

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014
1:00 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Council Absent:	Councilmember Diego Bernal, <i>District 1</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Robbie Greenblum, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Erik Walsh, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Rod Sanchez, <i>Director Development Services</i> ; Shanon Miller, <i>Director, Office of Historic Preservation</i> ; Chief McManus, <i>Police Department</i> ; Carlos Contreras, <i>Asst. City Manager</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Liaison, Mayor's Office</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Special Projects Manager, City Manager's Office</i> ; Steven Baum, <i>Asst. Police Director</i> ; Jose Banales, <i>Asst. Chief, Police Department</i> ; Jennifer Ramirez, <i>Executive Assistant, City Managers Office</i> ; Kathy Rodriguez, <i>Deputy Historic Preservation Officer</i> ; Jim Kopp, <i>Asst. City Attorney</i> ; Lianna Patterson, <i>Executive Assistant, City Manager's Office</i> ; Rebekah Jamison, <i>Sr. Executive Secretary, Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present	Jody Williams, <i>First Vice President of SA Conservation Society</i> ; Stephanie Narvail, <i>Reporter WOAI</i> ; Dillon Collier, <i>Reporter Kens 5</i> ; E. Ziylin, <i>Photographer WOAI</i> ; Josh Baugh, <i>Reporter SAEN</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

- 1. Approval of minutes from the December 18, 2013 Governance Committee Meeting.**

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2013 Governance Committee Meeting as submitted. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried by those present.

Individual Briefings

- 2. Consideration and possible action on an amendment to the City Code Related to Issuance of Demolition Permits**
Shanon Miller, *Director, Office of Historic Preservation*; Roderick Sanchez, *Director Development Services Department*

Rod Sanchez reported that the demolition of the former Univision Building located at 411 E. Cesar Chavez raised questions concerning the City's Demolition and Appeal Process. It also raised questions related to the review of properties claimed to be of cultural or historical significance. The City's Development Services Department and the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), undertook a review of the events and the following recommendations were made:

1. Update Informational Materials: The creation of an Informational Bulletin (IB) and revised pamphlet and application form to clarify the process for appealing a decision to the Board of Adjustment (BOA). The IB would clarify circumstances under which an appeal to the BOA is appropriate and when it was not.
2. Issuance of Demolition Permit Time Frame: Staff recommended an amendment to Chapter 10, of the City Code and the addition of a note in the UDC which provides for a cooling off period before a demolition permit could be issued, after a demolition decision is rendered by the BOA or by the Historic and Design Review Commission (HDRC). Demolition cannot occur before 10:00 am the day following a BOA or HDRC Decision.

Mr. Sanchez stated that the proposed timeline was to share the recommendations with the Development Stakeholders in February, followed by the Infrastructure and Growth Committee in March. In April it would be brought before City Council for adoption.

Shanon Miller reported that a Strategic Historic Preservation Plan was adopted in 2009. She stated that the criteria for Landmark Designation were expanded to increase the eligibility criteria for properties.

- Require properties to meet 3 of the 16 eligibility criteria to be considered for a Landmark Designation
- 11 of the 16 take into account various aspects of cultural significance
- To identify cultural significance; staff relies on input from citizens

Mrs. Miller stated that OHP collaborated with Westside Preservation Alliance and San Antonio Conservation Society and launched the Westside Cultural Resources Survey in 2011. Over 100 properties to date have been identified and 22 were designated as Historic Landmarks during Phase 1 in 2013. A Resolution for Phase 2 would be presented for City Council consideration in January, 2014.

Mrs. Miller added that the City Manager was to add a Cultural Historian position to the OHP. The Cultural Historian would lead initiatives to solicit public input in identifying culturally significant properties through efforts such as the Westside Cultural Resources Survey. The Cultural Historian will assist OHP with determinations of whether properties meet Landmark Designation based on cultural or historic significance. She added that the process to develop and fill this position would be completed within 90 days.

Regarding the Elan Riverwalk Project, Mrs. Miller mentioned that a stipulation was added that the developer must include three interpretive panels accessible to the public of the significance of the site.

Mayor Castro suggested a cooling off period of at least 24 hours. He added that he is pleased that the city is moving forward and adding staff to proactively identify sites for historic or cultural designation.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked if the role of the Cultural Historian would work within the 16 existing criteria. Mrs. Miller responded yes. She added that the tools were in place and now they would be able to expand their efforts and get to properties faster because they would have staff in place to identify the properties.

Councilmember Viagran asked what the typical timeframe for a demolition of a building. Mr. Sanchez responded 1 to 5 days and there was no notification process for demolition. Mrs. Miller added that the recommendation would enable a cooling off period. She added that UDC requires a sign be placed on the property and the agenda posting is notification. Councilmember Viagran agreed with adding a 24 hour cooling off period. Councilmember Saldaña added that the Cultural Historian would provide a level of predictability.

It was the Consensus of the Governance Committee Members to forward said item to the Full Council.

3. Consideration and possible action on the SAPD Body Worn Police Camera Pilot

William P. McManus, Chief of Police

Chief McManus reported that the SAPD proposed conducting a pilot program to determine the feasibility and costs of deploying body worn camera units for Patrol Officers.

Chief McManus stated that the San Antonio Airport Police had already conducted a successful pilot and would begin using body worn camera units by Spring 2014. He added that SAPD had installed mobile video and voice recoding equipment (COBAN) in 664 patrol vehicles and would complete installation in the remaining 27 vehicles this spring. SAPD will gather video evidence on offenders as well as improve officer safety and accountability.

Chief McManus reported that body worn cameras were relatively a new development in policing and the subject of much interest in Law Enforcement and Civil Liberties communities. Preliminary research conducted by SAPD revealed that while no comparable cities had a fully implemented program, several had conducted limited pilots including Austin, Houston, Fort Worth, Corpus Christi and Phoenix. He added that most cities had a 12 month testing period except Phoenix which had a 5 year testing period.

Chief McManus added that the proponents of the cameras argue that recoding police interactions with citizens may help protect police departments from lawsuits, protect

citizens from police misconduct, and provide evidentiary support in criminal cases; however civil groups and legal experts have raised concerns about this technology. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) issued a brief, outlining its concerns about data retention, security, privacy concerns, and the lack of a model policy regulating the use of technology.

Chief McManus stated that SAPD would conduct a twelve month pilot program to deploy a variety of body worn cameras to the Downtown Foot/Bike and Patrol Units. The pilot would be designed to gather data on the effects on citizen and police behavior, evidentiary value, operation feasibility, program costs, compatibility with COBAN, and other factors.

Chief McManus added that during this pilot, SAPD Staff would continue to monitor the results of other cities' pilots, and collaborate with the Police Executive Research Forum to develop best practices and a model policy. Equipment for the pilot is expected to be deployed during the spring. He stated that SAPD would report the results to the Governance Committee in December, 2014.

Chief McManus reported that the Department had begun contacting camera vendors seeking trial equipment at little to no cost. Additionally, SAPD would work with vendors and ITSD to minimize any additional costs associated with the pilot. Both the SAPD Labor Relations Committee and the San Antonio Police Officers' Association would assist in the development and review of the pilot and make a recommendation regarding the feasibility of using the equipment.

Chief McManus recommended finalizing issues such as policy, training, vendor equipment and technology and to present the pilot proposal at B Session on March 5, 2014.

Mayor Castro stated that he was looking forward to the results of the pilot for office and citizen safety.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked if there were any other uses and if it could record if the officer got out of his patrol unit and went into a building. Erik Walsh stated that some cities were looking into the use of both on body and in car system; some are transitioning to just body cameras.

Councilmember Saldaña stated that this would moderate behavior on both sides. He also asked if officers cannot record encounters. Mr. Walsh responded that there was no law against citizen recording.

Councilmember Viagran asked what would the policy state since officers would be able to turn the cameras off. Chief McManus stated that in confidential particular cases, the cameras were to be turned off (i.e. speaking to supervisors).

Mr. Walsh stated they would ensure that the policy would be clear for officers in order to measure the impact.

Councilmember Viagran asked how the requests for information for videos would be handled. Chief McManus replied that it would all be part of the policy.

No action was required for said item.

Consideration of items for future meetings

4. Next Meeting Scheduled: February 19, 2014

Mayor Castro announced that the next Governance Council Committee Meeting was scheduled for February 19, 2014. There being no further discussion, Mayor Castro adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

ATTEST:



Leticia Vacek, TRMC/MMC
City Clerk



Julian Castro
Mayor