

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, May 30, 2012
10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA ROOM B**

Members Present: Councilmember Ray Lopez, *Chair, District 6*
Councilmember Elisa Chan, *District 9*
Councilmember Carlton Soules, *District 10*

Members Absent: Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*

Staff Present: Carlos Contreras, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Sally Basurto, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Christine Wright, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Roderick Sanchez, *Director of Development Services*; Lisa Biediger, *Assistant City Attorney*; Martha Lambaria, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Baltazar Serna, *Patton Boggs*; Tom Downs, *Patton Boggs*; Sarah Vilms, *Patton Boggs*; Lourdes Castro Ramirez, *San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA)*; Kathy McCormick, *SAHA*

At this time, the Committee addressed Item III a.

III. State

a. Development of COSA's 83rd Legislative Program

Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

Carlos Contreras, Director of Intergovernmental Relations provided an overview on the development of State Programs and Interim Charges. He introduced Marc A. Rodriguez, State Consultant. He acknowledged that the May 29th primary elections had just occurred. He stated that departmental "Proposed Legislative Initiative" recommendations are being received and that reviewing and vetting will be accepted for the State Program.

Councilmember Soules asked of the appropriate time to discuss items and recommendations. Mr. Contreras provided a timeline. He reported that the process is for departments to bring forth their items first, and for Council Committees to bring forth their recommendations thereafter. He added that June and July are designated for vetting departmental recommendations from the Council Committee and that August is designated for Council Members to bring forward their recommendations. Mr. Contreras stated that the adoption of the program will take place in late September or October, and that October or November will be designated for initiatives at the State Level.

In response to Chairman Lopez, Mr. Contreras replied that the outreach letter for input has been drafted, and that the formal letter should go out in June.

Councilmember Chan entered the meeting.

Call to order

Chairman Lopez called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Soules asked of the process followed by Council Members in bringing forth questions on a specific issue. Mr. Contreras reported that typically recommendations from Council Members are brought forth by departments. Mr. Contreras offered IGR as a department to facilitate the process for addressing an issue. He added that the IGR Committee will review specific issues to be considered. Chairman Lopez noted that the reason for outreach is to have a Council Committee that addresses every aspect.

In response to Councilmember Chan, Mr. Contreras confirmed that the deadline for City Department recommendations is June 8th. He noted that Council Members will have their own recommendations that are independent from the department. In response to Councilmember Chan, Mr. Contreras replied that the IGR Committee will review potential recommendations in August. Councilmember Chan affirmed that the IGR Committee will make recommendations to the full City Council in October. Mr. Contreras reported adopting the program by November.

Mr. Contreras presented on the Interim Charge & Committee Hearing Schedule Testimony on Municipally Owned Utilities. Mr. Contreras spoke of the City of Austin's Municipally Owned Utility practices. He reported that Austin's electric utility rates are being monitored very carefully. He stated that outlying areas in Austin have alleged to paying for city services and benefits at a disadvantage to them. He noted that the findings could affect all Municipally Owned Utilities. Mr. Contreras clarified that contrary to Austin, San Antonio is separately run, separately managed, and employs a separate board of directors. He further informed that San Antonio has a very different structure than Austin.

I. Approval of Minutes of the April 11, 2012 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Chan moved to approve the Minutes of the April 11, 2012 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Soules seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Action Items

Interlocal Agreement:

- a. Proposed extension of the ILA between the City's Development Services Department and Port San Antonio USA (Port Authority) to allow the Authority to issue building and trade permits, conduct building plan reviews and perform inspections**

Roderick Sanchez, Director, Development Services

Mr. Contreras called on Mr. Roderick Sanchez, Director of Development Services to present on Port Authority Interlocal Agreement (ILA).

Mr. Sanchez provided an overview on the following:

- Background
- Purpose of ILA
- Brief overview of ILA
- ILA term
- Terms of New Agreement
- Termination of Agreement
- Review Steps

Mr. Sanchez reported that staff is recommending approval of the ILA between the City of San Antonio and the Port Authority of San Antonio. Mr. Contreras reported that the proposal is for a three-year term and renewal for two individual one-year terms effective June 2012.

In response to Councilmember Chan, Mr. Sanchez replied that zoning compliance to include zoning changes follow the city zoning process.

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

Federal:

a. Briefing and possible action on San Antonio Housing Authority's (SAHA) 2012 Eastside Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant proposal to U.S. Housing and Urban Development

Lourdes M. Castro Ramirez, President & CEO, SAHA

Mr. Contreras called on Ms. Lourdes M. Castro Ramirez, SAHA President & CEO. Ms. Castro Ramirez provided a presentation on the Wheatley Courts Choice Neighborhood Initiative to include:

- Background
- Planning and Community Engagement
- Demographics – Wheatley Area
- Eastside Choice Promise Partners
- Transformation Plan
- Investing in “People”
- Investing in “Neighborhood”
- Investing in “Housing”
- Sources and Uses
- Walters and Hays
- Gevers at Arthur
- Implementation Grant
- The Eastside is Ready

Councilmember Chan affirmed that the application process occurred in April. In response to Councilmember Chan, Ms. Castro Ramirez replied that endorsement letters are required to be a part of the application. Councilmember Chan stated that \$30 million is a good assessment awarded, and asked for the allocations. Ms. Castro-Ramirez reported the following:

- \$22 million for housing
- \$4.5 million for people (employment & education)
- \$3.4 million for neighborhood investments (parks and housing rehab – partnership with Metro health, health and wellness initiatives)

In response to Councilmember Chan, Ms. Castro Ramirez replied that said grant could be used for programming as well. Councilmember Chan asked for clarification on the one-for-one replacement of the public housing units. Ms. Castro Ramirez replied that the conditions for the grant require the replacement of 248 existing public housing units in targeted neighborhoods. Ms. Castro Ramirez noted that old public housing will be torn down and that subsidy will be tied to the new development. Councilmember Chan affirmed that the said grant does not stipulate the creation of additional units, but instead encompasses changing the community into a mixed income neighborhood.

Chairman Lopez referred to Slide number four on the PowerPoint, and asked for a snapshot of expectations at the end of investment. Ms. Castro Ramirez introduced Cathy McCormick, Officer for Development and Neighborhood Revitalization at SAHA. Ms. McCormick reported that the key component is to build up neighborhoods and people. She reported that the goal is to increase income by 10%. In response to Chairman Lopez, Ms. McCormick responded that the 10% goal is written in the grant, and the time period for improved quality of life is 10 years.

Councilmember Soules asked for the allocations for the \$160 million overall project. Ms. Castro-Ramirez provided the following break-down of three components:

- \$93 million housing construction and improvements (\$51 million Wheatley Courts and \$40 million Sutton Oaks)
- \$30 million investing in people
- \$37 million neighborhood and infrastructure

Ms. Castro-Ramirez added that the direct impact is a one mile radius. Councilmember Soules asked of funds secured of the \$160 million. Ms. Castro Ramirez reported the following:

- \$27 million secured for Sutton Oaks Phase II
- Tourist application into City for infrastructure improvements
- \$23.7 million secured and awarded earlier this year from United Way Grant
- \$13 million from Housing Authority

In response to Councilmember Soules, Ms. Castro-Ramirez replied that the grant application would come to fruition in September or early October.

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

III. Discussion Items:

Federal

a. Federal Legislative Program Update

Tom Downs, Patton Boggs

Mr. Contreras called on Tom Downs, Patton Boggs to present the Federal Legislative Update.

Mr. Downs confirmed a meeting among Mayor Castro, SAHA and Shaun Donovan, U.S. Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in Washington D.C. on June 12th at 10:00 a.m. Staff recommends that Mayor Castro advise SAHA at the meeting with Secretary Donovan on behalf of San Antonio for Growth on the Eastside (SAGE).

Mr. Downs reported that since the Senate has yet to pass its version of a Budget Resolution, the Appropriations Committees can move forward with their respective bills. He spoke of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act - a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Reauthorization and stated that the House & Senate are meeting and optimistic of reaching an agreement before June. He further spoke of the 2012 Farm Bill Reauthorization, stating that the House version of the Farm Bill reauthorization has not yet been introduced.

Mr. Downs called on Sarah Vilms, Patton Boggs to provide an update on the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park Expansion Bill to adjust the boundaries of the National Park. Ms. Vilms reported that the HR 3100 Bill Hearing took place on May 17th and could come up for a floor vote at any time.

Mr. Walter Serna, Patton Boggs stated that Secretary Salazar would be in town over the weekend touring the Missions, and spoke of the great opportunity it would be to speak to him in support of the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park Expansion Bill.

Chairman Lopez asked if fruition of said bill would change formulas and if so, would funding go directly to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Mr. Contreras suggested conducting an analysis to show the forecast on direct funding to the MPO.

In response to Mr. Serna, Mr. Downs responded that most projects are given multi-year funding allocations; typically three year projects. He added that there was a need to obligate money within a two-year period.

Chairman Lopez added that tolls are the only source of significant funding.

b. Upcoming House and Senate Interim Charge Hearings

Carlos Contreras, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

Mr. Contreras called on Mr. Marc A. Rodriguez, State Legislative Consultant to provide a snapshot and analysis of Bexar County Delegation seats for the upcoming elections.

Mr. Rodriguez reported that 28 incumbent members of the Texas House are not seeking re-election. Due to retirement, six Chairman and six Vice-Chairman Committee seats will have to be filled. He added that four incumbent Senators are not seeking re-election. The four senate retirements caused four open Chairmanships. He stated that said analysis will change after the May Primary Election and the November General Election.

Councilmember Soules asked for a list for appointees or a target for vacancies. Mr. Contreras stated that the Speaker makes assignments on the House Side and that the Lieutenant Governor makes assignments on the Senate Side. Councilmember Chan noted that from the House Side IGR Staff should be able to make some appointments a reality. Chairman Lopez stated that it is important to identify said individuals and to understand the Legislative priorities. Mr. Contreras reported that it is going to be a difficult session and will have challenges. Mr. Rodriguez noted

that it is good to have delegates in mind. Councilmember Chan asked for an analysis on said item and stated that part of this needs to be strategic to allow for advantages.

Mr. Rodriguez's last point was that Texas Department of Transportation (TX Dot) Activity is good and added that transportation will always be a topic.

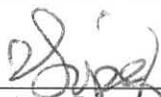
IV. Consideration of items for future meetings

a. Next Meeting Scheduled: June 2012 - To be determined.

Mr. Contreras announced that the next meeting is yet to be determined and will be held in the Municipal Plaza C Room.

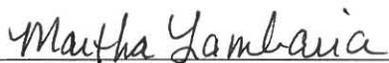
V. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.



Ray Lopez, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Martha Lambaria
Office of the City Clerk