

Economic & Community Development Council Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 23, 2007

1:30 PM

Media Briefing Room

Members Present: Councilmember Kevin Wolff, *District 9, Chair*
Councilmember Sheila McNeil, *District 2*
Councilmember Lourdes Galvan, *District 5*
Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, *District 7*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jelynn Burley, *Deputy City Manager*; Pat DiGiovanni, *Deputy City Manager*; Penny Postoak-Ferguson, *Assistant City Manager*; Robert Peche, *Economic Development Director*; Scott White, *Convention & Visitors Bureau Director*; Mike Sawaya, *Convention Sports & Entertainment Facilities Director*; Beth Costello, *Internal Affairs Director*; Robert Murdock, *Military Affairs Director*; Ed Davis, *Economic Development Assistant Director*; Reynaldo Cano, *International Affairs Assistant Director*; James Henderson, *Military Affairs Deputy Director*; Ray Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Barbara Ankemah, *Economic Development*; Angela Gonzalez, *Economic Development*; Yonnie Blanchette, *City Manager's Office*; Thomas Marks, *District 9 Staff*; Paul Jimenez, *District 2 Staff*; Walter Ague, *District 7 Staff*; Emma Hersh, *District 5 Staff*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Bobby Perez, *Shelton-Valadez*; Kara Hill, *Bexar County*; Chris Raba, *RDG Architects*; Larry Raba, *RTK Dev.*; James Richards, *RTK Dev.*; Daniel Rodriguez, *Coastal Securities*; Jorge Rodriguez, *Coastal Securities*; Tom Spurgeon, *McCall Parichurst*;

Call to Order

Chairman Wolff called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

2. Approval of Minutes of the April 17, 2007 Economic Development and International Affairs Committee Meeting

Councilmember Rodriguez moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2007 Economic Development and International Affairs Committee meeting. Councilmember Galvan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Overview of Office of Military Affairs

Presented by Robert M. Murdock, Director, Office of Military Affairs

Robert Murdock informed the Committee that the Office of Military Affairs (OMA) was established in March 2007 from the Office of Economic Adjustment for a period of two years. He identified James Henderson as Deputy Director and Kara Hill, Bexar County, as assisting the OMA. He reported that the OMA was the single point of contact for the City of San Antonio on military and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) related issues.

Mr. Murdock presented information on the Military Transformation Task Force (MTTF). He noted that the MTTF was a joint City of San Antonio, Bexar County and the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce initiative to assist the military in the implementation of BRAC 2005 actions, address impacts on the community and leverage BRAC actions to strengthen the economy and revitalize neighborhoods.

Councilmember McNeil inquired about opportunities for local area contractors. Ms. Hill responded that contractor opportunities have been advertised through various professional organizations. She added that it would be best for local contractors or register with the SBA.

In response to Councilmember Rodriguez, Mr. Murdock stated the funding for a Military Impact Study would be funded by the Economic Development Department. Jelynn Burley noted that outside impact studies have been implemented by the Greater Chamber of Commerce in the past; however, that the City of San Antonio has chosen an in-house expertise by city staff to conduct a study.

4. Empowerment Zone Bond Financing for the Piazza San Lorenzo Project

Presented by Robert Peche, Economic Development Department

Robert Peche presented information on the Piazza San Lorenzo Project, a \$113 million downtown mixed use development. He informed the Committee that staff is requesting approval to present to the full Council an ordinance to reserve and issue up to \$25 million in Empowerment Zone (EZ) Bonds for the project.

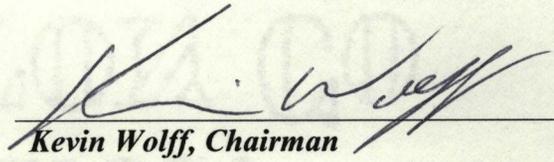
Councilmember McNeil announced her support of the project but admonished staff to create projects that qualify for EZ Bonds outside of the downtown area. Councilmember Rodriguez concurred.

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

Adjournment

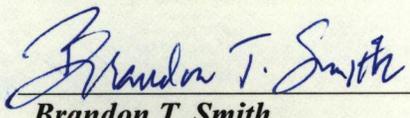
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Copies of these presentations are made part of the file and are available upon request.



Kevin Wolff, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Administrative Assistant II
Office of the City Clerk