he would provide a timeline as requested at the next IGR Meeting. In response to Councilmember Ramos, Mr. Contreras replied that currently, there were no bills with regard to the City's Initiatives. He stated that staff was working with the City's Legislative Counsel and Legal Team to draft legislation. He noted that typically, legislation was provided in conjunction with a Resolution of support regarding the City's endorsements. Councilmember Ramos spoke in support of the proposed Resolution and encouraged a timeline to address all amendments by the last City Council Meeting of the year.

Councilmember Lopez asked of any payday loan store density or zoning requirements. Chairman Rodriguez recommended coordination with the Development Services Department and the Infrastructure and Growth Council Committee to discuss density and zoning requirements. Councilmember Ramos referenced an ordinance initiated by former Councilmember McNeil that addressed payday loan store zoning but did not address density. She requested consideration of update to the ordinance to address density. Councilmember Lopez asked of a timeline for amendments to the State Legislative Program. Mr. Contreras responded that he anticipated Council Consideration at the December 16, 2010 City Council Meeting. Marc Rodriguez stated that the proposed schedule was appropriate and noted that there would still be time to consider amendments in January if necessary. He added that House Committee Assignments were not made until February. Councilmember Taylor thanked Representative Farias for apprising the Committee of the payday loan issue and spoke in support of the proposed Resolution.

Councilmember Ramos moved to forward said Resolution to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Contreras provided information on Transportation – State Funding and referenced discussions of Casino Gaming proceeds as a funding source. Marc Rodriguez stated that referencing Casino Gaming as a designated funding source could be detrimental to the proposed legislation and recommended a general revenue statement citing “New Sources of Revenue Enacted By Legislature.” Chairman Rodriguez requested that staff revise the language to reflect Marc Rodriguez’s recommendation.

Mr. Contreras also provided a timeline for the adoption of the Federal Legislative Agenda and added that staff recommendations would be presented to the Committee on December 8, 2010. He noted that a B Session Presentation was scheduled for December 15, 2010 with adoption of the Program scheduled for January 13, 2010.

4. Consideration of items for future meetings

There were no items addressed.

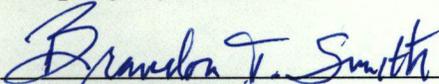
5. Executive Session: consultation concerning attorney-client matters (real estate, litigation, contracts, personnel and security) may be discussed

There was no Executive Session.

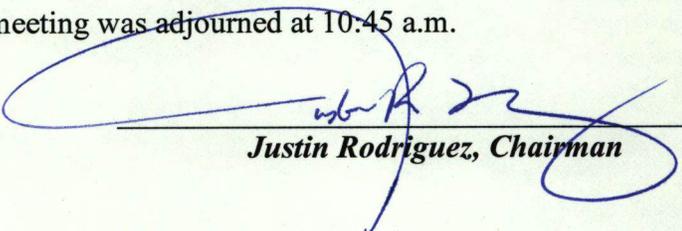
6. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk



Justin Rodriguez, Chairman