

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014

1:00 P.M.

PLAZA ROOM B, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING

Members Present: Councilmember Cris Medina, Chair, *District 7*
Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, *District 5*
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*
Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, *District 8*
Councilmember Mike Gallagher, *District 10*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Brandon Ross, *Special Projects Manager, Parks*; Veronica Zertuche, *Deputy City Attorney*; Faustino Benavides, *Senior Engineer, TCI*; Rene Dominguez, *Director, EDD*; Reynaldo Cano, *Manager, EDD*; Shahrzad Dowlatshahi, *Chief of Protocol, IRO*; Eduardo Carrasco, *Senior Specialist, IGR*; Carlos Contreras, *Assistant City Manager*; John Dugan, *Director, AICP*; Jeff Coyle, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Lisa Biediger, *Assistant City Attorney*; Frank Miller, *Aviation Director*; Ryan J. Cook, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Tom Downs, *Patton Boggs*; Walter Serna, *Patton Boggs*; William Paché, *SAWS*; Brian Mast, *SARA*

1. Approval of minutes of the November 13 and December 17, 2013 and January 28, 2014 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to approve the Minutes of the November 13 and December 17, 2013 and January 28, 2014 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meetings. Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Individual Briefings

2. Update on February Federal Advocacy Visit [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Jeff Coyle reported that Councilmembers Taylor, Krier, Nirenberg, Medina, and Gonzales traveled to Washington, D.C. as part of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Annual SA to DC Trip. He reported that representative Joaquin Castro and Judge Xavier Rodriguez met with Senior Advisor to the President Valerie Jarrett to request that the \$125 Million San Antonio Federal Courthouse Project be included in the President's FY 2015 Budget. He reported that the President's Budget would be released March 4, 2014 and would commence the Annual Appropriations Process in Congress. He noted that it would not be binding; however, it represents the Administration's Priorities and would potentially allow the San Antonio Project to skip over other communities on the Five-Year Courthouse Plan. He added that San Antonio is currently 4th on the list, and 3rd among New Construction Courthouse Projects, following the FY 2014 funding of a new Federal Courthouse in Mobile, Alabama. He reported that Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan, Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx,

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and White House Director of Domestic Policy Council Cecilia Munoz participated in a Panel Discussion regarding their Agency's support of the Promise Zone Initiative and that Councilmember Taylor participated in a Panel of the Promise Zone Communities on Local Communities Experiences. He stated that the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Gina McCarty was in San Antonio and would meet with Mayor Castro and Chairman Medina. He stated that Ms. McCarty had briefed the Chamber and complimented the City's Environmental Practices. Mr. Coyle stated that she indicated her goal as a Regulatory Agency was to implement Environmental Regulations that foster job creation and not inhibit it. Discussion ensued regarding the Federal Courthouse and SA to DC Trip.

No action was required for Item 2.

3. Urban Waters Federal Partnership [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Jeff Coyle provided a briefing and update on the Urban Waters Federal Partnership to include:

- Background
- Summary
- Local Strategic Planning
- Local Planning-Proposed Projects
- Next Steps

Mr. Coyle reported that the Urban Waters Program was created in 2011 by 11 Federal Agencies and the White House Domestic Policy Council. He stated that there were seven Pilot Urban Waters Communities in 2011 and 11 Regions designated as Urban Waters Communities in 2013. He reported that the Urban Waters Federal Partnership is a Multi-Agency Agreement to help restore Urban Water Quality, Revitalize Communities, and Reconnect Communities to Urban Waterways. Mr. Coyle reported that the City planned to submit an application for the program February 2014. He reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urged the City to submit the application before FY 2014 Grant Opportunities that may provide Preferential Points for Urban Waters Partners were released. He reported that EPA and HUD have agreed to be the two Lead Federal Agencies for the City if it is designated an Urban Waters Partner and would submit the application on the City's behalf.

Councilmember Gallagher asked why the City has not participated before. Sally Basurto replied that the Urban Waters Program Participation was by Invitation only and that the first seven communities were contacted directly by the EPA and the original 11 Federal Agencies. She added that due to the success of the Pilot Projects; it was decided to incorporate other communities that had similar challenges with access to waterways and were economically distressed. She stated that under the direction of Mr. Carlos Contreras, Mr. Tom Downs and Mr. Walter Serna were able to identify funds that were potentially available for reprogramming communities. She stated that the funds identified were Urban Waters. Mr. Carlos Contreras noted that this is an available source of funds; however, it is limited to its participants.

John Dugan stated that with the Promise Zone Designation; extra points are earned and applied toward any Federal Application. He stated that he met with the Ms. Cecilia Munoz and she indicated that the White House is extremely interested in how the City is weaving together all of

its Federal Programs. He stated that Ms. Munoz expressed her support in that she would help the City with any Processes, Implementations, Dialogues, and Red Tape.

No action was required for Item 3.

Trade Mission Update [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Reynaldo Cano and Shahrzad Dowlatshahi provided a briefing and update on the Trade Mission to include:

- SAHCC Trade& Investment Mission to Spain Sept. 21-29, 2013
- Cities Visited
 - Bilbao, Spain
 - Sevilla, Spain
 - Madrid, Spain
- Mayor's Sister City Mission to Japan Oct. 28-Nov. 2, 2013
- Cities Visited
- Bexar County and COSA Mission to Japan Nov. 8-18, 2013
- Cities Visited
- Action Items from the Nov. 2013 Trade and Investment Mission to Japan
- SAHCC SA to DF Mission to Mexico Dec. 8-11, 2013

Mr. Cano reported that the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (SAHHC) Trade and Investment Mission to Spain Objectives were to demonstrate the SAHCC's Commitment to grow links with Spain, Strengthen Civic Ties at all levels of Government, Cultivate Business Relationships with Investment Prospects, and Engage Multiplier Organizations to encourage Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to San Antonio. He reported that both San Antonio and Spain had the opportunity to brief each other on various Investment Opportunities at an Investment Seminar in Madrid. He further reported that a third of the companies that presented to San Antonio already have offices on the East Coast of the United States.

Ms. Dowlatshahi reported that the Mayor's Sister City Mission to Japan Objectives were to visit Toyota Headquarters to meet with Toyota Company Leadership, Provide the keynote address at the Asian Pacific City Summit by invitation of Sister City Kumamoto, and Establish new relationships. She reported that due to issues with Government Communication between Japan and Valenzuela; Toyota Operations have been halted. She further reported that Toyota has pulled out of Australia due to the Australian Government stopping all Tax Incentives for Auto Manufacturers. She stated that during a meeting with the US Embassy, it was indicated that San Antonio is correctly engaging with Japan and demonstrating the importance of their relationship by regularly visiting and keeping an office and consultant in Japan.

Ms. Dowlatshahi explained that the Sister Cities include: Monterey and Guadalajara, Mexico; Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain; Gwangju, South Korea; Kaohsiung, Taiwan; Kumamoto, Japan; Chennai, India; and Wuxi, China. She added that the City also had two Friendship Cities: Tel Aviv, Israel and Suzhou, China.

Chairman Medina exited the meeting at this time. Councilmember Lopez presided over the meeting.

Mr. Cano reported that the Bexar County and COSA Mission to Japan Objectives were to Represent the San Antonio Community at the Memorial Service for Mrs. Naoko Shirane, Strengthen Ties with current Japanese companies in San Antonio, Cultivate Business Relationships with Investment Prospects, and Engage Multiplier Organizations to encourage FDI to San Antonio. He stated that the Action Items from the November 2013 Trade and Investment Mission to Japan was to Propose a Seminar in collaboration with the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service focused on the Energy Sector, Engage Ota City Industrial Federation to help members with overseas expansion to San Antonio, and Continue to maintain a strong relationship with Toyota to encourage expansion.

Ms. Dowlatshahi reported that the SAHCC SA to DR Mission to Mexico Objectives were to Promote new relationships, Build and foster stronger ties between San Antonio and Mexico, Meet with Mexico City Secretary of Economic Development, Meet with Mexican Industrial Chamber (Canacintra), and Sign the Airport Cooperation Agreement between San Antonio Aviation and Toluca Airport.

Councilmember Nirenberg exited the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Lopez inquired about any interests that have been expressed in San Antonio since the trips. Mr. Cano replied that three different businesses from Japan have conducted Prospect Visits to San Antonio. He stated that in terms of U.S. Foreign Commercial Collaboration, a great amount of interest has been expressed in the Eagle-Ford-Shale.

No action was required for Item 4.

Consideration of items for future meetings:

4. Next Meeting Scheduled: March 12, 2014

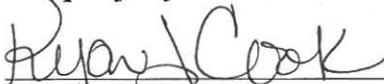
Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.



Cris Medina, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Ryan J. Cook
Office of the City Clerk