

CITY OF LAREDO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
A-2010-SC-01
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JANUARY 11, 2010
5:30 p.m.

 **DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT** 

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are requested to contact Gustavo Guevara, City Secretary at (956) 791-7308 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accessible entrance and accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall, 1100 Victoria Ave.

Out of consideration for all attendees of the City Council meetings, please turn off all cellular phones and pagers, or place on inaudible signal. Thank you for your consideration.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discussion with possible action on the proposal from the Dinallo Group regarding the Laredo Xtreme Entertainment Park proposal.
2. Discussion with possible action on Horizon Group's proposal for a parking facility located by the former River Drive Mall.
3. Discussion with possible action regarding the implementation of a photo enforcement solution for red light violations for selected intersections which includes all hardware, software, installation, maintenance, operation and all back-office processing of violations.
4. Presentation on the Downtown Business District garbage collection costs and reduction alternatives and their impact on fees by the Solid Waste Services Department, with possible action.
5. Presentation by Dan Migura, Human Resources Director regarding the status of the ordinance on the Civil Service Commission for non-uniformed city employees, with possible action.
6. Presentation by the Ethics Committee on the Ethics Ordinance to City Council, with possible action.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council hereby reserves the right to go into executive session at any time during this public meeting, if such is requested by the City Attorney or other legal counsel for the City, pursuant to his or her duty under Section 551.071(2) of the Government Code, to consult privately with his or her client on an item on the agenda, or on a matter arising out of such item.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

This notice was posted at the Municipal Government Offices, 1110 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 5:15 p.m.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: 01/11/10	SUBJECT: MOTIONS Discussion and possible action regarding the implementation of a photo enforcement solution for red light violations for selected intersections which includes all hardware, software, installation, maintenance, operation and all back-office processing of violations.
INITIATED BY: Carlos Villarreal, City Manager	STAFF SOURCE: Jesus Olivares, Assistant City Manager Carlos Maldonado, Police Chief Roberto Murillo, Traffic Safety Manager Tomas Ochoa, Municipal Court Clerk Rosario Cabello, Financial Services Dept. Director Francisco Meza, Purchasing Agent
PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:	
<p>BACKGROUND: The City received three proposals for providing a photo enforcement solution for targeted intersections within the City of Laredo. The RFP required a turnkey photo enforcement solution for red light violations for selected intersections which includes all hardware, software, installation, maintenance, operation and all back-office processing of violations.</p> <p>The proposals were evaluated by a staff committee comprised of Jesus Olivares, Assistant City Manager, Jesus Torres, Assistant Police Chief, Roberto Murillo, Traffic Safety Manager, Tomas Ochoa, Municipal Court Clerk, Rosario Cabello, Financial Service Dept. Director and Francisco Meza, Purchasing Agent.</p> <p>Three vendors submitted proposals: Redflex, Phoenix, AZ., American Traffic Solutions (ATS), Scottsdale, AZ., and Traffipax, Inc., Lintieum, MD. All three vendors were allowed to present their red light camera system solution to the staff committee. Each vendor highlighted the capability of their systems and provided samples of images captured by their enforcement cameras and provided an overview of the enforcement and collection process. The three vendors utilize a web based software system that transfers video and still images from targeted intersections to local certified law enforcement personnel that view the video and still images to determine if a civil citation is warranted. If the law enforcement officer deems that a traffic violation has occurred, that citation triggers a notification and collection process by these firms. The current Texas statues allow for red light camera citations and there are specific guidelines that must be followed by an entity proposing to use such. The vendor contract must be cost neutral and cannot be a contingency type contract. The civil citation is set by state statue at \$75.00 per violation.</p> <p>A second interview was conducted with the committee's top two vendors: Redflex and American Traffic Solutions (ATS). Based on the two interviews and RFP submittals, staff is recommending that a contract be awarded to American Traffic Solutions, for a term of five years.</p>	
FINANCIAL IMPACT: This is a cost neutral program, wherein revenues collected will pay for the services provided. At no time will the City pay for any fees associated with this contract if the revenues do not exceed the vendor's cost proposal.	
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:	STAFF RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that this action be approved.

Cost Summary

Vendor	Cost Proposal
American Traffic Solutions, Inc. Includes red light camera equipment, installation, maintenance, violation processing services, TEXAS DMV records access, mailing of 1 st and 2 nd notices, web-payment access with convenience fee, call center support for general program questions and public awareness program support	\$4,750 /month per approach
Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc. All associated project costs, installation, operation, maintenance, training, public outreach, and technical support, Actual cost of software and hardware components	\$4,870.00/month per approach
Traffipax, Inc. Full service program that includes complete installation, operation, and maintenance of all camera systems, training , public awareness activities, turn-key violation processing services and customer service	\$4,700/month per approach

A photo enforcement program is allowed by the State of Texas Transportation Code, Section 707. The fee for such service is based on a flat fee for service. The City required that this fee be cost neutral and cannot be a contingency type contract. The civil citation is set by state statute at \$75.00 per violation.

Revenue Collected:

Fifty (50) percent of the revenue derived from civil or administrative penalties collected by the City must be sent to the State of Texas Comptroller for deposit to the credit of the regional trauma account established under Section 782.002, Health and Safety Code.

The remainder of the revenue generated must be restricted in a special account that may be used only to fund traffic safety programs, including pedestrian safety programs, public safety programs, intersection improvements, and traffic enforcement.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: 01-11-10	SUBJECT: STAFF REPORT PRESENTATION BY DAN MIGURA, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE ORDINANCE ON THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION FOR NON-UNIFORMED CITY EMPLOYEES, WITH POSSIBLE ACTION.	
INITIATED BY: Carlos Villarreal, City Manager Horacio DeLeon, Jr., Asst. City Manager	STAFF SOURCE: Daniel E. Migura, Jr. Human Resource Director	
PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: During the September 21, 2009 City Council meeting, Mayor Pro Tempore Mike Garza made mention that the committee has an ordinance they would like to submit to City Council.		
BACKGROUND Since the first appointed Civil Service Ad Hoc Committee was formed on July 2007, members have met on 16 occasions to review and discuss different aspects of Civil Service Commission for Non-uniformed City employees.		
FINANCIAL IMPACT: This action will impact the respective department's budget.		
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Present update on Civil Service ordinance as staff report with possible action to Mayor and City Council.	STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Present update on Civil Service ordinance as staff report with possible action to Mayor and City Council.	