

**CITY OF LAREDO  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS  
5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**M-93-R-18**

**JULY 6, 1993**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

IN ATTENDANCE:

SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR.,	MAYOR	
JOSE R. PEREZ, JR.	COUNCILMEMBER,	DISTRICT I
JACINTO P. JUAREZ,	"	, DISTRICT II
ARLENE RASH ALDRIDGE,	"	, DISTRICT III
CECILIA MAY MORENO	"	, DISTRICT IV
BLAS CASTANEDA,	"	, DISTRICT V
EDUARDO PERALES,	"	, DISTRICT VI
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ,	"	, DISTRICT VII
FELIPE CARDENAS,	"	, DISTRICT VIII
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY	
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY	
CARLOS VILLARREAL,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	
JESUS NAVA,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	

ABSENCES:

Peter H. Vargas, City Manager.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Regular City Council Meeting: June 21, 1993

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Quitclaim Deed to Mr. Ricardo Benavides and wife, Lydia Benavides on Block 757-A, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, located at the 1300 Block of Taylor Street; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

#### VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #93-O-131, #93-O-132, #93-O-133, #93-O-134, #93-O-135, #93-O-136 and #93-O-137.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. 93-O-131 Authorizing the City Manager to execute on behalf of the City of Laredo all necessary documents to effectively convey title to T.S. Scibienski and wife, Virgie Scibienski to a 1.3636 acre tract of land in exchange for an equal 1.3636 acre tract of land. The two equal size tracts of land being exchanged between the parties are more particularly described by Metes and Bounds on Exhibits "A" and "B", in accordance with V.A.T.C.S. Local Government Code Section 272.001 (b) (1); providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

5. 93-O-132 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease amendment to the lease agreement No. ATG-4710-E4 with the State of Texas, Attorney General's Department for the purpose of adding temporary space consisting of 620 square feet of building #S-1 at 1718 E. Calton Road at the Laredo International Airport and allowing the lease to be renumbered as Lease No. ATG(302)-4710-E8D; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 93-O-133 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an operations amendment to the Foreign-Trade Zone Site Operations Agreement between the City of Laredo and Killam FTZ Corporation authorized by Ordinance No. 88-O-112 dated September 6, 1988, in order to allow Killam FTZ Corporation to execute U.S. Customs Forms 214 and 216 without obtaining a limited power of attorney from zone grantee; revoking all previously issued limited powers of attorney; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 93-O-134 Amending the City of Laredo's 1992-1993 Water Fund Budget to appropriate \$712,000 from the Water Availability Fund to the Water Rights Acquisition Account, and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

8. 93-O-135 Final reading of an ordinance to amend the City of Laredo's Narcotics Task Force 1992-1993 annual budget to appropriate \$302,989 from excess program generated income of the Task Force and authorizing the City Manager to submit this budget amendment to the Governor's Criminal Justice Division and implement said budget after its approval from the Criminal Justice Division; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. 93-O-136 Final reading of an ordinance on the South Meadow Street Improvements Assessment Project fixing a lien and charge. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

10. 93-O-137 Approval of a contract with the Texas Department of Health for the "Los Dos Laredos" Binational Tuberculosis Elimination Project and budget for a fiscal year beginning February 1, 1993 through January 31, 1994, but for the operational period of June 1, 1993 to January 31, 1994; and increasing revenue line item #226-0000-323-4059 from \$0 to \$133,847, and increasing expenditure line item #226-6075 from \$0 to \$133,847; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

## VII. RESOLUTIONS

11. 93-R-046 Supporting the establishment of a Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Regional Training Center, Texas A & M University System, in Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Motion to amend the resolution by adding "and not duplicate" after the word "complement" in the fourth paragraph of the WHEREAS section.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to adopt the resolution supporting the establishment of a Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Regional Training Center, Texas A & M University System, in Laredo, Webb County, Texas as amended.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

12. 93-R-069 Acceptance of a grant from the Texas Department of Health in the amount of \$25,142.00 for the expansion of the Department of Health's Immunization Program for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1992, through August 31, 1993, but for the operational period of May 1, 1993 through August 31, 1993.

Motion accepting a grant from the Texas Department of Health in the amount of \$25,142.00 for the expansion of the Department of Health's Immunization Program for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1992, through August 31, 1993, but for the operational period of May 1, 1993 through August 31, 1993.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
 Second: Cm. G. Perez  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

13. 93-R-070 Declaring the public necessity to acquire three (3) parcels, Tract 16, Part 2, Tract 8, Part 12, and Tract 9, Part 1, for right-of-way for the Mines Road Widening Project and authorizing the City Attorney to file condemnation proceedings to acquire those parcels that staff is unable to acquire through negotiations.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas

Carlos Villarreal stated they would like to discuss this item with item #32 and suggested that Tract 9, Part I be deleted because it had been taken care of.

Second was withdrawn.

Motion to consider Resolution 93-R-070 at the time item #32 is taken which is executive session.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to delete Tract 9, Part 1 from resolution.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For:                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to adopt resolution 93-R-070.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

14. 93-R-071 Acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$39,943.00 from the Texas Department of Health for a fiscal year beginning February 1, 1993, through January 31, 1994, but for the operational period of July 1, 1993, to January 31, 1994, for the Tuberculosis



17. Award of architectural contract, for an amount not to exceed \$18,000, to Sepulveda Associates Architects, Laredo, Texas, to provide surveys, prepare plans and specifications, and construction inspection for a warehouse, offices, and a laboratory facility to house the City Utilities Department's Wastewater Collection and Pollution Control Division.

Motion to award architectural contract, for an amount not to exceed \$18,000, to Sepulveda Associates.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

18. Award of a contract in the estimated amount of \$98,901.00, to the Low Bidder, Laredo Cellular, Laredo, Texas, for a three year contract for cellular phone equipment and air time service for all City Departments.

Motion to award contract in the estimated amount of \$98,901.00 to the low bidder, Laredo Cellular, Laredo, Texas, for a three year contract for cellular phone equipment and air time service for all City Departments.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

19. Award of a contract to the Low Bidders, Gemini Systems Inc., San Antonio, Texas (\$61,252.00), and Computerland Inc., San Antonio, Texas (\$24,493.00), for the purchase of computer terminals, printers, controllers, and an I.B.M. disk drive. Authorize that all bids for Section A, Personal Computers, be rejected and new bids be solicited.

Motion to award contract to the low bidders, Gemini Systems, Inc., San Antonio, Texas (\$61,252.00), and Computerland, Inc., San Antonio, Texas (\$24,493.00), for the purchase of computer terminals, printers, controllers, and I.B.M. disk drive and authorize that all bids for Section A, Personal Computers, be rejected and new bids be solicited and be brought for the last special meeting of July.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

20. Award of a contract to the Low Bidders, Bartlett Inc., Laredo, Texas (\$9,388.20), Century Papers, Laredo, Texas (\$9,423.27), and Pace Paper, Laredo, Texas (\$5,637.80), for the purchase of janitorial supplies as needed for all City Departments.

Motion to award a contract to the low bidders, Bartlett

Inc., (\$9,388.20), Century Papers, (\$9,423.27), Pace Paper, (\$5,637.80), for the purchase of janitorial supplies as needed for all City Departments.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Award of a contract in the estimated amount of \$101,240.00, to the Sole Bidder, Rankin Automatic Transmission, Laredo, Texas, for an annual contract for transmission repairs for all City fleet vehicles.

Motion to award a contract in the estimated amount of \$101,240.00 to the sole bidder, Rankin Automatic Transmission, Laredo, Texas, for an annual contract for transmission repairs for all City fleet vehicles.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Award of a contract to the Low Bidder, Sames Motor Co., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$22,796.00, for the purchase of two half ton pickup trucks to be assigned to the Environmental Engineer and the Wastewater Collection Division.

Motion to award a contract to the low bidder, Sames Motor Co., in the amount of \$22,796.00 for the purchase of two half ton pickup trucks to be assigned to the Environmental Engineer and the Wastewater Collection Division.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Award of a thirty-six month copier rental contract to the Low Bidder, Xerox Corporation, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$71,820.00 for the use and maintenance of ten (10) copiers for various City Departments. These copiers will replace models that are four years old or older.

Motion to award thirty-six month copier rental contract to the low bidder, Xerox Corporation, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$71,820.00 for the use and maintenance of ten (10) copiers for various City Departments. These copier will replace models that are four years old or older.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



24. Approval of change order no. 4, an increase of \$29,157.00, to a construction contract with Landmark Structures, Inc., Keller, Texas, for the Northwest Laredo Elevated Water Storage Tank and Water Improvements, Economic Development Administration Project No. 08-01-02788.

Motion to approve change order no. 4, an increase of \$29,157.00, to a construction contract with Landmark Structures, Inc. for the Northwest Laredo Elevated Water Storage Tank and Water Improvements, Economic Development Administration Project No. 08-01-02788.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Award of a construction contract to the Low Bidder, McKinley Drilling Co., Pearsall, Texas, in the amount of \$131,287.80, for a water well at Santa Isabel Creek near Mines Road on F.M. 1472.

Motion to award construction contract to the low bidder, McKinley Drilling Co. in the amount of \$131,287.80 for a water well at Santa Isabel Creek near Mines Road on F.M. 1472.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Approval of amendment no. 1, an increase of \$7,000.00, to an engineering contract with Camp, Dresser, & McKee, Inc., Austin, Texas, for the improvements to the Upper & Lower Water Treatment Plants on Jefferson Street. Amendment no. 1 is for additional services to perform a feasibility study relative to the removal of heavy metals from the sludge at this treatment plant.

Motion to approve amendment no. 1, an increase of \$7,000.00, to an engineering contract with Camp, Dresser, & McKee, Inc.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Award of an engineering contract, for an amount not to exceed \$157,157.00, to Kinetic Laboratories, Inc., Los Angeles, California, to design and install an integrated automated stormwater sampling/monitoring system, and provide the technical training and oversight/support to City Staff for a period of one year, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 Permit Program-Part 2 per Environmental Protection Agency Regulations.

Motion to award engineering contract, for an amount not to exceed \$157,157.00, to Kinetic Laboratories, Inc.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Award of engineering contract, for an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00, to Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, to provide surveys, design and prepare plans and specifications for utilities and lift station relocation on the Inner Loop, North of U.S. Highway 59.

Motion to award engineering contract, for an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00 to Foster Engineering Company.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cw. Aldridge

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the Texas Water Commission allowing transfer, assignment, and subrogation against contractors, agreeing to fully cooperate with the TWC, and accepting reimbursement in the amount of \$62,284.96, from the Texas Water Commission Petroleum Storage Tank Remediation Fund.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the Texas Water Commission allowing transfer, assignment, and subrogation against contractors, agreeing to fully cooperate with the TWC, and accepting reimbursement in the amount of \$62,284.96, from the Texas Water Commission Petroleum Storage Tank Remediation Fund.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cw. Aldridge

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Amendment to the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Webb County Heritage Foundation for the Republic of the Rio Grande for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1993, through September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$100,000.00 to be used towards the restoration of the Republic of the Rio Grande Museum.

Motion to approve amendment to the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Webb County Heritage Foundation of the Republic of the Rio Grande.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cw. Aldridge

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement



only be taken if the item is brought back by someone in the prevailing side.

Mr. Tito Tijerina, Vice-Chairman of the Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, announced that it was by unanimous vote of the committee to open to traffic that section of San Agustin Avenue between Lincoln and Grant Streets.

Cm. Cardenas stated that he had received a call from a downtown merchant that would be willing to foot the bill for the construction cost to convert the park back into a street.

Mr. Aldo Tatangelo addressed the council opposing the issue of eliminating the two blocks known as the Aldo Tatangelo Park for vehicular traffic.

Mr. Charles Martens stated that the park is a filthy place and that the Transportation Committee has the responsibility of telling us how to improve the traffic problems downtown and concluded by saying that this project is a loser.

Mr. Nelson Bank, a downtown resident, stated that he is glad that a corridor exists that connects the San Agustin Plaza religious historical focus to the Mercado as the cultural focus. Mr. Banks suggested that traffic patrols be instructed to patrol and solve the problem of vagrants that go to the park to drink.

Mr. Gary Jacobs stated that a compromise could be made on experimental basis, he first suggested to change the name from the Aldo Tatangelo Walkway to the Aldo Tatangelo Parkway. Mr. Jacobs stated that nothing has to be destroyed, no trees have to be taken out, that only token short term modifications of the curbs could be made. He would be an advocate of leading the stonepavers and asking the city to pass an ordinance that says there will be no truck traffic whatsoever, at any time of the day/night, of loads or axle weight over a certain amount, maybe pickup trucks only and take the barrier out and have the traffic one-way for cars only or light pickups only and maybe limit the hours if they want to close it on Sundays. He added that during the week, downtown needs both the trees which can stay there, it needs the pavers which can stay there, and that the park benches can be moved to the sidewalks with permission from the merchants there.

He asked that consideration be made to convert Convent as a two way street and a one-way on the two blocks of San Agustin for a year and experiment to see what happens.

Cw. Moreno stated that along the lines of the traffic, we

should also consider eliminating a left turn from Zaragoza onto the bridge and let those cars that are going into Mexico use another street because that street should be for the business that is there and not as a thoroughfare for going into Mexico.

Mayor Ramirez stated that he was not convinced that by opening up the street we are going to solve the problems that they have in that area, because 85-90% of that problem is southbound problem and not a northbound problem.

Cm. Castaneda stated that the council can instruct staff to bring back one or more recommendations on how to improve the traffic flow in the downtown area. He added that they need to do what's in the best interest for the community and the best interest in this community is to work for it and see what solutions we can provide immediately for the merchants that are road block by the traffic in downtown.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that this item be taken to the earliest meeting scheduled of the Historical Commission.

Motion to instruct staff to look at the Convent recommendation that was made to this council, also on the recommendation that was made by Cw. Moreno on the Zaragoza part to be taken into consideration and for staff to bring back to this council what the recommendations of staff would be looking at these two points and have the Transportation Committee look at this too.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## X. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Presentation by Border Patrol Agent Walter B. King on the Joint Task Force-Six, 32-93.

Mr. Walter King of the U.S. Border Patrol spoke on behalf of Chief Patrol Agent Jose E. Garza on projects that will be beneficial to the community such as the Joint Task Force-Six Operation 32-93. He said this operation will begin July 10, 1993. The Laredo Sector of the US Border Patrol and Laredo Junior College will host the 863rd Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army Reserve. This reserve will be in our area for six weeks, as part of their annual FY 93 training. This organization was established to coordinate the Department of Defense's support to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in their effort to disrupt illegal narcotic smuggling operations along the Southwest land border.

The operation 32-93 has three primary goals:

- (1) Improve law enforcement's ability to patrol areas that are used, or could be used by drug traffickers.
- (2) Provide fitness, weapons, and training facilities for area law enforcement personnel.
- (3) Increase overall capabilities of area law enforcement agencies.

The 863rd Engineers will make this possible by deploying their equipment, personnel and expertise to work on 14 separate locations throughout Webb, Zapata, Jim Hogg, Duvall, and La Salle Counties.

Another project that will be done by the 863rd Engineers, that will directly impact our city and community is the construction and improvement of roads and trails that are adjacent to the river. This will be done in selected areas from the railroad bridge, and continue up-river to the Flecha Lane area.

The final project will include the construction of Rappeling Tower, and Fitness Training Course located at Laredo Junior College.

Mr. King pointed out that there will be many benefits of this operation, he outlined three immediate benefits such as:

- (1) Improving our access to these areas as we are better able to apprehend drug and alien smugglers and discourage them from using the area in the future.
- (2) The construction and improvement of these firing ranges will provide a better qualified law enforcement agent.
- (3) The LJC College Training and fitness center will provide facility that will be used not only by students in the LJC Criminal Justice Program and Law Enforcement Academy, by all the area law enforcement agencies.

Mr. King concluded by asking that City Council show its support for this operation by joining together with the Laredo Sector and LJC to welcome the personnel of the 863rd Engineer Battalion as they complete Joint Task Force Six Operation 32-93.

- B. At this time Mr. Adolfo Gonzalez Pena of 120 W. Saunders appeared before the council, stating that his request for 2019 Chihuahua zone change had already passed thru council, but that he was not notified.

Carlos Villarreal, Asst. City Manager, stated that staff will notify him on the status of his zone request.

- C. Mr. Victor Jacaman appeared before the council to request a traffic light on Calton Road at Yeary Avenue.

Mayor Ramirez stated that Cm. Perales will be placing his request on the agenda of July 19th.

**XI. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION**

34. Requests by the Mayor and Councilmembers for discussion and presentation.

**A. Requests by Councilmember Jacinto Juarez**

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the condition of the Trailer Park at the intersection of Bartlett and Lyon Streets.

Cm. Juarez stated that the condition of the Trailer Park on Bartlett and Lyon is an eyesore and that trailers are moving in and out on a regular basis. The park does not have any pavement for parking and he asked if staff is going to be enforcing the ordinance on this particular property. He wants this particular trailer park to be maintained to a level comparable to other trailer parks.

Carlos Villarreal, Asst. City Manager, stated that staff will be monitoring this park and will have a report as to who is the owner to Cm. Juarez.

Benny Salinas, Building Director, informed the council that his staff has taken photos of what is presently there and will monitor the trailer movements.

Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manager, stated they will come back with a recommendation and report to see what is legally possible.

2. Discussion and possible action concerning the status of the Transit Center.

Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manger, stated that staff has received a letter of no prejudice by the Federal Transportation Administration. He added that a commitment has not been fulfilled by the Department of Transportation and that the project has been included in this year's budget for \$6.5 million. He said he would inform council within 30 days to see what happens with the budget and with the senate when they go to conference. If this happens we will be notifying the property owners that we will be sending them letters indicating that we are ready to acquire the property and start working on demolition.

Mr. Villarreal stated that it will take approximately

30-90 days to get clearance from the budget.

3. Discussion and possible action concerning the status of the Roberto Llano Running Track.

Carlos Villarreal stated that the plans were sent on June 14th to the Department of Licensing and Regulations for inspection and compliance with architectural barriers. We cannot proceed until these people are in agreement that those are the types of plans that conform to the needs of the handicapped.

4. Discussion and possible action concerning the Chacon Creek Tributary located at the intersection of Arkansas and Stewart Streets.

Carlos Villarreal stated that the bids will be let out this month.

5. Discussion and possible action concerning the City of Laredo's participation in the National City Challenge to Stop Drunk Driving, Chairman, John Gavin.

Cm. Juarez asked the staff or the City Manager pursue competing for the National City Challenge to Stop Drunk Driving. He stated it is strictly a matter of coming up with a plan and submitting the plan to them for consideration. He asked if we can come up with a directive from staff or a requirement that anyone who dispenses alcohol has to go thru a short course in terms of how to tell real identifications from fake identifications, how to determine if someone is beyond the level that you can sell alcohol. He also asked that our legal staff explore and come back with a determination if it is within the powers of the city, if we have an ordinance that says that anyone that is dispensing food has to go thru a short training program, why can't we have a short training program for people to be able to sell alcohol.

He also addressed the issue of businesses in Laredo selling alcohol to minors and that we have contacted the commission and they state that they are understaffed. Cm. Juarez stated that if we promote this idea by including it as one of the possible activities for our police reserve unit that this would have a greater impact if we have our own reserve officers going in and asking for their cards. He asked that staff to check into the ramifications on whether or not our reserve police officers can go and exercise this particular activity. He also asked that we go into the classrooms with our EMS Units and simply communicate the dangers of alcohol and monitor the program to see if we are making any improvements.



Motion to explore the legality of having an ordinance for requiring some minor training; looking into our police reserve unit; checking on cards; maintaining and monitoring the statistics on DWI's.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cw. Aldridge was out temporarily.)

**B. Requests by Councilmember Eduardo "Eddie" Perales**

1. Discussion and possible action concerning trash left by builders at construction sites.

Cm. Perales stated that he had received various complaints on builders leaving trash and other debris at the construction sites and asked staff what can be done to site or fine them.

Benny Salinas, Building Director, stated that the application itself states that the owner or the builder is responsible for removing all debris and rubbish from the site. He added that his inspectors have been instructed to site contractors when they go to the job site and there is trash. When final inspection is made if the site is dirty, we do not allow CP&L to hookup power to the project until the site has been cleaned up.

Carlos Villarreal stated that staff will look into the legality of requiring bins for trash collections by the builders at the construction sites.

2. Discussion and possible action concerning the creating of an international trade commission to represent the City of Laredo.

Cm. Perales stated this is concerning an article that came out on a Texas Weekly News Magazine that comes from Mexico (El Periodico de la Vida Nacional) which reads and states that San Antonio is positioning itself. The Delegation participants or note states that San Antonio's new positioning as a distribution center could be very important to Tampico and Veracruz and that San Antonio's location could be very effective as a site for distribution of agricultural and manufactured products being shipped, so establishing relations with these communities will promote their city.

Cm. Perales asked what are we doing to help Laredo and that we are in enviable geographical position that we need to do more to promote our city thru the efforts of

the Chamber of Commerce and downtown merchants. He suggested that an international trade commission be named of people that are in customs, custom brokers, freight forwarders, and downtown merchants to participate in delegations into other cities in Mexico. We need to visit other sites not only to improve relations and to bring business to Laredo, but also to invite merchants from these cities to come see our facilities and our industrial parks.

Cm. Perales suggested that this be incorporated with the Economic Council that Cm. Castaneda is addressing in the agenda.

Motion to instruct the Mayor to come up with recommendations for a commission at the next meeting and to come up with names of people to be in the commission, they could also serve to advise the council on international things that we could promote or problems with the bridge and that they make a report on a monthly basis.

Moved : Cm. Perales  
Second: Cm. Cardenas

Before action was taken, the Mayor asked that consideration be taken together with item C(1), discuss it and take it under the same motion.

Motion to move and consider item C(1) together with this item.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda  
Second: Cm. G. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Castaneda made comments on his item stating that as council they have been active and supportive with each other's initiative to bring what's best for this community. He stated that the city thru an EDA Grant has secured the monies to establish the Economic Development Office and at one time council made a recommendation that the Mayor, in conjunction with the council, appoint this Economic Development Board that would be made up of experts from the community that would represent the different sectors such as customs, immigration, custom brokers, retail, etc. to pull together and strengthen what we already have in place.

Cm. Castaneda stated that staff has been working on this particular office and asked if they could make comments to the council in terms of what they are working with on the different areas such as goals and objectives.

Cindy Collazo, CD Director, stated she would read what was provided to EDA of what the direction of the Economic Development Office would be. Ms. Collazo stated that the Economic Development center will, but not be limited to:

- \* Comply and analyze economic data to enhance the city's planning capability. Factors to be considered include the U.S., Texas, and Mexico economies, impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement, retail sales, the economic cycles of the area, and projected growth rate impacting on job creation and infrastructure needs.
- \* Serve as a liaison to target businesses and provide assistance for investors on topics such as zoning restrictions, city codes, land availability and values, and the like.
- \* Formulate and implement an economic development policy for growth management to define the city's developmental goals to determine project opportunities.
- \* Form an Economic Advisory Council to City Council comprised of a group of individuals from the private and public sectors, and to ensure strong, uniform economic growth.
- \* Develop a plan to coordinate city interdepartmental activities better to facilitate economic development.
- \* Create a business directory categorized by industry to facilitate business marketing.
- \* Participate in economic conferences, trade shows, and seminars to market the City of Laredo, and to attract new industry and expand existing industry.

Ms. Collazo concluded by saying that they have been very active in providing different information to different groups, departments and agencies in providing information of our city to acquire and obtain the necessary information and to get passage of different items that are necessary to the city. She stated they are currently advertising the position of the Economic Development Coordinator.

Cm. Castaneda asked Cm. Perales that in the motion that he made which was seconded that they take the direction that has been provided by Ms. Collazo in terms of the report submitted to EDA.

Second concurred with amendment.

Mayor Ramirez, clarified "to make the Economic Development Board to be named at the next council meeting and from within those board members develop the international trade commission that would be the actual delegation within that group that would be going to the trade missions to different communities."

Moved : Cm. Perales  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

3. Discussion and possible action concerning truck traffic on Del Mar Boulevard.

Cm. Perales stated that trucks are parking on the commercial areas such as Target and HEB.

Police Chief Martinez stated that only if the private property owner complained to Police Department, then action can be taken because they have no authority on private property. He suggested that the owners place towing signs to prevent the parking of the trucks.

#### C. Requests by Councilmember Blas Castaneda

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the Economic Development Office and the appointment process for members to the Economic Council.

This item was taken included with B(2).

## XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

35. Public hearing concerning consideration of the Statement of Intent to use the 19th Action Year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds in the amount of \$4,169,000.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cindy Collazo, Community Development Director, made the presentation.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
Second: Cm. G. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

36. Public hearing concerning an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health, and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$25,142.00 for the expansion of the City's Immunization Program for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1992, through August 31, 1993, but for the operational period of May 1, 1993, through August 31, 1993; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of a contract with the Texas Department of Health for the Immunization Program and budget for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1992, through August 31, 1993, but for the operational period of May 1, 1993, to August 31, 1993; and increasing Revenue Line Item #226-0000-323-4061 from \$0 to \$25,142, and increasing Expenditure Line Item #226-6076 from \$0 to \$25,142; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jerry Robinson, Health Director, made the presentation.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

37. Public hearing concerning approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health, and budget revision providing for additional funds for personnel costs in the amount of \$6,636.00 for the Tuberculosis Outreach Program for the period of February 1, 1993, through January 31, 1994; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of contract amendment and budget revision with the Texas Department of Health for the Tuberculosis Outreach Program for the period beginning February 1, 1993, through January 31, 1994; and increasing Revenue Line Item #226-0000-323-4057 from \$31,148 to \$37,784; and increasing Expenditure Line Item #226-6071 from \$31,148 to \$37,748; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.



Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Castaneda  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

- 39. Amending the Professional Management Services contract with ATE Management and Service Company, Inc., in the amount of \$100,000.00 to perform a Comprehensive Operation Analysis (COA) for the Laredo Municipal Transit System (El Metro).

Motion to amend the Professional Management Services contract with ATE Management and Service Company, Inc., in the amount of \$100,000 to perform a Comprehensive Operation Analysis (COA) for the Laredo Municipal Transit System (El Metro).

John Farell, Sr. Vice President with ATE Management Service, stated that the study will take approximately six months.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as the Mass Transit Board and reconvene as City Council.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

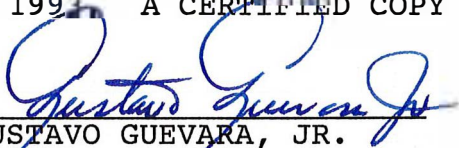
Motion to adjourn.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Adjournment time was at 8:55 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 23 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH DAY OF JULY, 1993. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE AT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.  
 CITY SECRETARY

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Delia Rodriguez, Deputy City Secretary II  
APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON:

CORRECTIONS: