

City Council Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the City Council Governance Committee was held on
Wednesday, January 19, 2005 at 3:30 pm in the City Hall Media Briefing Room

Councilmembers Mayor Edward D. Garza
Present: Councilmember Richard Perez, District 4
Councilmember Julian Castro, District 7
Councilmember Art Hall, District 8
Councilmember Carroll Schubert, District 9

Staff Present: Rolando Bono, Interim City Manager; Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk; Pat Major, City Auditor; Andy Martin, City Attorney; Melissa Byrne Vossmer, Assistant City Manager; Erik Walsh, Assistant to City Manager; Milo Nitschke, Director Finance; Tom Wendorf, Director Public Works

Other Members Phil Harris, Finance; Harlene Kennedy, Assistant City Attorney;
Present: Stephanie Garza, City Auditor's office; Andrew Ornes, City Auditor's office; Judi Rodriguez, City Auditor's office; Maria Villagomez, Public Works; Chris Callanen, Public Works; Anita Vela-Johnson, City Manager office; Susan Wright, Chair Vested Rights Task Force

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Edward D. Garza called the meeting to order.

I. Briefing by Patricia Major, City Auditor on the following items:

- A. Status of Audit Projects**
- B. Status of Audit Plan**
- C. Authorization of Projects**
- D. Accounts Receivable**

Ms. Major requested the Governance Committee recess into Executive Session. Mayor Garza reconvened the meeting at 3:46 pm to go into Executive Session relating to the above said items.

II. Executive Session

Discuss legal issues relating to certain accounts receivable and possible claims by and against the City, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultant with attorney).

Mayor Garza reconvened the meeting at 4:22 pm and stated no further action would be taken.

III. Discussion and possible action regarding review and implementation of the recommendations of the Mayor's Vested Rights Task Force, including any proposed amendments to the UDC; Presented by Susan Wright, Chair and Andrew Martin, City Attorney; J. Rolando Bono, Interim City Manager.

Susan Wright reported to establish goals and direction and report back to Council. Said item will come back when a consensus is reached.

IV. Agenda Related Items

A. Discussion regarding the designation of Mystic Park and Ernani Falcone Memorial Way, as requested by mayor Edward D. Garza and Councilman Julian Castro; Presented by Thomas Wendorf, Director of Public Works; Melissa Vossmer, Assistant City Manager.

Mr. Wendorf requested to designate Mystic Park, located in District 7, as Ernani Falcone Memorial Way. As a resident of District 7, Mr. Falcone was very active in the community and helped organize many neighborhood groups. As an activist he fought for local environmental preservation. Because of Mr. Falcone's involvement, Mystic Park has a new fire station, and is the future home of the Maury Maverick Library as well as the 65.51 acre Nani Falcone Community Park. Ernani Falcone Memorial Way will serve as the gateway to these new facilities.

Councilmember Perez moved to approve said item Councilmember Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion regarding the installation of various traffic calming devices in District 4; as requested by Councilman Richard Perez; Presented by Thomas Wendorf, Director of Public Works; Melissa Vossmer, Assistant

Mr. Wendorf reported said item be brought forth at the recommendation of Councilman Perez through a Council Consideration Request for the following calming devices in District 4:

- Install left-turn signal phase on the East-West approaches of Southcross at Zarzamora;
- Install left-turn signal phase on the North-South approaches of Barlite at S.W. Military Drive;
- Install left-turn signal phase on the East-West approaches of Southcross at Commercial;

- Replace left-turn signal phase on the East-West approaches of Ansley at Zarzamora with a left-turn signal phase on the North-South approaches of Zarzamora at Ansley;
- Install school zone flashing beacons on Ray Ellison from Old Valley Hi Drive to Medina Base Road.

The results of the studies indicate that the existing traffic conditions do not warrant left-turn phases at these signalized intersections. Staff's investigations revealed that since there is no existing left-turn lanes on the approaches requested, the signal operation would need to be split-phased. A split-phased signal operation allows for only one direction of traffic to have a green light at a time. Split phasing causes a negative impact on the level of service for signalized intersections in terms of delay. Delay is measured in the level of driver discomfort, frustration, fuel consumption and lost travel time.

Should staff be directed to install the left-turn phasing at these locations, the cost of these projects would be \$8,300 and would be funded from the District 4 Neighborhood Accessibility and Mobility Fund (NAMP) as follows:

• Left-turn signal – Southcross and Zarzamora	\$2,500
• Left-turn signal – Barlite and S.W. Military Dr.	\$2,500
• Left-turn signal – Southcross and Commercial	\$2,500
• Left-turn signal – Ansley and Zarzamora	<u>\$ 800</u>
Total	\$8,300

Lastly a pair of solar power flashing beacons can be installed on Ray Ellison Blvd. near Medina Base Road for Valley High Elementary School at a cost of \$14,000.

Funds in the amount of \$22,300 are available from the District 4 NAMP fund.

Councilmember Perez moved to approve said item Councilmember Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion regarding limiting Council members to five minutes of discussion per agenda item, after which discussion may proceed with no time limit, as requested by Councilman Joel Williams.

Councilmember Barrera supports the idea Councilmember William proposed to set rules and procedures for Council discussion. However, Councilmember Barrera stated a holistic look be made and not a piecemeal look at the entire Council meeting and determine how the Mayor and City Council, along with the City Manager and City Staff can improve the meetings without losing transparency in the proceedings. Councilmember Barrera suggests looking at other Municipalities in Texas and across the country to identify best practices that can be implemented in San Antonio.

Councilmember Barrera request that a committee be formed to look at said item and make recommendations to City Council for review and implementation.

Mayor Garza noted the response for Councilmember Barrera. A discussion ensued with regards to re-coordinating the meetings.

Mr. Bono noted the limited resources in the limited resources in the Office of the City Clerk with one person taking minutes for all Council Committee Meetings.

Councilmember Schubert noted Council Committee Meeting questions should be posed first so a decision can be made after the question is asked.

Mayor Garza requested a test with the next meeting. Councilmember Perez asked; what happens if you do not have a question but would like to make a comment. Councilmember Schubert stated; then use your five minutes any way you wish. Mayor Garza requested to try the five minute rule at the next City Council Meeting in B Session on January 20, 2005.

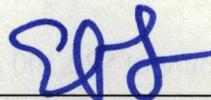
V. Consideration of scheduling of items for future meetings

Said item not addressed.

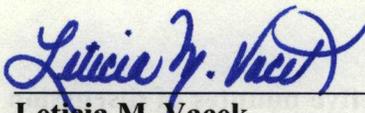
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm

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

ATTEST:



Edward D. Garza, Mayor



Leticia M. Vacek
City Clerk