

CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

MINUTES

M97-R-11

MARCH 24, 1997

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	
LOUIS H. BRUNI,	"	DISTRICT II	
ALFONSO I. "PONCHO" CASSO,	"	DISTRICT III	
CECILIA MAY MORENO,	"	DISTRICT IV	
ELISEO VALDEZ,	"	DISTRICT V	
JOE A. GUERRA,	"	DISTRICT VI	
MARIO GEORGE ALVARADO,	"	DISTRICT VII	
CONSUELO "CHELO" MONTALVO,	"	DISTRICT VIII	
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY		
FLORENCIO PENA,	CITY MANAGER		
JERRY BRUCE CAIN,	ASST. CITY ATTORNEY		

IV. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #97-O-065, #97-O-066, #97-O-067, and #97-O-068.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cm. Alvarado not present.)

2. 97-O-065 Ordinance closing as a public easement a road dedicated to the Public described on Aurelio Luera's Subdivision Plat of Block 1436, Eastern





A total of three (3) local physicians responded to the City's request for interest statements.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

9. Award of contract to the LOW BIDDER, Union Metal Corporation, DeSoto, Texas, in the amount of \$24,140.00, for the purchase of traffic signal mast arms for the following intersections: Lyon & Monterrey, Taylor and McPherson, Chihuahua and McPherson, Heritage and Hwy 59. Union Metal has been the lowest bidder for the past two years, there is a 26% average cost increase from last year purchase. Funding is available in Capital Improvement Fund and CDBG Fund Accounts.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

10. Award of contract to the SOLE BIDDER, Naztec, Inc., Sugar Land, Texas in the amount of \$55,200.00 for the purchase of four Traffic Controller Cabinets for the following intersections: Lyon and Monterrey, Taylor and McPherson, Chihuahua and McPherson and Washington and Main. A comparable Traffic Control unit purchased last year \$10,399.00. However, due to the upgrading of the communication software and the wireless communication equipment for monitoring of intersections from the Traffic Central Office increase by 25% this year. Funding is available in Capital Improvement Fund Account and CDBG Fund Accounts. A total of four (4) bids were received for this commodity.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

11. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the City's contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc. for Environmental Assessment Services (EA) associated with the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge) and connecting roadways at an increased labor cost of \$13,808.00 plus expenses for conceptual engineering work related to the study of F.M. 3464 alignment alternatives 3 and 4. The third alternative entails using F.M. 3464 and a realigned F.M. 3464 as one-way pairs from I.H. 35 up to and including the bridge.

The fourth alternative involves the alignment of F.M. 3464 between the existing roadway and that originally proposed to be constructed 1000 feet south. The City is obligated to consider all comments received and to study all possible alternatives before environmental clearance can be granted. Contract price will increase from \$99,618.00 plus expenses to \$113,426.00 plus expenses.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

#### VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

12. Presentation regarding the selection of an artist for the design, production, and delivery of bronze sculptures for placement at the new International Airport terminal phase I and II.

Motion to select Armando Hinojosa as the artist.

Moved : Cm. Bruni  
 Second: Cm. Valdez  
 For: 7

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Alvarado joined the meeting at this time, 5:38 p.m.

13. Presentation regarding an update of the Laredo Rail-Highway Crossing Safety Plan.

Marina Sukup, Director of Planning, made the presentation before the council.

The Laredo Highway-Rail Crossing Safety Plan ("Plan") evaluated the 104 at-grade rail crossings located within the urbanized area as a congestion management project, recognizing the effects of rail congestion which affects the movement of international freight, as well as the impact on vehicular mobility. Texas leads the nation in rail crossing accidents in Webb County is second only to Harris County (Houston) in the number of such accidents in Texas.

The Plan which was adopted in October, 1995 needs revision. The following are factors that contribute to the need to review the plan:

1. The northeast Mexico concession was awarded by the Texas Mexican Railway/KCS and TMN to form the TFM line. As a result of this award, the Union Pacific Railroad has deferred

its plan for the construction of a new rail bridge in North Laredo. When originally proposed, this bridge would have diverted approximately 80% of the rail traffic entering Mexico from the "Laredo yard".

2. The volume of rail traffic passing through Laredo/Nuevo Laredo has continued to increase. The Tex Mex anticipates that the number of its trains will increase from six to twenty daily.

3. Business in and around the Santa Maria run-around line continues to have serious problems with blockages and use of this line for storage.

In compliance with the Plan, major improvements have either been made or are in progress for both railroads as follows:

a. The UPRR has relocated its repair shop to the Port of Laredo eliminating the need to break the trains to pull out defective cars. The Tex Mex proposes to do the same at the time it relocates switching operations east of the city limits.

b. A number of tracks have been removed by the UPRR between Garza and Jefferson. This has permitted the reconstruction of the Sanchez Street crossing, which has been recommended for eventual closure. Sanchez Street lies approximately equidistant between Scott Street and Jefferson Street, and it is recommended that Hidalgo Street and Gonzalez Street be consolidated with the Sanchez Street crossing and Scott Street with the proviso that would affect when and only when there is the extension of Eagle Pass over to Santa Cleotilde and that there is a road in effect giving the residents an alternative with grate separated crossing. Sanchez has had one of the highest accident rates of any of the Laredo crossing. TxDot has committed \$165,000 for signals at this location during the next fiscal period. Other signal improvements proposed for Uniroyal Road, Main and Corpus Christi.

c. Consolidated Examination Stations (CES) are in progress for both railroads, which will eliminate delays for customs and immigration inspections which has created major delays in the lower yard for many years.

Larry Fields, President of Tex Mex Railway, addressed Cm. Bruni's points where he states he has been trying to get something done at Arkansas Street for three years. He stated that part of the school road is on Tex Mex property, it is private property, the city doesn't pay anything for that and who is liable? He concluded by saying that they are willing to work with the city and they would prefer to sell that

property to the city at a very low rate, then it would be the city's road and the city would have to maintain it and take care of it. They would have to install a barrier to protect Tex Mex Railroad. They have some crossings that they are willing to give the city, they need help from the city and that they city try to get some ISTEA funds and do some grate separations, they want to work jointly with the city and have these things done.

14. Presentation of the Downtown Circulation Plan.

Marina Sukup, Director of Planning, made the presentation stating that this is the final report. She reported that the study recommended for 13 immediate strategies, 8 interim strategies, and 3 long term strategies. Some of these strategies were:

Immediate Strategies:

- Conversion of Convent to one-way operation from Bridge #1 to Grant
- Restrict parking and install signing on Santa Ursula and San Dario from Victoria to Bridge #2
- Enforcement
- Installation of signal at the intersection of Washington and Main
- Improvements around Intermodal Terminal

Interim Strategies:

- Conversion of Washington to two-way operation to include channelization devices
- Improve Scott and Santa Maria from IH 35 to Bridge #1
- Relocation of Toll plaza on Bridge #1

Long Term Strategies:

- Extend San Francisco to the existing Import Lot
- Fixed guideway recommendations
- Parking Garage

15. Presentation concerning "Operation Blitz".

Phyllis Colon, Tax Assessor/Collector, made the presentation report before the council, as follows:

In October of 1996 the Tax Department launched two programs to locate unauthorized utility users. Since 1994 there had been numerous indicators that there were customers using water and having their garbage picked up without paying for the services.

The first program began in October 1996, and is known as "The Non-Deposit Program". This consist of locating meters from a computer report that are inactive on the system but are registering use of water. This is a continuous problem where

people turn on their own water frequently after they have been disconnected for non-payment or when they move into a place. At the beginning of this program Mrs. Chita Deleza, Billing Supervisor confirmed that a computer listing existed of accounts which were inactive in 1990 when the records were transferred to the AS400 and the billing process was moved to the Tax Department from the Utility Department. The 6,528 accounts on the list were never added to the system. This was brought to the attention of Mr. Florencio Pena, City Manager, who authorized hiring temporary help to research the records, locate the meters and correct the problem. This 1990 listing became known as "Operation Blitz" and has top priority.

Many of the original 6,500 accounts has already been added to the computer. As of March 15th, about 60% of the list has been completed with 2,827 account identified and checked out in the filed. Of these accounts the break down is as follows:

1,229	Locations were in the computer showing no account but had an active meter with no deposit and was not being billed.
356	Active meters with no location or meter in computer.
90	Need further investigation and are pending.
86	Meter with no number (may have been stolen units).
250	Empty lots with no meter.
17	Direct illegal connections

ACTION TAKEN:

594	Meters were removed
531	Meters were locked down

RESULT

979	Customers have signed contracts, started paying past due amounts and are now on the system.
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In addition customers will be clearing up accounts and will become effective.

The minimum financial impact of the 979 accounts now activated for one year at residential rates are:



Water	\$ 88,110.00
Sewer	103,382.46
Garbage	82,382.00
St/Fed Mandates	49,928.00
NPDS	8,811.00
Sales	6,578.88

\$339,045.34 (as of Feb.1997)

Administrative Fees Collected      \$ 68,900.00 (This include  
the Non-Deposits  
accounts also)

The Non-Deposit program has identified 2,067 accounts using active meters not being billed form October 1st to February 28th.

620 Meters were locked down  
695 Meters were removed  
752 Pending

A new locking device has made it much more difficult to open meters. The Department has 1,050 locks and has ordered 4,000 more.

The largest percent of the accounts inspected are commercial properties and rental units. In many cases the owners produced leases showing the tenant is responsible for the utilities. In other cases the tenants have told us the water was on and the landlord or agent told them the utilities were paid. In these cases the lease is often silent on the issue or there is no bill documentation. Other customers have said they were waiting for someone to bill them and did not know they should pay for their water. Many of these people had turned on their own water or purchased a home where the builder had left the water turned on.

A large percent of the Non-Deposits are people who turned on their water after they were disconnected for non-payment. Some of these have repeatedly turned on their own water. Some of the builders and plumbers are part of the problem.

The largest bill for past consumption was \$26,000.00. The majority of these accounts are for people under 40 years old.

She concluded by saying that they work with those people who need to break down their payment into two or three months.

Mr. Pena stated that once we are caught up with this "Blitz" program and after all accounts are identified, that we may want to re-evaluate our administrative charge for this

unauthorized connections. He added that once we have this program complete they will come back with a recommendation.

Cm. Guerra stated one of his biggest concerns was the \$200.00 administrative fee that has been charged to some customers. He wants that staff, the City Manager, the Legal Department and the Tax Department to take a look at the 1975 ordinance that we now have because it does needs revising.

Mr. Steven Wright, Wright Realtors, stated that the problem here is the \$200.00 "Administrative Fee" that is being assessed. He stated that Mrs. Colon says that there has been notification, and there has not been any notifications to individuals. Once the property is tagged as being illegal water hookups or no security deposit, it is automatically assessed, there is no chance for individuals to come in, there is no notification before the \$200.00 administrative fee is implemented and hits you with it. Staff is not taking into consideration vacant units. He asked that council consider lowering the administrative fee from \$200.00 to \$25.00 when all the records are on the charts.

16. Presentation regarding the closing of International Bridge I.

Rafael Garcia, Bridge Manager, stated that aside from the obvious which was the inconvenience, congestions, and the honking of horns there was very little impact since the freight and other traffic was redistributed.

Luis Landin, Traffic Director, reported that there were minor problems in the downtown district and that they are conducting traffic counts on two closures and will report later as to their impact.

Agustin Dovalina, Interim Chief of Police, reported that the modification of personnel deployment resulted in a negligible increase in overtime expenditures during the 8-day period. He suggested that an ordinance be developed to provide fines for trucks cutting the lines.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported no financial impact and that Brown & Root Engineers will be sending to them a proposal recommending the strengthening of concrete slabs and will identify the funds for contracting in April.

17. Presentation regarding the method to be used in assisting the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs on Saturdays for the month of April to aid in the Colonias "Clean-up" effort.

Ms. Nelda Barrera, Field Representative for the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, asked for the City's support for the Sundays in April.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated that the \$1.25 charge will be charged to the commercial entity bringing the trash.

#### VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Cm. Guerra spoke of the \$50.00 limit imposed to Mexican citizens on purchases from the U.S. He explained that we are losing the commercial war with the neighboring countries (Mexico and Canada) and the efforts of our representatives in Washington have seemed to be ineffective and at worst, non-existent. Cm. Guerra wants a resolution in support of this effort.

Motion to prepare a resolution for the next council meeting in support of this legislation on behalf of the City Council of the City of Laredo and that we send our resolutions to our State Representatives, State Senators, National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, and advising other border communities of the action taken, also solicit similar resolutions from the Laredo Chamber of Commerce and the Laredo Development Foundation.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Cw. Montalvo publicly congratulated Cm. Bruni for bringing the Tecolotes back to West Martin Field.

#### IX. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION

18. Requests by Mayor and City Councilmembers for discussion and presentation.

##### A. Requests by Mayor Saul N. Ramirez Jr.

1. Discussion concerning the city's participation in the Presidents Summit For Americas Future.

Mayor Ramirez informed Council that he had received an invitation from Retired Army General Colin Powell to participate in the President's Summit for America's Future to be held on April 27th - 29th. He stated that various local organizations such as Communities In Schools, Boys Girls



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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Requests by Councilmember Cecilia May Moreno

1. Appointing David Hernandez as my nominee to the Laredo Beautification Board.

Motion appointing David Hernandez to the Laredo Beautification Board.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS

19. Public hearing concerning the application by Sonat Exploration Company, authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for Gas Extraction to Sonat Exploration Co. on 2.75 acres out of Porcion 39, Abstract 250, as further described by metes and bounds on attached Exhibit "A", located west of Hwy. 83 and south of Santa Rita Subdivision. Known as the Johnson No. 3 Well. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the Special Use Permit.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for gas extraction facility to Sonat Exploration Co. for a 2.75 acre tract out of Porcion 39, Abstract 250, as further described by metes and bounds on attached Exhibit "A", located west of Hwy 83 and south of Santa Rita subdivision, known as the Johnson No. 3 Well, of the City of Laredo; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

- 20. Public hearing concerning the application by Sofia Benavides, amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 1294, Eastern Division, located at 2214 Blaine Street, from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 1294, Eastern Division, located at 2214 Blaine Street, from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

- 21. Public hearing concerning the application by Vaq-'94, Ltd, amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 103.41 acres out of Porcion 31, Abstract 3166, located South of S.H. 359, approximately 3,500 feet East of the Bob Bullock Loop from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) and B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District), planned unit development, providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 103.41 acres out of Porcion 31, Abstract 3166, located South of S. H. 359, approximately 3,500 feet East of the Bob Bullock Loop from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) and B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1A

(Single Family Reduced Area District), planned unit development, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

- 22. Public hearing concerning the application by Carroll Summers/Ernest Bruni for Alta Mar Ltd. amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 28.47 acres out of Porcion 31, Abstract 3116 and 298, located North of S.H. 359, approximately 5,000 feet East of the Bob Bullock Loop from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District), planned unit development, providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 28.47 acres out of Porcion 31, Abstract 3116 and 298, located North of S.H. 359, approximately 5,000 feet East of the Bob Bullock Loop from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District), planned unit development, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 1  
 Cm. Bruni

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

23. Public hearing concerning the application by Jesse Medellin, amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 88, Eastern Division, located at 1113 Monterrey Avenue, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 88, Eastern Division, located at 1113 Monterrey Avenue, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
 Second: Cw. Montalvo  
 For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

24. Public hearing concerning the application by Juan Antonio Rodriguez and Angelica M. Rodriguez, amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 623, Eastern Division, located at 1104 Willow Street, from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 623, Eastern Division, located at 1104 Willow Street, from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for



publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
Second: Cw. Montalvo  
For: 8

Against: Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

- 25. Public hearing concerning the application by Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Maldonado, authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for antique sales on Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block 831, Eastern Division, located at 1501 Clark Boulevard; providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of a Conditional Use Permit.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for antique sales on Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block 831, Eastern Division, located at 1501 Clark Boulevard; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: Abstain: 0

Ron Whitehawk, representing the property owner, spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Guerra  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Guerra

- 26. Public hearing concerning the application by Grupo V and Antonio Pena, authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for heavy automotive sales on Lots 5, 7 and 8, Block 605, Western Division, located at 2619 San Dario Avenue; providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for heavy automotive sales on Lots 5, 7 and 8, Block 605, Western Division, located at 2619 San Dario Avenue; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: Abstain: 0

Ron Whitehawk, representing Grupo V, hoped council will concur with the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cw. Moreno  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cw. Moreno

- 27. Public hearing concerning the application by Merlin Development Co., Ltd., amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 14.033 acres out of Porcion 22, also known as the San Isidro Ranch, located west of McPherson Road and south of the United Day School, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-1 (Limited Business District) and R-O (Residential/Office District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the zoning ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 14.033 acres out of Porcion 22, San Isidro Ranch, located west of McPherson Road and south of the United Day School Site, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-1 (Limited Business District) and R-O (Residential/Office District) providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.



2-A, Del Mar Hills, located at 401 Lindenwood Drive, providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends the approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a Child Day Care Center, on Lots 544 and 545, Block 30, Section 2-A, Del Mar Hills, located at 401 Lindenwood Drive, providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Guerra  
Second: Cm. Valdez  
For: 8

Against: Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Guerra  
Second: Cm. Bruni  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Guerra

- 30. Public hearing concerning the application by the Estate of Rogelio L. Cabello DBA Cabello Del Norte Rentals, authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for truck/trailer rentals on Lot 8, Block 977, Western Division, located at 3804 Santa Ursula Avenue. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends the approval of the Conditional Use Permit.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for truck/trailer rentals on Lot 8, Block 977, Western Division, located at 3804 Santa Ursula Avenue; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado  
Second: Cw. Montalvo  
For: 8

Against: Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Alvarado

31. Public hearing amending Section 24.62.5 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo providing for freestanding signs; amending Section 24.82.4 providing for special use permits for freestanding signs; creating Section 24.93.10 relating to special use permits for freestanding signs; providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends the approval of Proposal I.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending Section 24.62.5 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo providing for freestanding signs; amending Section 24.82.4 providing for special use permits for freestanding signs; creating Section 24.93.10 relating to special use permits for freestanding signs; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against:

Abstain: 0

Mr. Keith Selman from the Planning Department explained the recommendation of Proposal 1.

Cm. Bruni wanted to know if it addresses the abutting landowners and requested that this ordinance address this concern. That the adjacent landowners be notified by mail that a sign will be put up.

There was no public input.

Motion to that:

(1) for properties located adjacent to Federal, Interstate, U.S. and State Highways: 200 square feet for the first 100 feet of street frontage, plus 1.5 sq. ft. per linear foot of street frontage over 100 ft. up to a maximum of 1,200 sq. ft., provided the total allowable area of on-premise signage shall be reduced by one sq. ft. for each sq. ft. of free-standing off-premise signage located on the same premise (#97-0-21).

(2) for properties not located adjacent to Federal, Interstate, U.S., and State Highways: 200 sq. ft. However,

existing, in-use signage in excess of these requirements may remain and be replaced as necessary.

(3) additional provisions for freestanding signage in B-4, M-1, and M-2 zoning districts: all signs must be situated at least 200 feet from the front of the nearest residentially zoned and used lot. (amended Ord. #97-O-21, 1/27/97). However, following a public hearing, the Zoning Board of Adjustments shall have authority to grant a variance of up to 25% of the distance and size requirements established herein.

The second concurred to all 3 amendments proposed by Cm. Guerra.

Moved : Cm. Bruni  
Second: Cm. Valdez  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and table and send back to P&Z and staff for review and bring back at a later date.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado  
Second: Cm. Bruni  
For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

- 32. Public hearing amending Section 24.62.5 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo to provide for communication towers and antennas; amending Section 24.63.2 to provide for allowable zoning districts and special use permits for communication towers and antennas; amending Section 24.65.13 to delete provisions providing for radio and television antennas; creating Section 24.93.10 relating to special use permits for communication towers and antennas; amending appendix "A" establishing definitions accordingly; providing for publication and effective date. The Telecommunications Commission has recommended approval of this ordinance as well as the Planning and Zoning Commission.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending Section 24.62.5 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo to provide for communication towers and antennas; amending Section 24.63.2 to provide for allowable zoning districts and special use permits for communication towers and antennas; amending Section 24.65.13 to delete provisions providing for radio and television antennas; creating Section 24.93.10 relating to special use permits for communication towers and antennas; amending appendix "A" establishing definitions accordingly; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
Second: Cw. Moreno  
For: 8

Against: Abstain: 0

Keith Selman from the Planning Department made the presentation before the council.

Larry Dovalina, Telecommunications Officer, gave a report on the background of this ordinance.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 33. Public hearing amending Section 24.63.2 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo by allowing the establishment of multi-family residential uses in R-O (Residential/Office Districts); providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending Section 24.63.2 of the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo by allowing the establishment of multi-family residential uses in R-O (Residential/Office Districts); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 34. Public hearing concerning adoption of the City of Laredo International Airport Land Use Master Plan and Development

