

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

A-2021-R-21

LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040**

December 6, 2021

5:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

MPT Rodriguez called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by MPT Rodriguez.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

MPT Rodriguez called for a moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Rudy Gonzalez Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	Mayor Pro Tempore
Mercurio "Merc" Martinez, III	District III
Alberto Torres Jr.	District IV
Ruben Gutierrez Jr.	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
Vanessa Perez	District VII
Alyssa Cigarroa	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez Jr.	City Secretary
Robert Eads	City Manager
Rosario Cabello	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Assistant City Manager
Riazul Mia	Assistant City Manager
Dean Roggia	City Attorney

Cm. Perez arrived at 5:38 pm.

Cm. Cigarroa arrived at 5:52 pm.
Cm. Martinez arrived at 6:14 pm.

Motion to excuse all the other councilmembers along with the mayor.

Moved: MPT. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez
For: 6 Against: Abstain:
NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of November 15, 2021.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 6 Against: Abstain:
NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

Citizen comments

VI. RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing three (3) outstanding City of Laredo employees to be named as the City's Employees of the Quarter for the 4th Quarter of 2021, one whose work is mostly conducted indoors, one whose work is mostly conducted outdoors, and one from the Police or Fire Department who is subject to Collective Bargaining in accordance with Ordinance No. 2021-0-014 which establishes the City of Laredo Employee of the Quarter Program.

Interim Human Resources Director Zaida Gonzalez introduced Firefighter Jose G. Moreno. Fire Chief Heard, spoke about and introduced Mr. Moreno. Mr. Moreno thanked the city council for the recognition and the kind word from his fellow firefighters.

Deputy City Manager Rosario Cabello introduced Mr. David Alegria as the City of Laredo Indoor Employee of the Quarter. Mr. Alegria thanked the management for the recognition. Cm. Torres and Cm. Martinez stated some kind words for Mr. Alegria.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

VIII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

1. Appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Olga Lopez Chavarria to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.
2. Appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Juan Pasquel to the Port of Entry Advisory Committee.
3. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Vidal Rodriguez of Carlos Gordillo to the Airport Advisory Board.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open public hearings 1.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

1. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 14, Block 2, Jacaman Ranch Unit 6, Jacaman Commercial Park, Located at 7126 Rosson Ln, from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change and staff supports the application.

Motion to close and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

X. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

City Council to introduce items 2 (as amended) though 7.

2. Authorizing the City Manager to sell the "Surface Only" of City right-of-way at its market value of \$4,949,043.00 to TXDOT. This right-of-way is part of the Highway U.S. 59 construction project and is located at the east line of U.S. 59, south of Sinatra Parkway in Laredo, Webb County, known as Parcel 31. Legal description being 9.305 acres of land located in the Jane Guyman Survey Number 1714, Abstract No.517 and the Galveston, Brazos, and Colorado Narrow Gage Railroad Company (G.B.&C.N.G) Survey No. 1022 Abstract No.654, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The City of Laredo reserves any and all visible and apparent easements recorded or not recorded; approving and providing for an effective date.

Assistant City Manager stated that the proceeds would go towards the airport operations fund.

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease extension agreement, pursuant to the terms of the original lease agreement with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as an entity of the United States of America for a 2,622 square foot tract of land located along the Santa Isabel Avenue right-of-way in the Integrated Railcar Inspection System located at the Laredo Railroad Crossing. This lease agreement is extended through August 31, 2031, under the same terms and conditions of the original lease or any supplemental lease agreed upon by both parties with no rental fee.
4. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 6 "Animals and Fowl" of the Code of Ordinances, specifically section 6-19 (Protection of Animals and Pets) and 6-119 (Registration, Vaccination, and Permit Fees) to provide for regulation and inspection of privately owned animal traps within city limits and to charge an annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for privately owned animal traps within city limits; providing a severability clause; providing for a penalty; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.
5. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 6 "Animals and Fowl," Article III "Small Animals and Fowl," of the Code of Ordinances to amend grooming shop requirements to allow for mobile businesses; adding Section 6-49 related to procedures for revoking permits granted under this article; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.
6. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, regarding Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two, which designates The Coves at Winfield Development, located in northeast

Laredo, as Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two, pursuant to Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code, approving the final financial plans and final project plans that will provide the basic framework of the TIRZ and detailing the type, kind, number and location of public improvements to be constructed in the Zone; and declaring an effective date.

7. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Ordinance 2020-0-149 regarding the temporary parklet pilot program to extend the expiration date of the program for one hundred and twenty days (120) following the expiration of the Governor's COVID-19 disaster declaration; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive and adopt the final reading of items 9 through 28. Item 8, it will be dealt with, individually.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

8. **2021-0-231** Amending the General Fund FY21-22 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by creating four (4) Assistant to City Council, Grade 32 positions. Estimated annual cost of the four positions is \$313,000.00. Funding for the new positions will be transferred from General Fund Reserve Appropriations.

Motion to table until the next meeting.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

9. **2021-0-232** Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Texas Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division (CJD) and amending the FY21-22 Laredo Municipal Court budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$22,010.18. The grant funds will be used to partially fund a Juvenile Case Manager for Municipal Court. The grant period is from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022, and will be used to cover salary and fringe benefits. No impact on General Fund.

10. **2021-0-233** Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a kiosk (water and ice vending machine) on approximately 0.3 acres, partially situated in Porcion 33, Jose D. Trevino, Original Grantee, Abstract 546, being also partially out of the west end of Block 2070, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas sometimes referred to as the "Edward J. Dryden Subdivision" (unrecorded) of property lying adjacent and east of the original Laredo City limits (east of Ejido Avenue), previously described by the Webb County Appraisal District as westerly 92.58' of the west 138.8 of the north one-half of block 2070, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, located 3301 Santa Clara Street.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed Conditional Use Permit and staff **supports** the application.

11. **2021-0-234** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately a 1.5 acre tract of land situated in Porcion 38, Abstract 472, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, being out of a 358.7 acre tract of land, formerly known as part of the Link Ranch, as per Deed, recorded in Volume 650, page 703-706 of the Official Public Records, Webb County, Texas, located south of Cielito Lindo Boulevard and west of Saint David Lane, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed zone change and staff **supports** the application.

12. **2021-0-235** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Cuatro Vientos South, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 48. 18 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and south of Wormser Road, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

13. **2021-0-236** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Cuatro Vientos South, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 370.67 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and north of Wormser Road, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) and B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

14. **2021-0-237** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Cuatro Vientos South, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing an additional territory of 84.82 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and south of Wormser Road, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) and B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

15. **2021-0-238** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Cuatro Vientos South, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 22.81 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and south of Wormser Road, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

16. **2021-0-239** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Cuatro Vientos South, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 14.29 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and south of Wormser Road, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

17. **2021-0-240** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Nestor Garza, Jr., altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing an additional territory of 20.73 acres, more or less, located east of Cuatro Vientos Road (Loop 20) and south of Concord Hills Boulevard, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

18. **2021-0-241** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a restaurant serving alcohol, on Lot 4A, Block 1, Vista Hermosa, Unit III, located at 5507 McPherson Road.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed Special Use Permit and staff **does not support** the application.

19. **2021-0-242** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1A, Block 2, Lago Del Mar Subdivision, Unit 9A located at 7602 Country Club Drive, from R-1 B (Single Family High Density Residential District) to B-1 (Community Business District).

The applicant originally requested a B-4 (Highway Commercial District) zone change, but amended the application in favor of a B-1 (Limited Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **denial** of the proposed B-4 (Highway Commercial District) and recommended **approval** of a B-1 (Limited Commercial District). Staff **supports** the amended application.

20. **2021-0-243** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 17, Block 2, Laredo Town Center Phase 2, located at 5020 Town Center Court, from R-2 (Multi-Family District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed zone change and staff **supports** the application.

21. **2021-0-244** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 2.02 acres, out of D & J Alexander Investments, LLC, recorded in Volume 4284, Page 587, Office of Public Records, Webb County, Texas, situated in Porcion 26, Agustin Sanchez Original Grantee, A-282, in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, located east of North Bartlett Avenue and south of Fenwick Drive, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed zone change and staff **supports** the application.

22. **2021-0-245** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a restaurant serving alcohol on Lot 1, Block 1, Villarreal Enterprises Plat, located at 611 Shiloh Drive, Units 7 and 8 only.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed Special Use Permit and staff **does not support** the application.

23. **2021-0-246** Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of Special Use Permit for a mini storage on Lot 1, Block 1, San Isidro Northeast Subdivision, Phase 8, located at 11110 International Boulevard.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed Special Use Permit and staff **supports** the application.

24. **2021-0-247** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Killam Ranch Properties, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 4.344 acres, more or less, located north of Hillcroft Road/Hook Em Horns Boulevard and northwest of International Boulevard, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1 (Single Family Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

25. **2021-0-248** Ordinance concerning a voluntary annexation application by Richmo Holdings, LTD, and Killam Ranch Properties, LTD, altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo by annexing additional territory of 16.755 acres, more or less, located north of Union Pacific Boulevard and west of East Point Drive, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the annexation and initial zoning. Staff **supports** the application and initial zoning.

26. **2021-0-249** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning an approximately 155.4 acre tract, situated in Porcion 12, Santiago Sanchez, Original Grantee and Porcion 13, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, being partially 99 acres out of a 185.4-acre tract, 1.6 acres out of a 31.1-acre tract, 19.4-acres being all of a 19.4-acre tract and 35.3-acres being all of a 35.3-acre tract for a combined total of 155.45-acres; being all four separate tracts owned by ITARA, Incorporated as recorded in Volume 4700, Page 541-557 of the Official Public Records, Webb County, Texas located west and south of Beltway Parkway, from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed zone change and staff **supports** the application.

27. **2021-0-250** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the north 76.5 feet of Lot 6, Block 90, Eastern Division, located at 101 Corpus Christi Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the proposed zone change and staff **supports** the application.

28. **2021-0-252** Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement between the City of Laredo, as LESSOR, and Iglesia Casa de Alabanza, LESSEE, approximately 15,483 square feet constituting of a building located at 1705 E. Hillside Road at the Laredo International Airport. The lease term shall be for one (1) year commencing on November 1, 2021, and ending on October 31, 2022, with two (2) one-year options to extend ending on October 31, 2023, and October 31, 2024. The monthly rental shall be \$2,844.63 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve items 29 through 78, with the exception of 39, 46, 51, 52 and 53, those items will be dealt with, individually.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE GILBERT SANCHEZ, INTERIM AIRPORT DIRECTOR

29. Consideration to award contract FY22-010 Runway 18R/36L Markings Removal for Laredo International Airport to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Hi-Lite Airfield Services LLC., Adams Center, NY in an amount not to exceed \$81,000.00. This one time purchase contract is for the removal of runway pavement markings for the Laredo International Airport to comply with FM Advisory Circular "Standards for Airport Markings", AC No. 150/5340-1 M, dated 5/10/2019-Removal of Markings. Funding is available in the International Airport Fund.
30. Consideration to approve renewal of a professional service contract with GRA, Incorporated, Alexandria, VA in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. GRA is providing consulting services in support of air service development at the Laredo International Airport. The renewal contract is a one (1) year term commencing on October 1, 2021, and

ending September 30, 2022. The original contract amount with renewal is a total of \$99,037.61 Funding is available in the Airport Operation Funds.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

31. 2021-R-268 Authorizing the City Manager to support a resolution for the proposed development of affordable rental housing located near the southwest corner of International Boulevard and Springfield Ave. named Avanti Legacy Rosewood. Avanti has advised the City that it intends to submit an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for the 2022 Competitive 9% Housing Tax Credits. The City of Laredo will pledge to reduce building fees in the amount of \$500.00 and any other matters incident thereto.
32. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the 2020 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) contract with Bethany House of Laredo, Inc., by increasing the total awarded amount to the agency by an additional \$1,815.96 in funding. The total amended awarded funds of \$272,669.96 will be utilized to cover expenses related to the operations of the emergency shelter. Funding is available through ESG administrative savings and must be utilized for eligible ESG activities.
33. Ratification to accept the HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) funds, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. The funds will support & provide relief to services that address homelessness assistance and supportive services.

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU: STAFF SOURCE AILEEN RAMOS, CVB DIRECTOR

34. Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts with Mexico and U.S. billboard, print, electronic, digital and other media vendors for event activations, media management and familiarization tours for influencers. Media plan advertisements for the Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau will be placed beginning January 2022. Funding is available in the CVB FY21-22 Budget. The total amount is not to exceed \$1,394,044.38 comprised of \$644,547.07 for Mexico promotions and \$794,497.31 for U.S. promotions, including but not limited to:

U.S. MARKET: FY21-22	
STACK ADAPT (CTV)	\$70,000.00
TRAFFIC CONTROL RADIO	\$54,910.00
SOJERN	\$55,784.00
THE-ZIMMERMAN AGENCY	\$76,236.31
MEXICO MARKET: FY21-22	
MULTIMEDIOS	\$70,245.00
MONUMENTOS PUBLICITARIOS	\$91,191.40
ADS COMUNICACION	\$87,853.60

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TECLO J. GARCIA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

35. **2021-R-266** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Laredo, Texas ("City") and Laredo College to provide workforce skills training, development training, and redevelopment training for individuals who may have experienced lay-off, furlough, or under-employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City and Laredo College have each appropriated \$1,000,000.00 in funding for this program for a total program cost of \$2,000,000.00 for workforce development. Funding for the City is available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program.

36. **2021-R-267** Authorizing the City Manager to approve the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two, the Coves at Winfield Project Development Agreement between the City of Laredo and Charco Land Sales, LLC (the "Developer"), pursuant to an economic development incentive under Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code; providing for severability; providing for an effective date; and providing for publication, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all relevant documents, and any other matters incident thereto. The Developer intends to construct certain public infrastructure improvements to facilitate the future development of the Zone, enhance property values, and benefit the community consistent with the purposes of the Zone.

ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER

37. Consideration to award construction contract FY22-ENG-02 to the lowest responsible responsive bidder ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$232,700.00 which includes the base bid and additive alternate for the CDBG Jefferson St.

Sidewalk Project from San Bernardo Ave. to Lee Ave., District VI II, with a construction contract time of 90 working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After a notice to proceed is issued , estimated completion date for the project is scheduled for May 2022. Funding is available in 20 1 9, 2020 and 202 1 CDBG Grant Years.

38. Consideration to award construction contract FY22-ENG-05 to the lowest responsible responsive bidder ALC Construction Co. Inc., Laredo, Texas in the amount not to exceed \$369,490.00 which is the base bid for the McPherson Rd. & Shiloh Dr. southbound right turn lane and widening project, with a construction contract time of 60 working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After a notice to proceed is issued, estimated completion date for the project is scheduled for March 2022. Funding is available in the 2021 C.O. Bond.

39. Consideration to award contract RFQ/RFP FY21-ENG-015 Construction Manager-at-Risk (cost of the work plus a fee with a guaranteed maximum price) for the City of Laredo Sports Complex Venue to Leyendecker Construction of Texas, Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$32,000,000.00, which includes \$2,406,244.00 for pre-construction phase services, and as a component of CMAR's Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) construction overhead, profit, and general conditions charges based on the 12-month project; and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. The CMAR will work with the architect and the City during the design process to ensure the feasibility and constructability of the Sports Complex Venue within the project budget. The CMAR will submit a proposed Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the construction of the project, which is within the City's construction budget. Funding is available in the 2021 Sports Venue Tax.

City Secretary Valdez stated the following changes to the item for city council consideration: from \$32,000,000.00 to \$34,710,244.00 and from \$2,406,244.00 to \$2,710,244.00.

Motion to approve as amended.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:
NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Cigarroa

40. Consideration for approval to reject the bid received at the City Secretary's Office on November 29, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., and publicly opened, read and taken under advisement on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. for the Lafayette Bridge Shade Project -FY22-ENG-04. After reviewing all bid documents submitted, City Engineering staff does not recommend awarding this construction contract since the bid received is above the engineer's estimated cost for construction. There is no financial impact at this time.
41. Consideration for approval of Amendment No. 8, a credit in the amount of \$322,770.78 to the professional services contract with Structural Engineering Associates, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for the World Trade International Bridge US Customs Exit Booth Expansion to remove Presidential Permit application & agency coordination and bi-national agency coordination & meetings. Current contract amount with this amendment is \$2,520,291.70. There is no financial impact at this time.
42. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to Structural Engineering Associates, San Antonio, Texas, in an amount of \$1,554,354.78 for the World Trade Bridge Expansion Project Phase 1 for project development schedule, federal re-notification of project intent, bi-national/stakeholder agency consultations and coordination, inclusion of project in LWCAMPO planning documents, presidential permit application document, preliminary engineering & designs for permits, environmental assessment document, public involvement, consultation and review of environmental assessment document, overall project management. Funding is available in the Bridge Construction Fund.
43. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a temporary right-of-entry agreement between the City of Laredo and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Department of Homeland Security for the Laredo Roads Project to provide limited access to survey and conduct environmental assessment of properties owned by the City of Laredo located near the Rio Grande River. The access shall be for a limited term of 18 months.
44. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Second Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Laredo (City), the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA), and the Webb County Drainage District No. 1, (Drainage District) to revise the funding commitments for Los Presidentes Arterial Roadway as follows: City of Laredo \$3,218, 110.00, Webb County Drainage District No. 1, \$924,700.00, WC-CL RMA \$2,064,550.00 for a total amount of \$6,207,360.00. Funding is available in the Capital Grants Fund.
45. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1 in the amount of \$152,069.38 providing for a concrete section instead of asphalt (Phase 2A), additional time of 30 working days to MTZ Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, and entity name change from JMLG Holdings, LTD to

Hilltop Farm, LTD for the City of Laredo, Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA), Webb County Drainage District No. 1 (WCDD No. 1) Los Presidentes Arterial Project. Current contract amount with this change order is \$5,251,710.84, and total contract time is 300 working days. Funding is available in the Capital Grants Fund and the 2019 Water Revenue Bond.

46. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to RS&H, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$535,553.00 for design, preparation of plans and specifications and bidding services for the Laredo International Airport to construct Taxiways H1 and H2, the decommission and demolition of existing Taxiway H, and rehabilitation of existing asphalt sections of Taxiway A (between Taxiway D and Taxiway E) with new concrete pavement. Design work is to be done on a fast track basis. City Council approved RFQ on August 7th, 2021. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund. Local funds will be used for this work. Services for this project are eligible for reimbursement by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant.

City Secretary Jose Valdez Jr. stated that the change to the item was the date of August 7, 2021 should have read August 7, 2017.

Motion to approve as amended.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez

ENVIRONMENTAL: STAFF SOURCE JOHN PORTER, ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR/ INTERIM SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

47. Consideration to award contract FY22-018 for the Chacon Creek Hike & Bike Trail Maintenance to the lowest bidder Nick Benavides, Laredo, TX for an annual amount of \$56,988.00 per year. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year with the option to renew for one (1) additional year. Funding for this contract is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

FIRE: STAFF SOURCE GUILLERMO HEARD, FIRE CHIEF

48. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) vehicles from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, TX in the amount of \$75,795.68 including vehicle graphics and emergency light packages. The purchase of these vehicles shall be made utilizing the Goodbuy Contract Pricing Program. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund.

49. Consideration to authorize the purchase of three (3) vehicles from Rockdale Country Ford, "OBA" Caldwell Country Ford, Rockdale TX, in the amount of \$79,735.00, including vehicle graphics. The purchase of these vehicles shall be made utilizing the Buyboard Contract Pricing Program. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund.
50. Consideration to award a contract to Siddons-Martin Emergency Group, Denton Texas in the amount of \$187,323.00 through the Houston Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC)-Cooperative Purchasing Program, for the purchase of three (3) emergency response vehicles for EMS Supervisors. The anticipated delivery is within 4-5 months of order date. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund.
51. Consideration to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Laredo College and the City of Laredo Fire Department which outlines a partnership for the Laredo College Fire Science Program.

Jorge "JD" Delgado thanked the city council for teaming up with Laredo College for the Laredo CARES 2.0 work force training program and the College Fire Science Program. Cm. Torres took the opportunity to thank Tecló Garcia along with several other people from Laredo College for working on this project. Cm. Dr. Martinez mentioned how the additional training helped many people in our community and how collaborating with Laredo College was great and beneficial for the community. Mr. Arnold Lozano City of Laredo Economic Development department present a breakdown of the courses involved in the Laredo CARES 2.0.

Motion to approve as amended.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez

52. Consideration to authorize the purchase of twelve (12) AutoPulse Resuscitation Systems from Zoll Medical Corp., Chelmsford, MA. in the amount of \$190,924.92. These will allow Fire/EMS rescuers to deliver nonstop, high-quality compressions to cardiac arrest patients throughout their pre-hospital transport. Funding is available in the Fire Department's operational budget.

Fire Chief Heard explained and presented the reason that he wanted to purchase the equipment. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked what kind of training the paramedics would receive and if there if data that demonstrates the effectiveness of the equipment.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez

53. Consideration to approve a binational agreement between City of Laredo, TX and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico to provide mutual aid in disasters and emergency trainings.

Cm. Perez asked if the item could be explained. Fire Chief Heard explained the mutual aid agreement and why it was brought forward.

Motion to approve as amended.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez

FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR

54. Consideration to renew annual contracts FY21-026 for the purchase of police and passenger car tires with the following vendors:

1. Section II: Southern Tire Mart, Columbia, Missouri in an amount up to \$90,000.00 (Primary Vendor); and
2. Section I: American Tire Distributors, Fort Worth, Texas in an amount up to \$30,000.00 (Secondary Vendor); and
3. Section I: The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio in an amount up to \$30,000.00 (Secondary Vendor); and
4. Section I: Southern Tire Mart, Columbia, Missouri in an amount up to \$30,000.00 (Secondary Vendor); and
5. Section II: American Tire Distributors, Fort Worth, Texas in an amount up to \$30,000.00 (Secondary Vendor).

All tires will be secured on an as needed basis. The term of these contracts shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and are contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. There was no price increase during the last extension period from American Tire Distributors and The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. Hesselbein Tire Southwest (Section I Primary Vendor) has decided not to renew their portion of this contract. Southern Tire Mart is requesting an 8% increase in cost due to a price increase in raw materials and logistic costs. These contracts may be extended two (2) additional one (1) year periods, upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

55. Consideration to renew annual parts/service contract FY20-051 for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) for the City's case equipment with Nueces Power Equipment, Corpus Christi, Texas, in an amount up to \$150,000.00. All parts and services will be secured on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Nueces Power Equipment is proposing a 14% increase due to a rise in their labor costs. This contract can be renewed for one (1) additional one (1) year period upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR

56. **2021-R-260** Ratifying the execution of a contract amendment from the Texas Department of State Health Services in the amount of \$251, 147.00 with no match for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department H IV Prevention Program to continue to provide preventive interventions, testing, along with educational and outreach services, for the term period from September 1, 2021, through August 31, 2022. No grant match required.
57. **2021-R-261** Authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a contract amendment with Valley AIDS Council d/b/a Westbrook Clinic in the amount of \$49, 195.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department HIV/AIDS Ryan White Part D Program to provide HIV AIDS/STD health care and prevention services for women, infants, children and youth affected by AIDS for the term period from August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022. No grant match required.
58. **2021-R-264** Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in the estimated amount of \$492,352.00 with no match for the City of Laredo Health Department, Nurse-Family Partnership for the term period from March 1, 2022, through August 31, 2025, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents resulting from the award of this grant. No grant match required.

59. **2021-R-265** Ratifying the submission of a grant application to the AmeriCorps for an award opportunity in the total amount of \$201,342.00 for the term period of May 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023.
60. Authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a first contract amendment with Smartbill, Ltd to provide a management platform for billing and claims processing. The amendment increases the amount from \$30,000.00 per term to the amount of \$42,000.00 per year for a total of \$84,000.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Billing Division for the term period from October 1,2020, through September 30, 2022. The contract has a one (1) year renewal option for a one (1) year term upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget.
61. Authorizing the purchase of five (5) vehicles from Silsbee Ford through Goodbuy Cooperative Purchasing Programs Contract Pricing #21-8F000 in the total amount of \$127,058.00 for City of Laredo Health Department operations. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget.
62. Authorizing the lease of two (2) vehicles from Enterprise Rent-A-Car through Cooperative Contract Texas Smart Buy TXSMARTBUY Contract 975-M1 Vehicle Rental Services in the total amount of \$32,853. 12 for a twelve (12) month term for City of Laredo Health Department operations. Funding is available through the COVID-19 Vaccination Round 4 Funding.

INFORMATION SERVICES & TELECOMMUNICATION: STAFF SOURCE HOMERO VAZQUEZ-GARCIA, IST DIRECTOR

63. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a contract between GEO IS and the City of Laredo for the purchase of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Network Maintenance and GIS Network consulting through a sole source contract in the total amount of \$120,000.00 for a one-year period. This charge is continued GIS network maintenance and consulting that is provided to the 9-1-1 Regional Administration and will continue to enable the most current 9-1-1 data to be available throughout the South Texas Region. Funding is available in the Regional 9-1-1 Fund.
64. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a contract between Carbyne and the City of Laredo for the purchase and installation of C-Live Universe, a Software-as-a-Service that helps agencies minimize response times and maximizes efficiency during 9-1-1 calls. The service will be implemented in Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb and Zapata Counties through the Houston Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. EC07-20 and also under the Texas DIR contract number DIR CPO-4

717 in the total amount of \$216,440.00 for a two-year period. Funding is available in the Regional 9-1-1 Fund.

PARKS & RECREATION: STAFF SOURCE JUAN J. GOMEZ, JR., PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

65. Consideration to award contract FY22-017 for the purchase of pool chemicals for the City's swimming pools/splash parks to the sole bidder, Mayfield Pool Supply, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$175,000.00. All pool chemicals will be secured on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. This contract has three extension periods. Funding is available in the General Fund - Parks & Recreation Budget.
66. Consideration to authorize the purchase of six (6) 72" riding mowers and one (1) 60" riding mower from John Deere Company, Cary, North Carolina in the total amount of \$ 165,909.52 for the Parks & Recreation Department. These are replacement units for current units that have already reached their useful life. The purchase of this equipment shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund.
67. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) 13/yard dump truck from Santex Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in the total amount of \$132,623.00 for the Parks & Recreation Department. The purchase of this truck shall be made utilizing the (HGAC) Houston Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program. This new dump truck is for in-house parks projects. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund.

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

68. 2021-R-262 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$116,590.00 to the Texas Department of Transportation for the Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. This grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24 % of total grant funds. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.
69. 2021-R-263 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$111,350.00 to the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of The Commercial Motor Vehicle Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 01, 2022, through September 30, 2023. This grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24% of total grant funds. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

70. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with RZ Communications, the only authorized dealer for the acquisition of forty-two (42) Zebra Mobile Printers, Stalker Radars, and the purchase of forty-two (42) Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT'S) through contract No. DIR-TSO-2520 for the new Police Department patrol vehicles for a total amount of \$490,114.44. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund.
71. Authorizing and ratifying a donation agreement between the City of Laredo and United Independent School District for acceptance of an in-kind donation of one police canine to be used by the Laredo Police Department in connection with law enforcement duties.

SOLID WASTE: STAFF SOURCE JOHN PORTER, INTERIM SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR / ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

72. Consideration to award contract FY22-009 to sole bidder Gutierrez Machine and Welding Shop, Laredo, Texas in the amount of \$100,000.00 for providing welding repair and fabrication services for the Solid Waste Services Department. The term of this contract shall be for one (1) year beginning the date of its execution; contract may be extended for three (3) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement of the parties. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Services Department Fund.
73. Consideration to award contract FY22-011 to sole bidder TAMCO Services, Laredo, TX in the estimated annual amount of \$185,000.00 for the disposal of freon for refrigerators and window NC units for the Solid Waste Department. This service is to comply with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulations and guidelines to properly dispose of freon by certified technicians. The original term of the contract is for two (2) years, subject to future appropriations. This contract has one (1) renewal option for a two (2) year term upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE ART GARCIA, P.E., UTILITIES DIRECTOR

74. Consideration to award a contract to USA Blue Book in the amount of \$200,000.00 for the purchase of products and supplies used by the Utilities Department. USA Blue Book products are found within the co-operative purchasing agreement of US COMMUNITIES CONTRACT # 16120. The increased monitoring and testing within the water distribution system has increased the amount of needed supplies required within several divisions. Funding is available in the Utilities Waterworks and Sewer System Funds.
75. Consideration to award a contract to PSI Water Technologies, A UGSI Solutions Company represented by Environmental Improvements, Inc. (EI2), for \$159,000.00 for equipment and labor to install an intelligent, automated disinfectant boosting system to set and control residual levels in the Las Blancas elevated storage tank, with approval for a contingency

amount of \$23,850.00 (15%) for integration and unforeseen modifications in the field. Total amount of the contract is not to exceed \$182,850.00. This equipment is based upon the selection from the City's consultant, Ardurra Group. Funding is available in the America Rescue Act Plan Fund.

76. Authorizing the City Manager to terminate the contract amendment with Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc. (LAN) for the Utilities Department Asset Management Plan Phase II (implementation), Amendment #3 in the amount of \$19, 125.22. The original authorized amount is \$200,342.00. The service for this amendment is no longer needed. No financial impact at this time.
77. Consideration to award construction contract under Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Proposal Code No. 635-21 to Southern Trenchless, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$3,319,474.09 for the waterline utility improvements from Cuatro Vientos Boulevard, along Lomas Del Sur to Concord Hills to serve the proposed Sports Complex. The contract amount includes a \$450,000.00 contingency allowance for unforeseen conditions during construction. Also, authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After notice to proceed is issued, estimated completion of this project is 120 working days. Funding is available in the 2020A Water Revenue Bond.
78. Authorizing the City Manager to ratify purchase order number 344721 to United Rentals for an additional amount of \$82,621.28 for emergency pump rental at the El Pico Water Plant, and authorization to approve an additional \$20,655.32 for continued pump rental until replacement pump is repaired. The total amended purchase order amount of \$203,276.60. Funding is available in the Waterworks Construction Account.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

79. Discussion with possible action on ongoing audits and/or irregularities identified by the Internal Auditor including the potential assignment of other and/or additional auditing duties; and any other matters incident thereto.

Internal Auditor Tina Rodriguez presented her report on the special assignments on the appeals, grievances and civil service case through the Friday package.

Motion to approve the auditor's report.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez

Cm. Cigarroa asked if the committees could be audited concerning, how often they meet and if the guidelines need to be revived. Cm. Perez asked the attorney if the motion was within the bounds of the item, which City Attorney Dean Roggia replied that it was.

Motion to approve the request.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez

80. Status update on current COVID-19 information as presented by Local Health Authority, Health Director and Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC); and any other matters incident thereto.

Item 94 E2 was also heard along with this item. Health Director Dr. Richard Chamberlain presented a COVID-19 data and response update. Cm. Torres asked if there were any plans in case the spread of Omicron Coronavirus variant. Dr. Victor Trevino gave his report and stated that the plan for Omicron is similar to the one for the Delta variant. MPT. Rodriguez asked as far as city services are concerned is everything up and running like normal. Parks and Rec director J.J. Gomez stated that everything except the boxing gyms were up and running.

Item 94 C2 was brought up for consideration. Cm. Gonzalez stated that he had received calls from citizens asking for changes to the hours of operation at the rec centers. Mr. Gomez asked for 3 weeks so that he could hire some current vacancies. Cm. Perez had a question regarding staff vacancies in the parks department. Mr. Gomez mentioned that he had about 10 vacancies that he is working on filling on the rec center side. Cm. Perez had a concern with the 3 week plan to hire people and if we needed a job fair in the next week or so to make it a priority. Human resource interim director Zaida Gonzalez explained the process for hire an employee.

Motion to prioritize filling the parks department vacancies and placing the educational verification on hold until the third week of January and to open up the boxing gyms next week and to extent education verification to all departments.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 8 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz

Motion to instruct city management to work in collaboration with public information office, Health Department, and Dr. Trevino to encourage the public even more to get vaccinated, to start putting that variant name out there and how it is in the United States and the importance of getting vaccinated especially with the new variant campaign.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz

81. Staff report with possible action regarding the cataloging and regulations of Homeowner Associations (HOA's), and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Martinez had concerns that citizens were being taxed with no representation and could not really contact anyone at the HOA to express their concerns. They are not having annual meeting the way they are supposed and that's against the law. If we get call from constituents, we can't call them. Planning director Orlando Navarro stated that he was also having a hard time locating HOA representatives. Mr. Eads commented that the city will be creating a website that will have an updated list of contacts for each HOA. Cm. Perez asked and commented that there is no place at the state level that catalogs a contact list for HOA's, to which Mr. Navarro stated that it was just approved to be cataloged with in the Texas Real Estate Commission. Cm. Perez has a concern that the HOA's promise thing and then they do not follow through and there are no reproductions for them. Cm. Perez recommended that the city approve by-laws and other concerns for HOA's. Cm. Martinez and Torres stated and agreed that the council needs to tread on this really carefully.

Motion for us to look at how, whether or not we should be encouraging developers to create home owner associations or a should we encourage a different way were we can create a municipal taxing district that would apply to a certain area where we could collect a little more taxes for maintenance and amenities in lo of the home owner associations so that when we are having problems we as a municipality would control and have power over that and also look to see what other cities are doing, in terms of requirements on the development to make sure that what they promised and that they don't leave it for the citizens to have to come back. Amendment of excluding the taxing district from the motion.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Cigarroa

82. Staff report with possible action to explore any and all viable solutions for alleviating traffic congestion during school hours along and adjacent to the intersection of Del Mar Boulevard and Loop 20, and any other matters incident thereto.

Traffic Director Danny Magee presented to council several options to alleviate traffic congestion at this location.

Motion to discuss this with TXDOT and to ask them for the funds for a signal light as proposed in solution number 6, which is a temporary signal light until the overpass is constructed.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Cigarroa

83. Status update on Council directive to present a recommendation for a 2% - 3% COLA, and/or increase with a one-time lump sum payment, with possible action.

City Manager Eads introduced Mr. Jesus Esparza with the Budget department. Mr. Esparza gave a breakdown presentation on the different impacts to the budget. Cm. Martinez asked what the national average was for an cost of living adjustment. Mr. Esparza mentioned that the national average was around 1.5% or so. Mr. Eads stated that a onetime payment would be better. Cm. Torres mentioned the pending adjustment as it pertains to all employees. Cm. Torres suggested doing a onetime payment to all employees and that we wait for the wage study to comeback and once the wage study demonstrates how much all the employees should make then we take into consideration that and a percentage of a COLA. Cm. Dr. Martinez continued discussion on the spread between grades.

Motion to give a \$1,000.00 dollar payment for the month of December and to hold a special meeting as necessary before the year is over and that once we address the compression, we also address an additional COLA on top of the compression schedule.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 8

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz

84. Discussion with possible action to review current speed hump ordinance and practices, and any other matters incident thereto.

Traffic Director Danny Magee proposed changes to the Speed Hump Ordinance. MPT Rodriguez and Cm. Torres had concerns with not allowing the city council to have any say so. Cm. Perez also expressed concerns with this issue and wanted to look at adding deterrents to the developments plans as they are being designed. Cm. Gutierrez also had concerns with not having a say so in the designation of locations.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez

85. Presentation by Ardurra Group, and the Utilities Department regarding the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality findings and solutions, and any other matters incident thereto.

Arturo Garcia Utilities director introduced Ignacio Hinojosa on behalf of Ardurra Group along with Gave his presentation along with any findings and recommendations. Mr. Marcus Snizer spoke on and presented on the immediate actions they recommended. Cm. Martinez commented that two people were fired related to the plant side and he asked if there were any violations on the distribution side, if so, have there been any reprimands on the distribution side. Mr. Garcia stated that the storage tank problems still fall on the responsibility of the plant side. Cm. Cigarroa asked how much water we are wasting when the city flushes the lines. Mr. Snizer talked about the future plan to resolve the looping problem. Cm. Perez asked about the training that TCEQ had promised to give. Mr. Garcia described the process of the nitrification plan.

86. Staff report on a potential binational park project, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Martinez gave brief comments of the meeting they held with the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico among other officials and the support he gave towards the project that would encumber both countries. Mr. Eads, commented that Nuevo Laredo has been awarded close to \$45 million dollars to fix their sewer treatment plant.

No action taken.

87. Discussion and possible action regarding the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee's recommendation to Council on the Spay and Neuter Clinic participation requirements, and any matters incident thereto.

Animal Services Care Director Karina Elizondo presented the committee's recommendations as followed. To allow the city of Laredo residence to participate by showing proof of utility bill and an identification, to set a maximum of two pets per household, to sign a waiver exempting the city from any and all liabilities, and to be in compliance with ordinances and requirements.

Cm. Perez asked if there was any way to equally allocate the same amount per district on a first come first service bases. Ms. Elizondo clarified that every district will get 60 treatments. Cm. Torres added an amendment that household with more than two pets can qualify the following year for another two pets, the amendment was approved.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any posted agenda item when authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and/or 551.086 (Economic Development). Following closed session, the open meeting will reconvene at which time action, if any, may be taken.

Motion to go into executive session for items 88, 89 and 90 pursuant to Texas Local Government Code sections 551.71 and Texas Government Code section 551.074, include management legal and anyone deemed necessary.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez

88. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to consult with attorney regarding the City of Laredo sponsorship of the Laredo Transit Management, Inc. Defined Benefit Plan.

Motion to instruct our City Manager and legal team to schedule this item to come back during our special meeting that are coming this month and to proceed accordingly in the meantime.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Cigarroa

89. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to consult with attorney on Cause No. 2021 CVK000384-D2; City of Laredo v. Sylvia Guerra and the Premises located at 2202 Bristol Road, Laredo, Webb County, TX, 78045, In Rem; of the 111 th District Court, Webb County, Texas.

Motion to authorize city attorney and city management to proceed accordingly.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Cigarroa

90. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to deliberate the evaluation of the City Manager and return to open session for possible action regarding the City Manager's employment contract, and any matters related thereto.

Motion to authorize city attorney and the mayor to proceed accordingly, further authorizing the Mayor to sign any relevant documents.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Cigarroa

Upon returning from executive session, MPT Rodriguez stated that no action was taken and he mentioned that there are contracts in place and that everyone needs to abide by the contracts if not there will be consequences for breaking them.

XV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Seconded: Cm. Torres

For: 6 Against: Abstain:
NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Gutierrez

Motion to approve items 91, 92 and 93.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Seconded: Cm. Martinez

For: 5 Against: Abstain: 1
Cm. Torres

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez

- 91. Presentation and consideration approval of service changes for El Metro Transit Network in Support of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis.
- 92. Consideration to ratify the awarded one (1) year parts annual supply contract (FY-19-090) to the vendors listed by providing bus and van fleet parts; by exercising the contract's final one-year extension option. Funding available in the El Metro Operations Fund.

Primary Contract Vendors:	Est. Contract Amount Per Year:
C. C. Battery Co. Inc.	\$20,850.00
Coastal Diesel Injection Service, Inc.	\$52,903.44
CD Starter Service	\$100,089.88
Gonzalez Auto Parts	\$111,541.27
Gillig Corporation	\$137,362.98
Muncie Transit Supply	\$118,067.85
Rotex Truck Centers	\$132,319.00
Rush Truck Centers	\$132,319.00
Texas Alternator	\$25,350.00
Teg's Warehouse Supply, LLC.	\$113,313.74
Texas Fleet Supply	\$26,085.00
Vehicle Maintenance Program	\$67,919.92
Total estimated amount per year	\$928,290.84

93. Consideration to extend the Tire Lease Contract FY16-053 with Laredo Transit Management Inc. (L TMI) and the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company for \$12,000.00 beginning December 6, 2021, ending December 31, 2021. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company contract expired on September 30, 2021, and no bids were received on the Invitation for Bids FY22-022 ending November 9, 2021. The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Contract was previously awarded for three years with two additional one year options which were both exercised. The extended amount of \$12,000.00 is the remaining balance from the expired contract.

XVI. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Seconded: Cm. Torres

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

94. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Discussion with possible action on status of ongoing promotion of the Broadband Feasibility Study Survey, prepared by Magellan Advisors, for purposes of collecting information regarding internet access availability in all Council districts, and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Seconded: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

B. Request by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the City Manager to direct staff to initiate additional LED lighting upgrades in District VII I utilizing designated district funds, and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Cigarroa

Seconded: Cm. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

2. Discussion with possible action to initiate and exercise a permanent preventive cleaning schedule for sidewalks and streets in the downtown area, and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Vidal Rodriguez)

Public works director John Orfila gave a presentation of the services provided for the downtown area. MPT. Rodriguez requested that the red bricks be power washed on a set schedule at least once a month. Cm. Martinez suggested the downtown crew wear some sort of clothing that identifies them as the downtown crew and not just general city employees.

C. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps instead of speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District I Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 4600 Constitution
- 5500 Shorthorn Dr.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Seconded: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

2. Discussion with possible action to re-open recreation centers to their original hours, and any other matters incident thereto.

Refer to item #80

D. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Vidal Rodriguez

1. Discussion with possible action to donate a side loader garbage truck to Rio Bravo in order to promote a safe and clean river, and any other matters incident thereto. This garbage truck's value has been fully depreciated.

Motion to approve.

Moved: MPT. Rodriguez

Seconded: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

2. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following location under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps instead of speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District II Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- Pin Oak

Motion to approve.

Moved: MPT. Rodriguez

Seconded: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

3. Discussion with possible action to pursue a Sister Cities Agreement with the State of Oaxaca, and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT. Rodriguez

Seconded: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

E. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps instead of speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District IV Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 3100 E. Ash

Motion to approve as amended to include a staff recommendation.

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Seconded: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

2. Discussion with possible action on a detailed health strategy outlining preparations for the possible spread of the Omicron Coronavirus variant; and any other matters incident thereto. **(Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa)**

Refer to item #80.

F. Request by Council Member Ruben A. Gutierrez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action and update on the McPherson and Fenwick turning lane, and any other matters incident thereto.

City Engineer Ramon Chavez gave a brief update on the turning lane.

2. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps instead of speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District V Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 400 Surrey Road

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Seconded: MPT. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

G. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the service interruptions by Spectrum Internet, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Martinez expressed his concerns with the lack of good service for the money that citizens pay. IST director Homero Vasquez introduced Mr. Thomas Aguillon government liaison for Spectrum was online. Cm. Torres expressed concerns with giving Spectrum exclusivity and that

that may be the cause of them not caring about the service. Mr. Aguillon correct Cm. Torres by stating that Spectrum is not the only provider but that they happen to be the biggest. He stated that Laredo Spectrum is one of the best in the service region. Cm. Martinez mentioned that in San Antonio Spectrum prices are cheaper than Laredo for the same amount of speed. Cm. Perez mentioned that lack of connectivity hinders our economic development because certain companies require certain speed connectivity. Mr. Aguillon stated that Spectrum's pricing is level across the board. If any infrastructure needs to be installed or retro fitted they will do that to better the service. Economic development director Tecló Garcia stated that internet service for businesses is very important for their success. In terms of connectivity, Laredo ranks about 3rd from the bottom in the whole country. Mr. Vasquez mentioned that there is no exclusivity with Spectrum but that other companies are starting to look at the market. Cm. Martinez mentioned that he made a similar motion about a year and a half ago and wanted to know where we are on that task. Mr. Garcia stated that was part of the presentation under the mayor's item because of the broadband study. Mr. Vasquez showed some of the information from his presentation. Mr. Eads mentioned that there is a \$50 rebate from the federal government do to a disparity.

Motion to direct city management to look at all available mechanisms to attract competitors to the market. To work with Spectrum directly to see what infrastructure improvements we can currently make to fix the problem of our current lag time and our needs. Also, look at infrastructure investments that we have to make as well to retrofit into older neighborhoods. Lastly, to look at our building development code to try to see whether to ask developers to run larger conduits to allow these type of providers to come after and retroactively fit their services.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Seconded: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

2. Discussion with possible action regarding citizens' high water bills, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Martinez stated that he had a concern that people cannot see if they have a leak until it is too late and now they have a huge water bill. Utilities director Arturo Garcia presented a breakdown of the calls and issues in the last month. Assistant City Manager Riazul Mia stated that since 2014 the city has had problems with the meters. He also mentioned that the city spends nearly 2 million dollars replacing them.

Motion to instruct management to look at the system, to review current patterns in other municipalities, what systems they are using whether battery operated, solar operated or whether they are going away from digital to analog to make it simpler. To go through the PIO's office to

explain what has been happening, how many times it has been happening and what they can do to get their credit. We can put it on their water bill.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Seconded: Cm. Perez

For: 5

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez

H. Request by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the Town Hall to be held on December 8, 2021, regarding ethylene oxide that was reported by Propublica, with more information on <https://cleanairlaredo.org>, and any other matters incident thereto. <https://projects.propublica.org/toxmap/>

Mr. Josh Ferguson from Midwest Sterilization Corporation gave a brief presentation. Mr. Gerardo Garcia, General Manager for the company and Eric Sisk director operations continued with the presentation and stated that they are currently meeting and exceeding all local, state and federal guidelines. Cm. Perez asked Mr. Sisk if Midwest acknowledges that ethylene oxide causes cancer and he did not answer the question. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked if the Midwest had other plants among the country that have had any problems like this before. Mr. Sisk stated that both plants meet all regulations.

Mr. Jaime Garza and Dr. Michael Honeycutt both with TCEQ explained to what degree ethylene oxide causes cancer. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked if Midwest was meeting the threshold that they are supposed to meet and if they are, is there a conflict of information between what you believe to be the correct levels and what EPA believes to be the correct levels. Mr. Garza stated the TCEQ regulates Midwest in regards to meeting all compliance requirements. Dr. Honeycutt mentioned that they have a newer study and that they found that the EPA study had a mathematical error. Cm. Perez stated that EPA data trumps TCEQ date and wanted to know if the TCEQ could place air-monitoring equipment. Dr. Honeycutt said that after reviewing the data that they do not see an issue in Webb County. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked if TCEQ could measure through staff method testing of the plant. Health Authority Dr. Victor Trevino said that we could not make a decision that is premature.

Melissa Cigarroa with the clean air coalition said the EPA has determined that Midwest is the source of the emissions. She also stated that TCEQ was not an accurate study. Ms. Cigarroa stated that other cities have fence line air monitors that are accepted by EPA. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked Midwest if they would consider working with the EPA to setup these type of testing parameter or wall monitors they are talking about to ensure the safety of our community. Mr. Sisk agreed that whatever EPA requires of them they will comply with and he reaffirmed that they meet all EPA requirements.

2. Status report on the Human Resources Compensation Study, and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Seconded: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 5

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez

XVII. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 10:56 pm.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 5

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez