

CITY OF LAREDO  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

M-92-R-38

M I N U T E S

DECEMBER 7, 1992

**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,	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
PETER H. VARGAS,	CITY MANAGER	
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY	

ABSENCES:

Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Regular City Council Meeting: November 16, 1992  
Special City Council Meeting: November 23, 1992

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

3. Authorizing the City Manager of the City of Laredo to execute an agreement between the City of Laredo and the International

Association of Firefighters Local 1390 through its President; said agreement which was negotiated by the representatives of the City and Local 1390 I.A.F.F. in accordance with the provisions of Article 5154c-1 of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas (The Fire and Police Employee Relations Act).

Peter H. Vargas, City Manager, stated this agreement is retroactive to October 1st. Mr. Vargas added that if council approves this ordinance on the 21st, they will receive their retroactive pay on the 22nd day of December.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Closing as a public easement that section of Houston Street between San Ignacio Avenue and Fort McIntosh Wall, situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Cardenas

5. Authorizing a lease assignment from Roberto Ortuno Hernandez d/b/a Avis Rent-a-Car to Coastal Bend Rent-a-Car, Inc., for the approximate 176 square feet constituting counter and office space, located at 4805 Maher Avenue (Terminal Building), at the Laredo International Airport.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances: #92-O-198, #92-O-215, #92-O-219, #92-O-244, #92-O-245, #92-O-246, #92-O-247, #92-O-248, #92-O-249, #92-O-250, #92-O-251, #92-O-252, #92-O-253, and #92-O-254.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 92-O-198 Amending Ordinance 91-O-251 and establishing rental for the Civic Center Parking Lot (rear) and allowing a twenty percent discount on auditorium rates for events occurring Monday through Thursday; providing for effective date.  
(City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 92-O-215 Amending Chapter 5.5 Article I. (Ambulances) of the Code of Ordinances by deleting Section 5.5-5(b)

and Section 5.5-8(b); amending Section 5.5.28 (C) (1) to increase ambulance service rates and charges; providing for publication and providing for effective date.  
(City Council)

Motion to approve.

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

8. 92-0-219 Establishing a laboratory user fee for the Adult Health/Chronic Disease Prevention Program of the City of Laredo; providing for effective date and publication. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

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

9. 92-0-244 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, for the approximate 418 square feet constituting Room #219 of Building #132, for use as office space, located at 4719 Maher Avenue, at the Laredo International Airport. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

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

10. 92-0-245 Repealing Ordinance 91-0-231 and designating for two-way traffic the 1100 Block of Maryland Avenue, which is that portion of Maryland Avenue lying between Guadalupe Street and Chihuahua, and providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate two-way traffic, and for the removal of signs that indicate one-way traffic on said portion of Maryland Avenue; providing for publication and effective date.  
(City Council)

Motion to approve.

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



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

15. 92-O-250 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 116, Eastern Division, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-4 SUZD (Highway Commercial Specific Use Zoning District); providing for publication and effective date. (Cm. Moreno)

Motion to approve.

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

16. 92-O-251 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 894, Lots 9 and 11, Western Division, located at 3401 San Dario, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. (Cm. Castaneda)

Motion to approve.

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

17. 92-O-252 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 3.5028 acre tract, located on Calton Road between Patio Lane and the Kidney Center, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. (Cm. Castaneda)

Motion to approve.

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

18. 92-O-253 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 29.13 acre tract in Quail Creek Subdivision, Units III and IV, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. (Cm. Jerry Perez)

Motion to approve.

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

19. 92-O-254 An ordinance amending Chapter III of the Sub-division Ordinance of the City of Laredo, adding Section 3-6 P, to require underground installation of single-phase electrical service in all new subdivisions of land. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

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

## VII. RESOLUTIONS

20. 92-R-134 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of \$11,000 for a Traffic Safety Program.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of \$11,000 for a Traffic Safety Program.

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

21. 92-R-135 Authorizing and approving the appointment of Directors to the Laredo Housing Finance Corporation; and containing other provisions relating thereto.

Mayor Ramirez stated for the record that these bonds do not encumber the city's financial position in any way.

Motion was made that Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. be given the authority to appoint the Directors to the Laredo Housing Finance Corporation.

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

Cm. Castaneda recommended that a member of staff be named.

At this time Mayor Ramirez asked for nominations from Council.









in state and national level.

Mayor Ramirez stated that correspondence was sent to the President of Mexico letting him know that this resolution was coming. He further added that it will also be sent to the Congressional Delegation, our President and the President Elect.

Motion to amend the resolution substituting the word "Supports" with the verb "Urges"

\*Second to the motion agrees to amend the motion and substitute the word "Supports" with "Urges."

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. MOTIONS

- 26. Award of a contract in the amount of \$92,927.99, to the Sole Bidder, Country Roads, Inc., Belding, Michigan, for the restoration of 1,129 auditorium chairs at the Civic Center.

Cw. Aldridge asked Mr. Larry Dovalina for an up-to-date accounting report of what has been done with the bond monies.

Motion to award contract in the amount of \$92,927.99, to the sole bidder, Country Roads, Inc., Belding, Michigan, for the restoration of 1,129 auditorium chairs at the Civic Center.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 27. Requesting authorization to reject all proposals received for ambulance collection services, and that new proposals be requested. The revised collection service contract will apply only to Medicare, Medicaid, and insurance claims.

Motion authorizing to reject all proposals received for ambulance collection services, and that new proposal be requested.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 28. Award of a contract in the amount of \$289,825.00 to the Low Bidder, Sames Motor Co., Laredo, Texas for the purchase of 25 full-size police cars.

Motion to award contract in the amount of \$289,825.00 to the low bidder, Sames Motor Co., Laredo, Texas for the purchase of 25 full size police cars.

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

- 29. Award of a contract in the amount of \$7,750.00 to Cubic Toll Systems, Hauppauge, New York, to program the new bridge crossing fares for trailers on the toll equipment at International Bridge II.

Motion to award contract in the amount of \$7,750.00 to Cubic Toll Systems, Hauppauge, New York, to program the new bridge crossing fares for trailers on the toll equipment at International Bridge II.

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

- 30. Approval of change order no. 1, to increase contract time by 90 working days, no change in contract amount, to F & W Electrical Contractors, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for the Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL) at Runway 35-L, and Distance Remaining Signs on Runway 17R-35L, at the Laredo International Airport.

Motion to approve change order no. 1, to increase contract time by 90 working days, no change in contract amount, to F & W Electrical Contractors, Inc., San Antonio, Texas for the Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL) at Runway 35-L, and Distance Remaining Signs on Runway 17R-35L, at the Laredo International Airport.

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

- 31. Approval of amendment no. 1, a decrease of \$4,200.00, to the engineering contract with Porras Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 43 (46 Blocks).

Motion to approve amendment no. 1, a decrease of \$4,200.00 to the engineering contract with Porras Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 43 (46 Blocks).

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

- 32. Approval of change order no. 4, a decrease of \$43,288.50, acceptance of the project, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$58,688.46, to J & B Contractors, Inc. d/b/a

South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 34 (38 Blocks).

Motion to approve change order no. 4, a decrease of \$43,288.50 acceptance of the project, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$58,688.46 to J & B Contractors, Inc. d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 34 (38 Blocks).

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

33. Award of engineering contract to PSA Engineering, Dallas, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$39,500, to design and prepare plans and specifications for the Laredo International Airport Projects #Airfield Guidance Sign and Airfield Lighting.

Motion to award engineering contract to PSA Engineering, Dallas, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$39,500, to design and prepare plans and specifications for the Laredo International Airport Projects #Airfield Guidance Sign and Airfield Lighting.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

34. Approval of change order no. 4, an increase of \$3,631.53, and increase in contract time to the construction contract with J & B Contractors d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 36 (40 Blocks).

Cw. Moreno was concerned on the delay time and suggested they pay more attention to these delays because the projects are taking too long to get completed.

Cm. Castaneda was also concerned on the delay time and asked who is responsible for these delays?

Motion to approve change order no. 4, an increase of \$3,631.53 and increase in contract time to the construction contract with J & B Contractors d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 36 (40 Blocks).

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

35. Award of an engineering contract to Wilbur Smith Associates, Houston, Texas, to prepare an Environmental Assessment for

the Airport Terminal Complex on the east side of the Laredo International Airport, for an amount not to exceed \$62,500.00.

Motion to award engineering contract to Wilbur Smith Associates, Houston, Texas, to prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Airport Terminal Complex on the east side of the Laredo International Airport, for an amount not to exceed \$62,500.00.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

36. Approval of 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, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$25,360.

Motion to approve 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, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$25,360.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

37. Approval of the General Fund contract with Literacy Volunteers of Laredo for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion to approve the General Fund contract with Literacy Volunteers of Laredo for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

38. Approval of the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with Los Caminos del Rio of Texas for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with Los Caminos del Rio of Texas for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0





Motion to approve the General Fund contract with Community Action Agency/Meals on Wheels for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$22,000.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Approval of the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Little Theater for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$11,839.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Little Theater for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$11,839.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Approval of the General Fund contract with Laredo State Center for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$15,000.

Motion to approve the General Fund contract with Laredo State Center for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$15,000.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

45. Approval of the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Junior College Dance Department for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$5,000.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Junior College Dance Department for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$5,000.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

(Cm. Juarez)

(Cm. Castaneda)

46. Approval of the General Fund contract with Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$100,000.

Motion to approve the General Fund contract with Ruthe B.



Cowl Rehabilitation Center for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$100,000.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

47. Approval of the General Fund contract with the Laredo Regional Food Bank for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$24,000.

Motion to approve the General Fund contract with the Laredo Regional Food Bank for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$24,000.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

48. Approval of the General Fund contract with Catholic Social Services for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$15,000.

Motion to approve the General Fund contract with Catholic Social Services for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$15,000.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

49. Approval of the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Webb County Heritage Foundation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$27,390.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Webb County Heritage Foundation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$27,390.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

50. Approval of the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Fund contract with the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, in the amount of \$10,000.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

(Cm. Perales stepped out momentarily - 6:25 p.m.)

#### IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

51. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a renewed interlocal agreement for fiscal year 1992-1993 between the City of Laredo and the County of Webb for local supported public health services to non-city residents of Webb County.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to enter into a renewed interlocal agreement for fiscal year 1992-1993 between the City of Laredo and the County of Webb for local supported public health service to non-city residents of Webb County.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

(Cm. Perales stepped out momentarily.)

52. Authorization to reject bids received and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a lease agreement in the best interest of the City for the West Section of Hangar #1309, located at the Laredo International Airport.

Motion authorizing to reject bids received and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a lease agreement in the best interest of the City for the West Section of Hanger #1309, located at the Laredo International Airport.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

(Cm. Perales was out at this time.)

53. Advising the City Council and the general public of a proposed Christmas project to be undertaken by City employees.

Peter Vargas, City Manager, made the presentation on a project where city employees from the Building, Planning, and City Manager's Department are involved with Rosa Maria Ollervides, residing at 2620 Maryland, who is the recipient of this project. This project includes the construction of a modest frame house for the Ollervides on their lot with materials donated by the community.

Cw. Moreno stated that the family lives in her district and she thanked everyone that participated in the project.

(Cw. Aldridge and Cm. Perez stepped out momentarily.)

Motion to waive the rules of order and place item #54 at the end of the meeting.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

54. Request for executive session under Article 6252-17, Section 2 (e), to discuss contemplated litigation.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for December 21, 1992.)

55. Recognizing Retirees Gilberto Arispe, Jose J. Saucedo, and David A. Siegfried for their years of loyal and dedicated service to the City of Laredo.

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez recognized retirees Gilberto Arispe, Jose J. Saucedo and David A. Siegfried for their years of loyal and dedicated service to the City of Laredo.

Motion was made to waive item #56 and proceed with presentations at this time.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to waive the rules of order and move item (XI) 57(b)(1), 57(E)(2) and 57(C)(2).

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

56. Presentation by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee pertaining to the elimination of Scott, Jefferson, and Lafayette Streets as designated truck routes, and options to re-route the affected commercial truck traffic.

Frank Quesada, chairman of the Transportation Safety Advisory Committee, presented eight recommendations from the committee pertaining to the elimination of Scott, Jefferson, and Lafayette as designated truck routes and possible options to re-route commercial traffic.

The recommendations included:

- (1) Proceed in acquiring the necessary property from GSA to

construct an Import Lot East Side Exit Loop.

- (2) Proceed immediately with the extension of the Anna Truck Route over to Riverside then on to Orilla Street and then east on Mann Road towards Sta. Maria.
- (3) Prohibit all tractor-trailers having no business along Scott St. east of the Sta. Isabel Truck Route for making the eastbound drive.
- (4) Eliminate vehicular parking completely on both sides of Scott St. between Convent Ave. and San Bernardo.
- (5) That the City proceed in adopting a jay walking ordinance and enhance the street lighting along Scott St. between San Bernardo Ave. and Sta. Maria Ave.
- (6) That Jefferson St. be relieved of eastbound tractor-trailers between the Sta. Isabel Truck Route and San Dario Ave. upon completion of the Anna Roadway Extension to Sta. Maria Ave. via the Mann Road connection. The phasing-out of this particular truck route should only occur when another east-west commercial traffic arterial is constructed.
- (7) The deferment of any action on eliminating Lafayette St. as a truck route pending the effect of the previously mentioned recommendations.
- (8) That City Council and Staff more actively pursue the construction of a third international bridge with the State of Tamaulipas at or near the Milo farm-to-market road location as has been previously mentioned.

Cm. G. Perez stated that the directive was made last time to eliminate Scott, Jefferson and Lafayette as truck routes and stated that council should stick to this directive.

Cm. Cardenas asked why they cannot follow instructions.

Cm. Perales asked how much it would cost to connect Santa Maria all the way north to Tejas Industrial Park and Milo?

Mayor Ramirez suggested that council take action on recommendation 2, 3, and 6 and come back with a funding mechanism.

Cm. G. Perez also wanted a motion which included the eliminating of Scott, Jefferson and Lafayette as truck routes.

Peter Vargas, City Manager, stated that one of the concerns that they have is that they would strongly recommend to the

council that we take the positive action of creating the new facilities prior to eliminating truck routes that are currently there with the commitment of having police officers there, so that it is no burden in any area. He suggested that these routes remain, for the time being, while the others are developed.

Mayor Ramirez stated that recommendation #3 and recommendation #6 substitute Jefferson and Lafayette, as well, it still allows for the facilities to be used as auxiliary routes to get to the businesses, that have business in that area.

Mr. Vargas stated that by implementing recommendation #2 he thinks it would resolve the problem and suggested that we perceive with recommendation #2 before we actually eliminate the truck route and continue with the enforcement.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that they designate the truck routes only as auxiliary truck routes and that they be used in case of congestions or flow instead of making them 24-hour truck routes.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that council recommend options #2, #3, and #6 and come back with funding mechanism, and include an additional recommendation to include Lafayette for eastbound truck traffic.

Cw. Moreno stated that she did not agreed in waiting and requested that the preposition "upon" be changed to "during" on option #6.

Cm. G. Perez asked about recommendation #3 - if all the traffic from Scott be was being sent to Lafayette?

Mayor clarified, "No, having no business on Scott, Jefferson and Lafayette."

Cm. Perez made a motion to instruct staff to review plans with GSA and suggested recommendation #1 to see if they are in accord or in agreement and whether it is something we would like to pursue.

Moved : Cm. Perez

NO SECOND. MOTION DIES FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Rafael Torres with Azteca Economic Development, voiced his concern for proposals near the bridge.

Pete Gallegos voiced his concern on the long routes his trucks have to travel to get to a designated point.

Salvador Tellez, City Attorney, said that the law states that



you have to follow the truck route to the nearest point where you can deviate to get to your delivery point.

Motion clarified the motion, "to recommend option #2, #3 and #6 and to include Lafayette for eastbound traffic on recommendation #6 and instead of making it "upon" completion making it "during" completion.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

#### XI. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATIONS

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

##### A. Requests from Mayor Pro-Tem Blas Castaneda:

1. Status report concerning the following items for a possible bond referendum:

##### a. Police Building

Motion instructing staff to proceed on the study for a bond referendum and that this include West Laredo Overpass and the Firefighter's facility also.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

##### b. West Laredo Overpass

Motion was made previously on item 57.A(1)

##### c. North Laredo Library

Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manager, stated that Council had given direction to look for a building. He added they had very little information and that they had not been able to determine which building might be suitable in that area. He added that they need to seriously study funding and the costly venture they would commit to.

Ms. C. Ibanez Carter, Vice President of the Library board introduced Ms. Guillermina Montes, Secretary of the Board.

Ms. Guillermina Montes spoke in favor of a north library and a new main library in order to meet population requirements with adequate staff; good collection of books; and adequate parking to meet



state requirements.

Ms. Carter read statistics and figures using the library facilities and spoke in favor of a north Laredo Library.

Felix Velazquez also spoke in favor of the north Laredo Library.

Mayor Ramirez stated this will be taken into consideration for bond election and as soon as we have a concept developed then, we will possibly discuss details like location or site.

Mr. Vargas stated the sooner the concept is developed, then we can discuss a possible site if we are going to ask the citizens to vote.

Motion that the staff work with the board on this concept.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Status report from the Ad-Hoc Convention Center Citizens Committee.

Abraham Rodriguez made the presentation stating the steps that have been taken and added that they have initially outlined four different areas:

1. To determine whether there was a need for a civic center; convention center or events center.
2. The type of facility needed.
3. How it was going to be financed.
4. Where it was going to be placed.

Mr. Rodriguez outlined the proceedings that have taken place stating that the Ad Hoc Committee has had several meetings and they had gone on record agreeing that there was a need for a civic center.

On the second charge, the type of facility, a subcommittee was formed chaired by Vicente Garza; after considerable accumulation of information and meetings of the subcommittee a recommendation was made to the full Ad Hoc Committee on the type of facility. Adjustments were made from the initial facility but in general, the concept was essentially the same. He continued saying that the full committee was in agreement.

On the financing mechanism, a committee was formed

again, and information was brought to each one of the committee members to different financing mechanisms; they were debated and a financing mechanism was brought to the full Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee voted in favor of the financing mechanism.

Finally on the site selection, he added that they have appointed a Sub-committee to explore the different sites. He added there were seven (7) different sites, the committee has developed a system to evaluate each one of the sites, and they are sending a report to the full Ad Hoc Committee. They will have an Ad Hoc Committee meeting which will take a vote and then they will present complete packets of recommendations to Council for consideration.

3. Discussion concerning the possibility of a "Community Forum" regarding future growth/NAFTA impact on Laredo.

Cm. Castaneda recommended and made a motion that the city proceed with working with the Laredo Development Foundation and the County of Webb for conducting this Community Forum.

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

At this time motion was made to waive the rules of order and take item E(1) and then proceed with the public hearings.

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

**B. Request from Councilmember Jose Perez:**

1. Request by Jesus Hernandez to address the City Council concerning possible Veteran's Day activities in 1993.

Mr. Jesus Hernandez read a letter addressing the City Council on the veterans activities for 1993 stating that there should be a three day festivities and asked that Council coordinate activities in one particular place. He added that the Mayor and the County Judge should be the principal speakers each on separate day. He also address that scholarships should be awarded to students planning to attend to ROTC and college.

Mayor Ramirez agreed that this is the course that we should pursue in coordinating the veteran activities for 1993.

2. Discussion concerning the possibility of increasing the number of police officers for the City of Laredo; with possible action following the discussion.

(Item taken in conjunction with item #56.)

**C. Requests from Councilmember Jacinto Juarez:**

1. Co-Sponsored by Councilmembers Cardenas and Perales.

Presentation by Les Norton and Luis Lidsky concerning improvements in the City of Laredo.

Les Norton and Luis Lidsky appeared before City Council to thank city officials, Mayor Ramirez and Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manager for their attention to problems in the downtown area which affect the entire community.

Mr. Norton and Mr. Lisky addressed other problems, shoppers going to McAllen, problems with Mexico, bridge problems and asked what are we doing to help the overall economic picture in Laredo. Mr. Norton voiced his concern on street lighting downtown.

Mayor Saul Ramirez stated two or three months ago he had place on the agenda an item to bring back the idea of an increment district or assessment district or even an abatement district within a development corporation for downtown to allow merchants a mechanism to implement things like street lighting, sidewalk improvements, and different projects.

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez stated there are several options that are available thru the corporation to move ahead with the downtown area.

Cm. Perales suggested that the Mayor and the merchants work with council to develop ideas to favor merchants downtown.

Mr. Vargas added it would also be appropriate to develop a chamber and survey to see why retail sales are not as good as they were and why we are losing shoppers, because it is good to have the merchants perspective.

Cm. Perales added that the City needs to work together with the merchants and that we need to go and survey the customers in Mexico and view the

problem from their view.

2. Presentation by Doug Lacey concerning the Laredo International Airport.

Mr. Doug Lacey voiced his concern to the location of a proposed air freight terminal at the Laredo International Airport. Mr. Lacey added that the ingress and egress clause in their contract has been severely violated with the proposed construction. He added that he was also concerned as to the safety operations in mixing the air cargo type aircraft with the general aviation aircraft and that the proposal does not follow the master plan for the airport.

Mr. Lacey continued stating the project plans to close the Taxiway Alfa and most important Taxiway Foxtrot which is the primary entrance to Barker Automotive. He added airport management wants to close the main taxiway of the airport and recreate a new Taxiway Alfa. He added that the problem is when you close the existing Alfa they are going to create a roadway for the trucks, traffic and airport vehicles to go in and out. He further stated that they have to allow certain amount of feet on that ramp for clearance of those vehicles and put certain amount of feet for the DC-8, DC-727 and DC-9 aircraft.

Mr. Lacey asked that Council review the information that was provided to them and asked that there be more consideration to this matter before the third reading.

Peter H. Vargas, City Manager, outlined a general position on staff on this matter. He further stated that Council has already approved the lease with LAV for the use of the property for the purpose of developing this particular air cargo handling facility. He stated that in September 10, 1992 Mr. Lacey did write to the FAA to object to the air cargo project and that he had stated that council had already approved the construction of the project when in fact the council's action was to come until September 28th. Mr. Vargas pointed that FAA provided Mr. Lacey with information that the project had been reviewed by FAA and that they felt it was an acceptable project.

On Mr. Lacey's concern regarding the master plan, Mr. Flores, Airport Manager, addressed the issue by stating that he had written a letter to the developers stating certain concerns that he had with that project as it was being proposed and based on

turns off turns right in front of our development which feeds directly into Barker Automotive site.

Mr. Vargas stated that the master plan will be reviewed by the Planning Department and the Planning Division.

Cm. Castaneda suggested that these concerns be taken into consideration as the project develops and discuss this with Planning and Zoning as well as our Building division.

Motion to move item 57(C)(1) at this time.

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

- 3. Discussion and possible action concerning Subdivision Ordinance requirements along highways.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for Dec. 21st)

- 4. Discussion and possible action concerning extending the present transit route on Corpus Christi Street.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for Dec. 21st)

- 5. Status report concerning the planned improvements to be made to Ochoa Park to accommodate the disabled.

(This item was taken with item #58)

**D. Request from Councilmember Cecilia Moreno:**

Discussion and possible action concerning the need for a traffic plan to include extension of lanes, striping of City streets, and other traffic safety enhancements.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for Dec. 21st)

**E. Requests from Councilmember Jerry Perez:**

- 1. Request by Esther S. Rodriguez to address the City Council concerning the keeping of livestock within the City Limits.

Esther S. Rodriguez of 4017 Salinas spoke in regards to problems arising from keeping of livestock within the city limits for school programs. She voiced her concern opposing this next to her property, adding this creates a health hazard due to the smell and the mosquitos.



aspects of the master plan. He wrote to them and his recommendation at that time was to lease a smaller tract of land to make allowances for existing general aviation aircraft parking; hanger development and fuel park development. He went on saying that presently the apron in front of lots (4) (5) and (6) of Block 1 are being utilize by Barker Automotive on FBL to park customer aircraft. Aircraft parking requirements in this area will have to be taken into consideration and possible adjustment made. He added that the proposed parking positions for aircargo/aircraft will interfere with the safe access of general aviation aircraft to and from Barker's and Charlie's Flyer hangers positioning the cargo aircraft in an area not segregated from aircraft movements and from ground traffic presents an unsafe environment and the he recommended that parking be restricted to an area immediately fronting lot 1, 2, and 3 and portion of lot 4.

Mr. Flores clarified that what they are basically recommending is to shift the development further east to make allowances for Mr. Barkers continued use of this to allow for future expansion in this area.

Mr. Bill Cates, pilot stated that he was not against development on the airport, but voiced his concern of flight safety; flight facilities; the current tenants that are using the airport; and the additional expense that will be incurred to accommodate this. He also had objections to the master plan.

Javier Salazar, representative from L.A. Ventures explained how they work with the Master Plan for the process of growth and today's needs on the air cargo operations. Factors that were taken into consideration were truck traffic and facilities. He added what they tried to bring to council and the city in this project was a plan development that does take all the considerations. The placement in the facility was made because the Master Plan did show an area designated to be the placement of the air cargo facilities to be east and west in relations to Saunders. Saunders being the primary entrance, trying to bring a new entrance facility to facilitate the truck traffic and strictly a small area of traffic would be coming in there.

Mr. Salazar continued outlining other factors for full utilization of the taxiways in addition to this it was proposed that a high speed turn off be included in the master plan to alleviate any more problems coming off from 35 from flights coming in landing from the north to the south. The high speed



Mayor Saul N. Ramirez stated that the Cruz family was informed to move the livestock in the middle of their property in order to avoid this problems.

He recommend the Health Department let the Cruz Family know that they need to move their livestock within a certain time to the middle of the property where it does not affect the neighbors.

No action was necessary on this item.

At this time motion was made to table the rest of the items that were not discussed for the next meeting.

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

2. Request by Cindy Anderson to discuss the possibility of installing school zone traffic devices at Finley Elementary School; with discussion and possible action.

Cindy Anderson, President of the Finley Safety Committee spoke in regards to the traffic safety precautions and that Lowry and Atlanta be made four-way stops. They were also proposing that four flashing lights be installed, two in Lowry and two in Bristol indicating slower traffic and that it is school zone.

They also proposed that the two flashing yellow lights that are in the Mines Road be put to better use in Lowry Street and Bristol.

Cathy Chavez, crossing guard at Finley Elementary spoke in regards to her concerns due to inadequate traffic lights not used properly.

Mr. Landin, Traffic Director, stated they need to get a letter from engineers stating that children are not crossing in the Mines Road and that the school flasher is not need anymore at which time they will comply with their recommendations.

Motion was made to instruct staff in particular Mr. Landin to get together with these group of citizens to look at the crosswalks; to re-paint them accordingly; run traffic counts for the four-way stops and the transfer of the flashing lights. He added that they pursue if the PTC can absorb half the cost that the school district does not want to pay to put up more flashers. Cm. Perez added that site selections also needs to be looked into.

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

3. Request for traffic studies at the intersections of Main and Lafayette, Main and Baltimore, and Juarez and Jackson to determine traffic signalization needs.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for Dec. 21st)

4. Discussion and possible action concerning allowing individuals to pay any City fees or charges with a credit card.

(Item was tabled by previous motion for Dec. 21st)

## XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open the Public Hearing(s).

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 6                                  Against: 0                                  Abstain: 0

(Cw. Aldridge requested that she be excused for the remainder of the meeting. - 10:30 p.m.)

(Cm. Perez was out at this time.)

58. Public hearing concerning the amending of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Action Year Community Development Block Grant Final Statements to reprogram \$90,585 from the 16th Action Year, \$27,982 from the 17th Action Year, and \$190,775 from the 18th Action Year. Balances will be reprogrammed, within their respective years, to activities outlined in attachment A.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 6                                  Against: 0                                  Abstain: 0

(Cm. Perez was out at this time.)

Cindy Collazo, Community Development Director, made the presentation.

Cm. Juarez questioned the allocation of funds in this modifications for improvements to be made to parks to accommodate the disabled.

Alfredo Castillo, Education and Recreation Director, stated that \$25,000 are in the budget and are set aside for rails

on the Ochoa Park or on the base.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

59. Public hearing concerning the amending of Section 13-76, Food Service Operator Permit Required, of the Code of Ordinances; establishing a new effective date for food product establishments to have at least one person in charge per shift with a valid and current food service operator permit; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending Section 13-76 (Food Service Operators Permit Required) of Article IV of Chapter 13 (Food and Food Products) of the Code of Ordinances by changing the effective date food service operators are required to obtain their food service operator permit.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

60. Public hearing concerning amending Chapter II of the Subdivision Ordinance, Section 2-1, Subdivision Plats Required, Form and Content of Plats, Approval Process, and rescinding Section 5-8 Fees; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending certain sections of the Subdivision Ordinance, Chapter 2, Submission of a Subdivision Plat; rescinding Chapter 5, Section 5-8, Filing Fee; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

61. Public hearing concerning amending the General Fund budget for fiscal year 1992-1993, as amended, to appropriate additional revenues from the State Department of Highways & Public Transportation for the operation of the Occupant Protection Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), and expenditures for Police Department overtime in the amount of \$25,000; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the General Fund budget for fiscal year 1992-1993, as amended, to appropriate additional revenues from the State Department of Highways & Public Transportation for the operation of the Occupant Protection Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), and expenditures for Police Department overtime in the amount of \$25,000.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perales

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

62. Public hearing concerning amending the General Fund budget for fiscal year 1992-1993, as amended, to appropriate additional revenues from the State Department of Highways & Public Transportation for the operation of a Driving While Intoxicated/Selective Traffic Enforcement Program, and expenditures for Police Department overtime in the amount of \$37,500.00; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the General Fund budget for fiscal year 1992-1993, as amended, to appropriate additional revenues from the State Department of Highways & Public Transportation for the operation of a Driving While Intoxicated/Selective Traffic Enforcement Program, and expenditures for Police Department overtime in the amount of \$37,500.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 7

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

63. Public hearing concerning the amending of the City of Laredo's Annual Budget to increase the annual appropriation for the Police Department for the creation of a Police Truck Route Division for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, and to authorize the City Manager to implement such project; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the City of Laredo's Annual Budget to increase the annual appropriation for the Police Department for the creation of a Police Truck Route Division for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993, and to authorize the City Manager to implement such project.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 7

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0



Mayor Ramirez suggested that the ordinance should not be only Truck Route Division but should also be Truck Traffic Division. He added the this way they can also enforce oversize and overweight violations not just the truck routes.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

64. Public hearing concerning the establishment of rates, rules, and procedures for the use of the Public Access Center, its equipment and personnel; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Establishing rates, rules, and procedures for the use of the Public Access Center, its equipment and personnel.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Bob Gilmartin, an appointed member of the Cable Commission spoke as a volunteer user of the Public Access facilities. He stated he was in favor of rules and regulations for the operation of the public access center. He suggested that on the last page where the definition of the word "commercial" be clarified so that the Public Access Center can be used by anybody that comes in and is qualified and by commercial users, people who create program for profit or use the programs in other venues meaning like commercial television stations or outside the market place.

He added the way the public access has been operated until this particular junction is that commercial was defined as, "programs that were produced and used either on the public access channels and a commercial station or another access channel in another city or as a part of any other commercial venture." He added, "programs that were produced solely and exclusively for use on the Public Access Center, exclusively, on this public access channel and no other were defined as non commercial" so the definition is being changed.

Mr. Gilmartin stated this is going to create some problems and this would create less locally produced programs. He

suggested that this will end and that they are open up for local people. He added that definitions were not on the last packet given to the Cable Commission and that he had not voted on this rules. He stated that he had declared a conflict of interest because he had received minimal underwriting on some of the programs that he had submitted to public access. He suggested that council look into this and see if it's to the best interest of the community to severely restrict the ability of ordinary people to go and produce minimal television programs.

He added the city would be better served if the people that they consider appointing to that committee have some telecommunication, commercial television or broadcasting experience.

Mr. Gilmartin wanted to go on record as saying, "that the ordinances do not take effect until the final reading." He stated that there had been attempts in enforcing this new regulations before they have even gone into existence.

Mr. Gilmartin suggested that council take a look to what they are doing to the Public Access Center and see if it's expanding the use of the facility or contracting it and making it more limited.

Motion to extend the meeting 15 minutes.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda  
 Second: Cm. Perales  
 For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Perales  
 Second: Cm. Perez  
 For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

### **XIII. MOTION TO RECESS AND TO CONVENE AS MASS TRANSIT BOARD**

Motion to recess as City Council and convene as Mass Transit Board.

Moved : Cm. Juarez  
 Second: Cm. Perez  
 For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

65. Award of a contract to the Sole Bidder, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio, for furnishing tires for transit coaches and related vehicles.

Motion to award contract to the sole bidder, Goodyear Tire

and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio, for furnishing tires for transit coaches and related vehicles.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Cardenas  
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

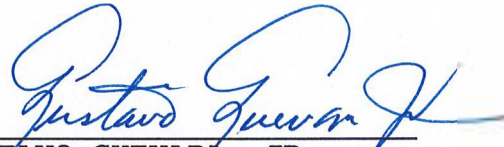
Motion to adjourn.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Adjournment time was at 11:10 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 34 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS ON THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1992. 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: **DEC 21 1992**

CORRECTIONS: