

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011  
10:00 AM  
MUNICIPAL PLAZA ROOM B**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Jennifer V. Ramos, *Chair, District 3*  
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*  
Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Elisa Chan, *District 9*

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**Staff Present:** A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Carlos Contreras, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Robert Murdock, *Military Affairs Director*; Frank Sherman, *Military Affairs Deputy Director*; David Garza, *Center City Development Office*; Stephanie Johns, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Sally Basurto, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Christine Wright, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Lisa Biediger, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Also Present:** Baltazar Serna, *Patton Boggs*; Tom Downs, *Patton Boggs*

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**I. Call to order**

Chairperson Ramos called the meeting to order.

**II. Approval of Minutes of June 8, August 31 and October, 19, 2011 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings**

Councilmember Lopez moved to approve the Minutes of June 8, August 31 and October 19, 2011 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings. Councilmember C. Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. Discussion Items**

**a. Briefing and Overview of Washington, D.C. IGR Council Committee Trip**  
Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

Carlos Contreras reported that many of the briefing/overview points would be addressed in Item III-b presented by Tom Downs. He called on David Garza to brief the Committee on the Brownfield Program.

Mr. Garza reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was interested in more successful applications from Region 6 (San Antonio) and had paid consults to assist the region with the application process. He stated that staff was working with a consultant on the submission of a \$200,000 Grant by November 28, 2011. He noted that a community meeting was required and scheduled for November 21, 2011. He added that various community leaders, organizations, and entities would be invited to secure the 12 required letters of support. He

informed the Committee that the City Council had approved a Sr. Planner to assist in the operation of the Brownfield Program to be in place by January, 2012.

In response to Chairperson Ramos, Mr. Garza responded that the program was a city-wide effort and currently targeting Inner City Reinvestment/Infill Policy (ICRIP) Areas. He stated that five areas had been identified in the Roosevelt area; three on the Westside; and several in Dignowity Hill.

Councilmember Lopez asked of the qualifications of the identified areas. Mr. Garza stated that all areas had been identified as contaminated. Councilmember Lopez recommended inviting the San Antonio Engineering Association to the community meeting scheduled for November 21, 2012.

Mr. Contreras stated that there were several EPA Grants available to: 1) Assess; 2) Clean up; and 3) Redevelop contaminated areas. He noted that the City is taking an aggressive approach to move through the process.

**b. Briefing and Update on City's 112<sup>th</sup> US Congress 2011-2012 Federal Legislative Program and on Status of FY 2012 Proposed Budget/Super Committee Action, provided by Patton Boggs**

Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

Tom Downs, Patton Boggs, provided an overview of the City's 2011-2012 Federal Legislative Program. He reported that key funding had been eliminated for FY 2011 and stated that all earmarks had been removed from year-end appropriations for San Antonio Projects. He noted that there had been extreme funding cuts in Homeland Security, Federal Buildings Fund, and National Parks System.

Mr. Downs provided information on Patton Boggs' ongoing services on behalf of the City of San Antonio to include: A) Federal Funding Advocacy; B) Direct Advocacy involving Washington Policymakers; C) Assistance in securing Federal Grants; and D) Continuous monitoring of appropriations, authorizations, President's Budget, and related funding initiatives in Congress. He highlighted progress/successes for COSA Initiatives regarding Transportation, Military, Homeland Security, San Antonio Missions, Obesity Prevention, and Education. He stated that FY 2011 year-end appropriations did not provide sufficient funding for new courthouse construction and that the House Appropriations Committee has voted to eliminate all funding for courthouse construction, while the Senate has proposed to reduce from the FY 2011 funding level.

**c. Briefing on 82<sup>nd</sup> State Legislative Interim Charges**

Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

Mr. Contreras reported that there were a number of issues that are defensive in nature regarding Telecommunications Franchise Fees. He stated that the pending issues were in regard to direct revenue to the City of San Antonio for the use of right-of-ways, protecting the city's rights and responsibilities controlling towers and zoning. He noted that staff was working closely with the City's Legal Team and that an update would be provided to the Committee at a future date.

Mr. Contreras provided a list of Interim Committee Charges pertinent to the City of San Antonio and stated that staff would continue to monitor opportunities for testimony from the IGR Council

Committee. He noted that staff was exploring opportunities to host some of the State Legislature Committee Meetings in San Antonio.

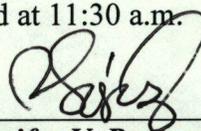
**IV. Consideration of items for future meetings**

**a. Next Meeting Scheduled: December 14, 2011**

Chairman Ramos stated that due to the holiday schedule, the next meeting would be held in January, 2012.

**V. Adjournment**

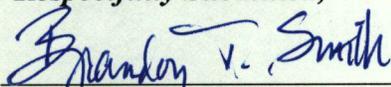
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



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*Jennifer V. Ramos, Chairperson*

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Brandon T. Smith*  
*Office of the City Clerk*