

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013  
10:00 AM  
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING – B ROOM**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Ray Lopez, *Chair, District 6*  
Councilmember Diego Bernal, *District 1*  
Councilmember Elisa Chan, *District 9*  
Councilmember Carlton Soules, *District 10*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*

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**Staff Present:** Carlos Contreras, *Assistant City Manager*; Jeff Coyle, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Eric G. Burns, *Assistant City Attorney*; Lawrence Trevino, *Emergency Management Coordinator*; Ramiro Salazar, *San Antonio Public Library Director*; Troy Elliott, *Finance Director*; Martha Lambaria, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Also Present:** Tom Downs, *Patton Boggs*; Sara Vilms, *Patton Boggs*; Marc Rodriguez, *Consultant*

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**At this time, the Committee addressed Item II-ii.**

**II. Briefing and Possible Action Items:**

- ii. Update on Federal Legislative Program [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director provided an update on the following:

- a. Federal Courthouse Construction Update
- b. Proposed 2015 BRAC

Chairman Lopez asked of the number of Courthouses in line before the San Antonio Federal Courthouse in 2014. Mr. Coyle responded that the budget does not include any of the Courthouses in the 2014 President's Budget. Chairman Lopez expanded on the strategy of building new Courthouses versus refurbishing existing ones. Tom Downs of Patton Boggs expanded on General Services Administration's (GSA's) Five-Year Courthouse Project Plan. He spoke of the prospects of getting San Antonio included on the list for the next round of construction.

Councilmembers Chan and Soules entered the meeting at this time.

## **Call to order**

Chairman Lopez called the meeting to order.

### **At this time, the Committee continued with Item II-ii.**

#### **c. Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Update**

Mr. Coyle provided a briefing on the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Funding and Proposed Strategy. Chief Lawrence Trevino, Emergency Management Coordinator expanded on the background, status and strategies for Homeland Security Operations.

In response to Chairman Lopez, Chief Trevino stated that the amount of the grant that was not awarded was \$1.2 million. He noted that the \$1.2 million would have funded technical training, bomb training, rescue, hazmat team, pharmaceuticals and vests. He added that funding alternatives and sources were being sought.

Mr. Downs spoke of sequestration and working with other delegations around the country. He noted receiving strong support for an amendment to the UASI Program reallocation but reported that said amendment was defeated.

Councilmember Soules asked how the allocations were determined. Sara Vilms from Patton Boggs responded that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) followed strict formulas and that the Secretary made the final decision on the amount of the allocations and rankings. She confirmed that the decision was both political and formula determined.

### **At this time, the Committee addressed Item II-i.**

## **II. Briefing and Possible Action Items:**

### **i. Master Interlocal Agreement [Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager]**

Mr. Coyle presented the FY2014 Master Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County to include:

- Animal Care Services

Councilmember Chan asked if the \$752,732 reimbursement to the City for Animal Care Services included sweeps. Mr. Coyle responded that it did not include sweeps and that sweeps cost \$6,000 per stray animal sweep conducted. He added that this was a one-year agreement with the potential for a one-year extension.

Mr. Coyle continued:

- Food and Environmental Health Services
- Library Services

Councilmember Chan asked of the arrangement in place for small or suburban citizens to utilize the City's Library Services. Ramiro Salazar, Director of the San Antonio Public Library explained that Bexar County Residents who obtain a Library Card were entitled to City Library Services. Councilmember Chan asked of the percentage of usage between San Antonio Residents versus Outside City Residents. Mr. Salazar reported that 18% circulation, 9% computer usage and 14% Library Card Holders were County Residents outside San Antonio.

Mr. Coyle continued with the FY 2014 Master Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County:

- Hotel Occupancy Tax Collection
- Cooperative Purchasing

Councilmember Chan asked of departments that would be utilizing the Cooperative Purchasing and the effects on the City and County's Procurement Processes. She expanded on ITSD procurement particularly and of the benefits to procure locally to encourage the IT Industry in San Antonio. She noted that there were other factors to consider.

Troy Elliot, Director of Finance reported that lower competitive bids that focused on vehicles and equipment, would utilize the Cooperative Purchasing the most. He spoke of incorporating bidding requirements to be followed by the City, County and/or other organizations and added that said was still in the early stages.

Councilmember Soules expanded on purchasing mechanisms across different entities. He articulated the potential for saving millions of dollars and the benefits for San Antonio and other organizations.

Chairman Lopez concurred with Councilmember Soules and stated that said was a great step forward.

Mr. Coyle continued:

- Magistration & Detention Services (Detention Costs)
- CrimeLab/Medical Examiner
- Jury Pool

Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager informed the Committee of the implementation of the District Attorney's (DA's) No Refusal Weekends and the impact on the budget. He stated that the DA's Office had obtained a grant to use an outside source and that part of the contract was City participation in that service. He anticipated that service delivery

would increase and improve, and that the penalty schedule may not be needed. If not, he indicated that a minimum guarantee was required by the County, for participation in service by the City.

Chairman Lopez expressed concern with on scene response time by the Coroner's Office when there was a death by homicide. He noted the incredible amount of resources utilized and the critical component to cost structure. He requested a strategy to improve that time. Mr. Contreras confirmed that said was a resource issue and stated that it would be looked into.

Councilmember Bernal moved to approve the FY 2014 Master Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County. Councilmember Chan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**I. Approval of Minutes of the April 10, 2013 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting**

Councilmember Chan moved to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2013 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Soules seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**At this time, Item II-iii was addressed.**

iii. Update on 83<sup>rd</sup> State Legislative Session [Jeff Coyle, Intergovernmental Relations Director]

Mr. Coyle introduced Marc Rodriguez, Consultant and provided a briefing to include:

- COSA Initiatives that passed in Legislature:
  - Hemisfair Redevelopment
  - Land Bank
  - Floodplain Enforcement
  - Removal of Platted Restrictions
- Protection of Municipal Interests
- Land Development Regulation
- Transportation
- Public Safety & Health
- Economic Development
- Water
- Taxes

Councilmember Soules asked for clarification on the amendment to the Appraisal District Reform Bill. Mr. Coyle expanded on HB 585 regarding increases in property values and Clear and Convincing Evidence by the Appraisal District. He reported that HB 585 had

passed and that it was awaiting the Governor's signature. Mr. Contreras stated that according to the Appraisal District, said could have significant impact in losses to the General Fund. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Bernal expressed concern in proving the appraised value and the Per Property Clear and Convincing Evidence aspect of making a case each time.

Councilmember Soules expressed support for HB 585 and discussed property tax reform. Mr. Contreras expanded on the inequity aspect. Mr. Coyle spoke of the shift in burden to the individual homeowners. Councilmember Bernal asked of point in which litigation would occur. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Rodriguez reported that there was no action by the City and that the City was neutral. He indicated that the majority of the Counties in Texas were Pro Appraisal.

Councilmember Chan asked for clarification on the Franchise Tax. Mr. Coyle stated that he would provide an analysis.

Councilmember Chan asked of Transportation, particularly SB 1747. Mr. Coyle reported that SB 1747 was a Bill to facilitate Infrastructure and create Transportation Reinvestment Zones.

Councilmember Soules expressed concern with San Antonio being one of the few Cities imposing sales tax on Car Leases from Dealerships and of the disadvantages. He asked for additional information. Discussion ensued.

**II. Consideration of items for future meetings:**

Next Meeting Scheduled: TBD

**IV. Adjourn**

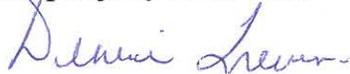
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.



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*Ray Lopez, Chairman*

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Martha G. Lambaria*  
*Office of the City Clerk*

for