

Economic & Community Development Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 21, 2008

9:00 AM

Media Briefing Room

Members Present: Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *Chair, District 1*
Councilmember Sheila McNeil, *District 2*
Councilmember Lourdes Galvan, *District 5*
Councilmember Louis Rowe, *District 9*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Pat DiGiovanni, *Deputy City Manager*; A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Robert Peche, *Economic Development Director*; Peter Zaroni, *Budget Director*; Ben Gorzell, *Finance Director*; Beth Costello, *International Affairs Director*; Robert Murdock, *Military Affairs Director*; Ed Davis, *Economic Development Assistant Director*; Bill Mattox, *Public Utilities Assistant Director*; James Henderson, *Military Affairs Deputy Director*; Gabriel Garcia, *Assistant City Attorney*; Ray Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: David Marquez, *Bexar County*; Bobby Perez, *Shelton & Valadez*; Louis Jimenez, *AT&T*; Michael Garrino, *King William Association*; Gayle Spencer, *King William Association*

Call to Order

Chairperson Cisneros called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

Citizens were heard on their corresponding items.

2. Approval of Minutes of the October 23, 2008 Economic and Community Development Committee Meeting

Councilmember Rowe moved to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2008 Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, the Committee addressed Item 4.

4. Approval of the Guidelines for the Community Infrastructure and Economic Development Fund for Council consideration

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development Department

Citizens to be heard

Michael Garrino, King William Association, detailed a proposal for the King William Association to raise 1/3 of a \$500,000 underground utility conversion project. He noted that the association considered taxation or soliciting contributions from donors and foundations.

Bobby Perez, Time Warner, suggested using a portion of the State Franchise Fee to cover costs for the additional 1/3 that would be shared by utilities. He noted that utility conversions are not planned expenditures.

Louis Jimenez, AT&T, requested additional time to review the proposed guidelines.

Councilmember Rowe moved that the proposed guidelines be revised to reflect staff recommendation and presented to the full Council for discussion in a B Session. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion and noted that staff should confer with Committee members prior to the B Session presentation. Councilmember Galvan stated that she could not fully support the proposed guidelines but would support the motion for discussion in B Session. Pat DiGiovanni recommended bringing said item back to the Committee in a Special Meeting in December prior to a B Session presentation and the Committee concurred. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Briefing on the Trade Mission to Mexico

Presented by Beth Costello, Director, International Affairs Department

Beth Costello presented information on the San Antonio-Mexico Strategic Marketing Program on December 1-5, 2008. She noted that the trade mission was a collaborative symposia/exchange that focused on: 1) Passenger air service and tourism market development; 2) General business; 3) Healthcare and bioscience; 4) Heavy and light industry and 5) Education and culture.

5. Approval of the Tax Phase In Guidelines for Council consideration

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development Department

Robert Peche presented the new proposed Guidelines for the Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDIF) that would outline eligibility requirements, funding limitations and administration of the fund.

Councilmember McNeil noted the importance of distributing tax abatement incentives equally throughout all Districts. She wanted to ensure that less affluent Districts were not paying more in tax revenue than more affluent communities.

Chairperson Cisneros requested a listing and clarification of Tax Abatement Projects by District from 1988 – 2008. Mr. Peche stated that he would forward the requested information to the Council.

Councilmember Galvan moved to forward said item to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Briefing on the Fort Sam Houston Growth Management Plan Implementation

Presented by Robert Murdock, Director, Office of Military Affairs

Robert Murdock reported that the Fort Sam Houston Growth Management Plan (GMP) Study had been completed by the DiLuzio Group and that action plans in six critical areas had been identified. He noted that the GMP Implementation Working Group would review the six action plans to assess costs and resources, and that the Implementation Strategy will be presented to the full Council at the December 10, 2008 B Session.

Additionally, an amendment to the current grant requesting full-time staff to address GMP Implementation efforts will also be presented for full Council consideration on December 11, 2008.

7. Consideration of items for future meetings:

- Fort Sam Houston GMP
- National Bio Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF)
- Empowerment Zone

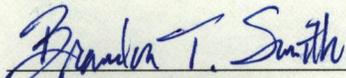
8. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



Mary Alice Cisneros, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk