

CITY OF LAREDO

WORKSHOP ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
1110 HOUSTON
LAREDO, TEXAS
6:00 P.M.

M93-W-15

MINUTES

JUNE 2, 1993

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENCES

Cm. Eduardo Perales, District VI, was absent.

A Capital Improvements Program video presentation was shown at this time, included were discussions on wastewater major Capital Improvements; federal; state solidwaste mandates; and then the general obligation bond program.

Included in the video presentation were items such as:

The Capital Improvements Program which includes a proposal for a 1993 General Obligation Bond issuance. If approved by the City Council Laredo voters will be asked to vote on approximate \$22.6 million in bonds to increase public safety, education and recreation services to our community. Of the \$22.6 million, \$12 million are proposed for public safety; \$4.8 million are proposed for a new police building; \$2.8 million are proposed be used to build and equip three fire stations over the next six years; \$5.2 million is also proposed for the construction of the regional fire training facility.

Educational and Recreational facilities are the second goal of the proposed capital improvements program.

If the general obligation bond program is approved by City Council on the budget process, staff will recommend a bond election in November of 1993.

Other projects were outlined according to priority classification such as mandated, essential and desirable.

Mandated Projects include:

- (a) Americans with Disabilities Act - sidewalk curb cuts
- (b) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- (c) Solid Waste Act Subtitle D

Funding for these mandates have not been secured and council will be offered variable alternatives for the funding sources.

(d) Another mandated project is the Chacon Creek Tributary Drainage Improvements which includes the construction of a concrete line channel to extend from Arkansas Avenue past Ejido Avenue.

In 1994 Phase I of this project will be completed from Arkansas to India Avenue. This project is projected to cost is \$453,000.00, various funding sources will be made available to the council.

The Tinaja Creek Drainage consist of the construction of two bridge culverts and channelization from New York Avenue Bridge to San Salvador Bridge the cost is \$573,000.00.

The 1990 Bond Paving Issue established and aggressive construction schedule that has paved more than 700 blocks. As of May 1993 - 250 blocks have been awarded designed contracts and the remaining 238 blocks are pending design.

During fiscal year 1993-94 the city will undertake paving Projects 42 thru 51.

The city is responsible for acquiring right-of-way for other paving projects funded by federal and state dollars such as, the Inner Loop, the Mines Road Expansion, the McPherson Road and Springfield Road Expansion, Spur 400 (Clark Boulevard) to Inner Loop.

Capital Improvement Projects include extension of the Anna Avenue Truck Route north of Calton which includes three phases.

Other CIP projects also addresses other issues such utility and sewer projects; paving projects; utility extension lines; lift stations and repairs. CIP also address asbestos abatement on the Health Dept., Phase I of the asbestos removal has already

taken place, funds will be re-appropriated for the project. Voters will be asked in November to approve the \$13 million in certificates of obligation to finance construction of a new convention center.

A new airport terminal is also proposed, this project awaits federal funding. A Runway Taxiway and Cargo Apron Improvement funding will be financed by the FAA grant monies and certificates of obligation.

During the workshop, the following department heads made their presentation:

Tomas Rodriguez, Utilities Director, elaborated over the 28 capital improvement projects in the water department totaling \$70,192,000 and the 24 projects for the waste water department with a total expenditure of \$34,565,000.

Diana Arredondo, Finance Director, recommended that priorities (#4) Line Extensions and Taps, (#7) Paint Water Storage Tanks, and (#21) Repair of Minor Mains page 93 of the CIP Plan come out of operating fund. Priority (#6) Laredo/Colombia Water Treatment Plant Fencing, (#14) Water Pollution Control Lab Equipment, and (#22) Water Pump Station Improvement should possibly consider financing thru operating revenue.

Cw. Aldridge questioned on the odors on the Azteca neighborhood.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez explained on the situation that exists of illegal hookups and of the existing pit privies. He stated that he would look into the matter.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that they publicize the list of landowners that are not willingly to cooperate with the living conditions in Laredo.

Joe Guerra, Public Works Director, went over the Recycling Facility and the solid waste Subtitle D compliance expenditure of \$2,707,000. Mr. Guerra stated that in order for us to meet the Subtitle D requirement they have consulted an engineer to make a study of the landfill to see how much the cost will be to cover the subtitle requirement. They will come back with figures on the actual cost at next week's agenda. He was asked to go over the \$2,000,000 figure on equipment for the recycling facility to see about setting up a core of a recycling center and see what it runs instead of looking at \$2 million tap in 1994, we might be able to spread the recycling effort to 97 and still work toward meeting our goal of 40% that's mandated by the state and bring back at budget time.

Mr. Guerra recommended that fees be increased for the landfill and residential.

Mayor Ramirez stated that if perhaps we phase our recycling

equipment, instead of all in one phase it might avoid a sudden increase in garbage fees.

Motion to recess at 7:45 p.m.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cm. Perales and Cm. Castaneda not present)

Motion to open the Public Hearings.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Peter Vargas, City Manager, defined staff's proposed public safety projects and education and recreation projects to be included in a general obligation bond issuance as follows:

The proposed public safety projects recommended to be included in a general obligation bond issuance are:

New Police Building	\$ 4,800,000
Regional Fire Training Facility	5,250,000
Northeast Fire Station	1,200,000
Southeast Fire Station	800,000
Northside Fire Station	800,000

The proposed general obligation bond projects for education and recreation are:

New Main Library	\$ 7,000,000
Cigarroa Recreation Center	700,000
Northeast Hillside Recreation Center ...	700,000
Farias Recreation Center	700,000
East Central Recreation Center	700,000

Proposed 1993 General Obligation Bond Issuance Amount:
\$22,650,000.

Mr. Vargas stated that the west Laredo overpass was not included in the capital improvement projects at this time, because the feasibility study will be completed within 45 days at which time it will be presented to council for their consideration.

Cw. Moreno asked what was planned for the drainage problem on Malinche/Bartlett intersection which was not addressed in the CIP.

Amador Escudero, City Engineer, stated they did have the project described but that there is no funding for the project at this time, that it will be included in the CIP, and that a recommendation will be brought at budget process.

Cm. Perez requested that the capital improvements projects include the following for completion in his district:

- 1 - Library expansion on the South Laredo Branch, make the atrium into a study hall.
- 2 - The relocation of the Wormser Road.
- 3 - Drainage problem that exists at Tinaja (from San Salvador to Ejido).
- 4 - The extension of the Ligarde Barrios drainage problem from Canada to Ejido.

Cw. Moreno requested that Springfield be considered for resurfacing and to continue with curb and gutter projects. She also requested that something be done to the median of Clark Blvd.

Cw. Aldridge asked for the status or that a plan be made for the cleaning of the Chacon Creek.

Mr. Vargas stated most of the creek is privately owned and that our efforts have been basically in contacting the property owners and advising them of their responsibility to maintain the area.

Cw. Moreno asked that the curb and gutter projects that were started be continued and that they continue putting in at least three or four blocks per project.

Mayor Ramirez asked about the neighborhood sidewalk program?

Cw. Moreno suggested that an ordinance be drafted making the sidewalks mandatory for businesses and then move on.

Cm. Juarez asked about the concrete on the creek at Arkansas and O'kane.

Cindy Collazo, CD Director, stated that they are in the process of obtaining the right-of-way. There are three or four that are lacking because they are out of town, but that they have indicated that they will deed over the easements. She stated they are making progress and they hope to get this within the next 30 days.

Mayor Ramirez asked what was left pending in the 1986 Bond Issue.

Mr. Vargas stated that the drainage project pending was the Tinaja Creek, because they are working with the land owners.

Cw. Moreno questioned on the funding for the Clark Boulevard median (to be filled in and get rid of the dirt and weeds). She asked if it could be put for two years if they are unable to fund

in one year.

Carlos Villarreal, Asst. City Manager, stated that Mr. Alfredo Castillo, Parks & Recreation Director, will be initiating this project on a block by block basis.

Mr. Villarreal stated that they will start concreting and doing some brick work.

Cm. Perez asked if this would be done for all the medians.

Mr. Villarreal stated this will be done for the medians that we are responsible for, some are tied down thru neighborhood associations made by developer and commitments are made by neighborhood themselves.

Cm. Castaneda stated that there is a project that he would like to bring into the budget hearings which consists of a drainage project that starts in Calle del Norte down on Springfield to Hillside. Cm. Castaneda stated every time it rains there is a big flooded area. He stated that as we work on the project in Calle del Norte, that maybe as we work on this project that we consider leaving preparations so we can work on this project.

Motion to adjourn.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to open the Public Hearing again.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mayor Ramirez asked for input from the public at this time.

There was no public input.

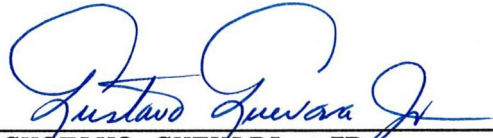
Motion to close the public hearing and adjourn.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas
Second: Cm. Juarez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Workshop and Public Hearing adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 07 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPOSED 1993-94 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WORKSHOP AND PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 1993. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE IN 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: