

**CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION
NOTICE M2019-R-13
CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS 1110
HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
August 19, 2019
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor presented the following:

1. Recognizing Larissa Jimenez, Miss South Texas Princess for representing Laredo and South Texas in Orlando, Florida at the International Junior Miss where hundreds of young girls from around the world competed. Larissa placed 3rd Runner-Up International Junior Miss.

Larissa Jimenez thanked the City of Laredo for her recognition and stated that it was an honor to represent her City and South Texas in Orlando. Mayor Saenz presented her with a certificate of recognition for her accomplishments.

2. Recognizing Sanchez-Ochoa Elementary 8 year old student Ethan Hernandez for his gracious act of kindness.

Juan Avila reported that he lost his older brother a month ago after a battle with cancer; he reported that Ethan Hernandez, of his own accord, collected and turned in bottle caps to an organization that provided chemotherapy for Mr. Avila's brother's treatment. Mr. Avila commended Ethan for his thoughtfulness and selflessness.

Rosalba Martinez, Sanchez-Ochoa Elementary School Principal, reminded Council that Ethan's act of kindness is the symbol of empathy that Sanchez-Ochoa tries to instill in its students. Social and emotional learning is needed across all school campuses, and Ethan is a role model for his friends.

Ethan's aunt spoke of his generosity and consideration to others. Mayor Saenz voiced his pride in Ethan's actions and encouraged him to continue acting out of love and compassion for others. He presented Ethan with a certificate of recognition.

3. Recognizing the Laredo Border Slam Team for winning 2nd place at the Southwest Shootout Competition held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Beatriz Seja, Joe Molina, Alma Gonzalez, and Julia Orduña as part of the Laredo Border Slam poetry team, noted their pride to represent Laredo and citizens of the border at the Southwest Shootout Competition. Mayor Saenz presented the team members with certificates of recognition for their achievement.

4. Recognizing the Laredo 8U All-Stars South Zone Pony League. The World Series

tournament was held in Youngsville, LA on July 24th - July 27th and consisted of 20 teams. The Laredo 8U All-Stars played a total of 8 games of which they won 7 in a row and went on to win the championship game in a thrilling victory over Eagle Pass.

Coach Louis Mendoza noted that the team trained for many months and were proud to represent Laredo and South Texas. After persevering at the tournament, the Laredo 8U All-Stars brought home the championship. The players introduced themselves.

One of the coaches thanked the City for this recognition and reported the team's goal to travel more for games and tournaments as an opportunity to represent Laredo. He asked Council to consider sponsoring the team. Coaches Felipe Rivera and Pedro Cisneros echoed the same sentiments.

Mayor Saenz presented the team with certificates of recognition.

5. Recognizing Joshua Jay Juarez for his record of 9-0 as a lightweight and on his win on August 10, 2019 at the Golden Boy Promotions Undercard in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Joshua Jay Juarez thanked God and Council for the recognition and noted his pride in representing Laredo with the community's support. He stated his intentions to bring a main event to Laredo in the future. Mayor Saenz presented Mr. Juarez with a certificate of recognition for his achievement.

**CITY OF LAREDO CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
M2019-R-13
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
August 19, 2019
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pete Saenz led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Pete Saenz led in moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz

Mayor

Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Mercurio “Merc” Martinez, III	District III
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV
Norma “Nelly” Vielma	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
George J. Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.	City Secretary
Rosario Cabello	Co-Interim City Manager
Robert Eads	Co-Interim City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	City Attorney

Cm. Vielma joined at 5:35 p.m.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of August 5, 2019

Motion to approve the August 5, 2019, minutes.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Vielma were not present.

Citizen comments

Joe Arciniega of the Alzheimers Association recognized Melissa Guerra, the recent recipient of the Jefferson Award for Volunteerism in the fight for an end to Alzheimer’s disease. He noted that Patty Bruni chairs the walk to end Alzheimer’s, which takes place this year on September 28, 2019, at Texas A&M International University. He reported that every 65 seconds, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer’s disease; more than 5.8 million Americans currently live with the disease, and the number is expected to increase to 14 million by 2050. It is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the only one in the top 10 with no way to treat symptoms, slow progression, or cure the disease. Mr. Arciniega informed Council that Alzheimer’s disease occurs in Hispanics at 1.5 times the rate of non-Hispanic white people and 35% more in women than men.

Patty Bruni stated that the Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the largest event to raise awareness and funds for research and care support programs. In 2018, more than 65,000 teams participated in more than 600 walks across the country, raising more than \$95 million. In Laredo, more than 400 teams raised \$50,000 at the 2018 walk. She noted this year’s goal to raise \$60,000 and more than 600 participants. The emcees for the Laredo walk will be Sean Elliott and his wife, Claudia Zapata Elliot. The money raised supports research to find a cure as well as programs in Laredo. She invited Council and the public to attend the walk, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday,

September 28, 2019, at TAMIU. She encouraged the public to visit the group's Facebook page.

Mike Reeves of Heil of Texas thanked the City for past business with Heil; he noted that the organization is available to help the City with any future body-related needs.

Gabriel Lopez, veterans advocate, presented a letter to the Co-Interim City Managers regarding four main problems facing Laredo veterans: (1) homelessness; (2) poverty and hunger; (3) mental health issues; and (4) female veterans' issues. He asked for Council to work with the veterans to present a picture of Laredo veterans' circumstances on their legislative trips.

Orlando Navarro spoke in regards to the executive session item [#74] and explained that it is an imminent domain case in which land is being taken. The project has been extended for so long, it could be considered abusive to the landowner. He explained that the City presented an initial deal to the landowner, who honored it but has not received any money for two years. After discussion to mediate the issue, a price was negotiated; when the taxpayer agreed to the price, he was told that the offer was no longer available. The City reneged on its deal, and the landowner stands to lose his land and will have to close his business of selling tractors for tractor-trailers. He will have to plat the property. Mr. Navarro noted that the landowner is older with health issues and does not speak English; he asked Council to consider his circumstance while they are in executive session.

Roxanne Peña of LearnThink Media explained that the organization was designed to expand the Viva Laredo Comprehensive Plan. Over the last eight months, LearnThink Media has been working on using filmmaking to enhance arts and culture in the community. She also voiced her support of CultivArte, the Fine Arts & Culture Commission, and all arts/culture programs growing in Laredo.

VI. VETERAN RECOGNITION

- a. Honoring Veteran of the Month Benigno G. Cepeda as a member of the United States Marine Corps and recognizing his distinguished service to our country.

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, introduced Benigno Cepeda, who joined the U.S. Marine Corps when he was 18 years old and underwent training at Marine Corps Recruiting Depot in San Diego, California. He served a total of four years from 1996-2000, including one overseas deployment to Okinawa, Japan. Mr. Cepeda's awards and decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal and Good Conduct Medal for his honorable service. He is currently employed with the U.S. Border Patrol for 13 years at the Laredo South Station. Mr. Garcia played a video presentation featuring Mr. Cepeda's family and military life.

Mr. Cepeda received a standing ovation and noted his honor in being Laredo's Veteran of the Month. Mayor Saenz thanked Mr. Cepeda for his service and presented him with a certificate of recognition.

VII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of John Augustus Romani to the City Cemetery Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of John Augustus Romani to the City Cemetery Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

2. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of Miriam Castillo to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Miriam Castillo to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

3. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of Francisco De La Garza to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Francisco De La Garza to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

4. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli of Rosa Maria De Llano to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rosa Maria De Llano to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

5. Appointment by Council Member Mercurio Martinez of Olga P. Gentry to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Olga P. Gentry to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Bridge System FY 2019 Annual Budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$8,000,000.00, which will constitute the 80% of Federal funding that will be reimbursed to the City of Laredo for the construction phase as stipulated in Attachment C for the Advanced Funding Agreement (CSJ#0922-33-178) for Coordinated Border Infrastructure Program Off-System by and between the State of Texas, acting by and through the Texas Department of Transportation, and the City of Laredo, for the relocation and construction of four primary inspection booths, a non-intrusive inspection area, two exiting control booths and access to the current secondary inspection facilities and hazardous material offsite containment facility at the World Trade International Bridge Port of Entry. Project cost is estimated at \$11.7 million as shown in Attachment C of the agreement.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 2, San Isidro Park Subdivision, located at 313 Crossroads St., from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff supports the application. This case has been considered an exception to the rules. ZC-53-2019 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 13.2203 acres, as further described by Metes and Bounds Exhibit A, located South of Hwy. 59, and East of Bob Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff does not support the application because it is not in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan. ZC-58-2019 District V

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

4. Motion to open public hearing #4.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 0.5237 acres, as further described by Metes and Bounds Exhibit A, located at the Southeast corner of Campos and Bob Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff does not support the application, for it is not in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan. ZC-59-2019 District V

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

5. Motion to open public hearing #5.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximate 2.1993 acres, as further described by Metes and Bounds Exhibit A, located at the Southeast corner of

Ramirez Dr. and Bob Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application, for it does not conform with the Comprehensive Plan. ZC-60-2019 District V

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

6. Motion to open public hearing #6.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 64.3501 acres, as further described by Metes and Bounds Exhibit A, located at the Southeast corner of Fairfield Dr. and Bob Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District) and R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff does not support the application, for it does not conform with the Comprehensive Plan. ZC-61-2019 District II

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

7. Motion to open public hearing #7.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 7, Ponderosa Hill Subdivision, Unit 1, located at 5119 Fairfield Dr., from R-O (Residential/Office District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff does not support the application, for it is not in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan. ZC-62-2019 District II

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

8. Motion to open public hearing #8.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by repealing Ordinance 2016-O-057 and authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a Restaurant Serving Alcohol, on Lot 1, Block 1, Winfield Commercial Subdivision, located at 3402 Del Mar Blvd., Suite 220; providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the Special Use Permit (SUP), and staff does not support the application, for it does not meet the distance requirement as per Ordinance 2013-O-005. SUP's are non-transferable, therefore; the property owner is amending the SUP by changing permit holder (new tenants,new business, same location). ZC-63-2019 District VI

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

9. Motion to open public hearing #9.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 14.40 acres, (described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A"), located West of Century Blvd. and South of Jaime Zapata Memorial Hwy., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff supports the application. ZC-50-2019 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

10. Motion to open public hearing #10.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 3.95 acres, (described by

metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A"), located South of Jaime Zapata Memorial Hwy., from B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change, and staff supports the application. ZC-51-2019 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

11. Motion to open public hearing #11.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing Co-Interim City Managers to accept a grant award in the amount of \$685,000.00 from the Texas Auto Burglary & Theft Prevention Authority to fund the Laredo Auto Theft Task Force Fund for the period of September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020; and to amend the FTEs by adding one (1) Intelligence Analyst position as awarded by the Texas Auto Burglary & Theft Prevention Authority. This grant pays for salaries and supplies for the Laredo Police Department Auto Theft Task Force. The grant requires a cash match in the amount of \$420,670.00 which is available as a transfer in from General Fund for a total grant amount of \$1,105,670.00. Funding is available in the Auto Theft Task Force Fund.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Balli were not present.

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

12. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute a Lease Agreement with XL Parts, LLC for section of building approximately 7,200 square feet located at 1605 E. Hillside at the Laredo International Airport, Block 24, Lot No. 1. The initial monthly rent shall be \$5,416.01. The annual rental obligation effective on September 1, 2024 shall be adjusted based on a fair market rent appraisal of the leased premises, and such revised rental shall be adjusted annually thereafter by changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).The term shall commence on September 1, 2019 and shall terminate August 31, 2024, plus two five-year renewal options until August 2029, and August 2034.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute a Lease Agreement with Laredo Aero Center, Inc. dba Signature Flight Support for approximately 117 square feet of AOA Office No. 3 in the Passenger Terminal building located at 5210 Bob Bullock Loop. The initial monthly rent shall be \$600.00 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The term shall commence on September 1, 2019 and end August 31, 2030.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

14. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute all necessary documents to convey a perpetual easement and right of way for electric distribution lines, consisting of poles made of wood, metal, or other material, cross arms, static wires, underground cable, and conduits, communications circuits, metering equipment and all necessary or desirable appurtenances, over, under, across, and up a portion of the following described land located in Webb County, Texas, described as a tract of land containing 7,954 square feet of land more or less situated in Lot 12, Block 1, El Eden B.P. Newman Park Plat as recorded in Volume 22, Page 50, Webb County, Map Records; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

X. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2019-O-113, 2019-O-114, 2019-O-115, 2019-O-116, 2019-O-117, 2019-O-118, 2019-O-119, 2019-O-120, 2019-O-121, 2019-O-122, 2019-O-123, 2019-O-124, 2019-O-125, 2019-O-126, 2019-O-127, 2019-O-128, 2019-O-129, 2019-O-130, 2019-O-131, 2019-O-132, 2019-O-133, 2019-O-134, 2019-O-135, 2019-O-136, 2019-O-137, 2019-O-138, and 2019-O-139.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

15. 2019-O-113 An Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article I, Section 6-19(d) "Safety of Animals in Motor Vehicles" to prohibit transporting a domestic animal within the open bed of a pickup truck, flatbed or similar vehicle where the animal is not safely enclosed; to prohibit transporting a domestic animal within the open bed of a pickup truck, flatbed or similar vehicle where the animal is directly on a metal surface or similar surface without sufficient protection when temperatures are at or above ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit; providing a cumulative and repealer clause; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; providing for a penalty; and declaring an effective date (AS AMENDED).

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-113.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

16. 2019-O-114 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to accept and enter into a continuation contract with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), amending the FY 2018-2019 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$324,008.00 for a total award of \$648,016.00 and amending the FY 2018-2019 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Medical Office Assistant II, R30 for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Healthy Texas Women project to provide primary care, women's preventive health care, prenatal care, family planning, chronic disease prevention, preventive health services, diagnostic, and laboratory services for the term period from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2021.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-114.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

17. 2019-O-115 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute all necessary documents to convey a 30' ingress and egress access easement and a utility easement to Branch Towers III, LLC. for the installation of communications tower in accordance to the terms stated in a lease with Branch Towers III, LLC, executed on May 20, 2019, on a site legally described as being a portion of that certain tract of land as described and recorded in Volume 1420, Page 433 in the Office of the County Clerk, Webb County, Texas, lying in Lot 12, Block 1,

of the El Eden B. P. Newman Park Plat Subdivision, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, more particularly depicted in attached Exhibit "A" Boundary Survey, Exhibit "B" Aerial image and Exhibit "C" Lease Agreement, for a five (5) year term with five (5) successive five (5) year options to renew; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-115.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

18. 2019-O-116 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute legal documents conveying a perpetual easement and right of way to AEP Texas, Inc. over, under, across, and upon a .0668 acre tract of land, more or less, situated in Porcion 23, Leonardo Sanches, Original Grantee, Abstract 283, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; said .0668 acre tract being out of a tract called to contain 48.8857 acres as per "Deed of Exchange, Correction, and Substitution" conveyed to Del Mar Conservation District filed of record in Volume 1071, Pages 445-456, Deed Records of Webb County, Texas. This 48.8857 acre tract officially became City of Laredo, Texas property by annexation Ordinance No. 84-O-694 effective March 23, 1984 and is commonly known as the North Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant (NLWWTP); said .0668 acre tract is more particularly described by metes and bounds in attached "Exhibit A" and boundary survey in attached "Exhibit B"; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-116.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

19. 2019-O-117 Authorizing Co-Interim City Managers to amend the FY 2018-2019 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$791,295.00 for a total of \$5,142,631.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program for the term from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. These additional funds were awarded by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) for a modular building and other improvements.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-117.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

20. 2019-O-118 Amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Health and Benefits Fund by appropriating a draw down of \$2,600,000.00 from its opening balance and appropriating it for medical and prescription claims.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-118.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

21. 2019-O-119 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 22, Block 1, Deerfield Subdivision, Phase 4, located at 1002 Big Bend Blvd., from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-38-2019 District VII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-119.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

22. 2019-O-120 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 3.74 acres, as further described by Metes & Bounds Exhibit A, located on the North side of FM 1472 Rd., AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-39-2019 District VII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-120.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

23. 2019-O-121 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by

repealing Ordinance 2004-0-063 and authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for general automotive repairs on Lots 19 & 20, Block 30, Vista Hermosa Unit II, located at 5417 and 5419 McPherson Rd; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-40-2019 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-121.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

24. 2019-O-122 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 20, Block 5, Santa Rita Subdivision, Unit XIV, located at 104 Frank Sciaraffa Dr., from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-44-2019 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-122.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

25. 2019-O-123 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 18, Block 5, Santa Rita Subdivision, Unit XIV, located at 108 Frank Sciaraffa Dr., from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-45-2019 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-123.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

26. 2019-O-124 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1, 2, 7 and 8, Block 1605, Eastern Division, located at 2701 Norton St., from R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District) to R-O (Residential/Office District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-46-2019 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-124.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

27. 2019-O-125 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production (Plug/Abandonment of Well), on approximately 2.87 acres out of Porcion 38, Abstract 472, T Sanchez Tract, located South of Obsidian Blvd. and East of US Hwy. 83, Frontage Rd; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-47-2019 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-125.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

28. 2019-O-126 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production (Plug/Abandonment of Well), on Lot 11, Block 1, Santa Rita Subdivision IX, located at 139 Asturias Ct. providing for publication and effective date. ZC-48-2019 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-126.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

29. 2019-O-127 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production (Plug/Abandonment of Well), on Lot 1, Block 1, Riverhill Commercial Subdivision, Unit XIV, located at 801 Riverhill Loop; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-49-2019 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-127.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

30. 2019-O-128 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to amend the FY2018-2019 El Metro Operations Budget (558) expenditures and transferring funds from Transit Sales Tax (518) to El Metro Operations fund (558) in the amount of \$104,622.00. These funds will be used to develop and implement a Pilot Urban Circulator Program.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-128.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

31. 2019-O-129 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to amend the FY2018-2019 Capital Grants budget by drawing down from fund balance \$63,668.00 to cover the local match of \$72,000.00 for Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) No. CSJ-0922-33-181 with the Texas Department of Transportation for the MPO ADA Bus Stops and Bicycles Plazas Improvement Project.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-129.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

32. 2019-O-130 Amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code, Chapter 24, Article IV, Section 24.77.2 (8) entitled Front Yard Setback Requirements by adding subsection (d) intended to allow the construction of carports up to the property line, measured vertically, subject to easements, site visibility, and minimum parking requirements.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-130.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

33. 2019-O-131 Establishing the rental rate and tenant policies for a single-family dwelling located at 419 "A" Zaragoza St., by setting the monthly rental fee amount as \$500.00 for a two bedroom unit; providing for

rent to be charged at affordable rents for elderly individuals; providing security deposit for new tenants at the same rate as the rental amount; providing for rents to be in compliance and charged at HOME program rent limits; occupancy to be limited to persons aged 62 years or older with incomes at or below the area median income, as set annually by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-131.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

34. 2019-O-132 Establishing the rental rate and tenant policies for a single-family dwelling located at 3016 Clark Boulevard, by setting the monthly rental fee amount as \$570.00 for a three bedroom unit; providing for rent to be charged at affordable rents; providing security deposit for new tenants at the same rate as the rental amount; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-132.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

35. 2019-O-133 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute all documents for the purchase of the "Surface Only" of 222 Allen Drive from Erika Medina in the negotiated amount of Twenty-Five Thousand dollars and no cents (\$25,000.00), legally described as situated in Webb County, Texas and being the Surface Only of Lot Number Four Hundred Twenty-One (421), in Block Number Twenty-Two (22), River View Estates Subdivision, Unit 2C, Subdivision situated in the City of Laredo, as per Plat recorded in Volume 10, Page 24 and Replat recorded in Volume 15, Page 20, Webb County Plat records as described in Survey, Exhibit "A". This tract will provide for drainage improvements in order to alleviate flooding concerns and for public use as a connector and a continuation to the Father McNaboe Hike and Bike Trail; and providing for an effective date. Funding is available through the Environmental Services Funds.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-133.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

36. 2019-O-134 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to allow for the temporary street closure of 400 Block of Tatangelo Parkway (between Iturbide St. & Lincoln St.) from 6 PM to 6 AM on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday as a means to increase pedestrian safety. Said temporary closure is more accurately depicted on Exhibit "A", an aerial map of location; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-134.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

37. 2019-O-135 Closing and vacating as a public easement, a section of 1900 Bismark Street, in District III, between South Meadow Street and Buena Vista Avenue, legally described as an undeveloped tract of land containing 9,832 sq. ft. (0.2257 Acre) tract of land, more or less, situated within the limits of the City of Laredo and Webb County, Texas, being out and part of Bismark Street, Right-Of-Way (East of Buena Vista Avenue and West of South Meadow Avenue) in the City of Laredo, Eastern Division, as recorded in Volume 7, Page 15 of the Webb County Plat Records. The City of Laredo reserves any and all apparent and visible easements recorded or not recorded; hereof, closed as a public easement and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-135.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

38. 2019-O-136 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into license agreements with local associations for the use of City playing fields for youth and adult programs, the term of each being from March 1, 2019 through December 1, 2019. No fee will be charged by the City to the associations in view of the public benefit in permitting the

associations to use the City's facilities for baseball, softball, soccer and flag football for the benefit of the youth of Laredo.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-136.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

39. 2019-O-137 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, TX amending the Chapter 19 (Motor Vehicles and Traffic), Article XII (Transit System), Division 3 (Bus Bench Advertising), Section 19-581, of the Code of Ordinances to add the Transit Bus Bench Advertising Fees.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-137.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

40. 2019-O-138 Amending the Transit Department FTEs by creating one (1) additional position for a Transit Advertisement Specialist. Funding is available in the El Metro General Administration Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-138.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

41. 2019-O-139 Amending Chapter 31 (Utilities), Article II, division 1, Section 31-16, Article III, Division 4 by deleting sections 31-141.15-31-141.88 and creating Article V (Water conservation and drought contingency plan) sections 31-195 through 31-242. Amending sections 31-195, 31-197, 31-199, 31-200 through 31-205, 31-208, 31-212, 31-213, 31-214, 31-215, 31-217, 31-220, , 31-221, 31-228, 31-236, 31-238, 31-240. Adding section 31-210 and removing section 31-219. Providing for severability and publication date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-139.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE JEFFREY J. MILLER, AIRPORT DIRECTOR

42. 2019-R-113 Ratifying the submission of a grant application with the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Small Community Air Service Development Program in the amount of \$850,000.00 supporting new airline service at the Laredo International Airport for the Laredo region and authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute all necessary documents resulting from the award. No local match is required.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-113.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

43. 2019-R-114 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to submit a grant to the Texas Department of Transportation – Aviation Division under the Routine Airport Maintenance Program in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the purpose of airside and landside maintenance at the Laredo International Airport and to execute all necessary documents resulting from the award. The local match in the amount of \$50,000.00 for this project is available in the Airport Operations Fund. Total estimated project cost is \$100,000.00.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-114.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

44. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) Ford F-350 regular cab truck and one (1) 2019 Chevy Tahoe PPV in the total amount of \$73,706.35 from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas through the GoodBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing. These trucks are replacement vehicles for trucks which have already reached their useful life. The 2020 Ford F-350 will be used for Ground Maintenance and the 2019 Chevy Tahoe is for Airport Security. All the trucks will be assigned to the International Airport Department for operations. Funding is available in the International Airport Funds.

Cm. Rodriguez recalled reducing the size of the vehicles that the City acquires. Jeff Miller, Airport Director, reported that these trucks are for the K-9 units at the airport.

Cm. Altgelt asked why an F-350 is needed. Mr. Miller noted that these vehicles will be used for hauling trailers and taking loads to the dump.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli were not present.

45. Consideration to authorize a professional services contract to GRA Inc., Jenkintown, PA., in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. to develop an economic study for the Laredo International Airport. The period to perform this study is from July 31, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Funding is available in the International Airport Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

BUILDING: STAFF SOURCE VICTOR LINARES, ACTING BUILDING DIRECTOR

46. Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Maria Raquel Barrientos & Ana Maria Ponce for a proposed project located at 2212 Rosario St., west thirty-four and five tenths feet of lot 9; block 1280; eastern division that consists of new construction, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a five (5) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$120,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$582.45 and estimated total fee waivers of \$3,150.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE ARTURO GARCIA, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

47. 2019-R-125 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to accept the donation from Emerald Riverview Development, LTD, of a 44.21 acre tract and a 0.71 acre tract of land, out of a 1,319.40 acre tract of land, situated in Porcion 15, Jose Prudencia Garcia, Abstract 53, and Porcion 16, Dolores Garcia, Abstract 46, Webb County, Texas, as described in deed recorded in Volume 2557, Pages 829-836, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas. This property has an appraised value of \$294,000 based on the Independent Appraisal Report by State Certified Appraiser Frank Leal from Frank Leal Co. R.E. Appraisals, Laredo, Texas. Donation will be added to the City's Fixed Asset System.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-125.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

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

48. 2018-R-126 A resolution of the City of Laredo authorizing the City of Laredo to nominate Laredo Regional Medical Center, L.P. to the Office of the Governor Economic Development and tourism ("OOGEDT") through the Economic Development Bank ("BANK") for designation as a qualified business and enterprise project ("PROJECT") under the Texas Enterprise Zone Program under the Texas Enterprise Zone Act, Chapter 2303, Texas Government Code ("ACT").

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-126.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

FIRE: STAFF SOURCE STEVE LANDIN, FIRE CHIEF

49. Consideration to award contract FY19-083 to the following providers: 1.) Primary Bound Tree Medical, Dublin, OH. 2.) Secondary Performance Safety Group I LP,

St. Louis, MO, for an annual amount not to exceed \$260,000.00. This is a two (2) year contract, subject to future appropriations and is for the purchase of medication, medical equipment and gloves used by the Fire Department-EMS. This contract may be extended for an additional one (1) - two (2) year term, upon mutual agreement of interested parties and contingent upon availability of funds. Funding is available in the Fire Department – EMS Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, ACTING FLEET DIRECTOR

50. Consideration to amend annual supply/service contract FY18-026 by 25% with Rush Truck Center, Laredo, TX, in an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 due to an increase in usage. This contract is for the purchase of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) truck parts/services for the City's medium and heavy duty trucks. The term of this contract shall expire on 2/19/20; a new contract with a total amount of \$187,500.00. All parts and services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE DR. HECTOR GONZALEZ, HEALTH DIRECTOR

51. 2019-R-115 Ratifying the execution of a contract amendment with the Texas Department of State Health Services through the South Texas Development Council (STDC) in the amount of \$123,921.00 for a total of \$536,224.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Ryan White Program to provide health care, diagnostic and specialty care and medical case management for persons with HIV/AIDS and aligning positions with duties and program performance measures for the term of April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-115.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

52. 2019-R-119 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to accept an additional amount of \$18,400.00 for the Women's Health and Family Planning Association of Texas (WHFPT) for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Title X Family Planning Women's Preventive Health and Wellness Services for the term period from April 1, 2019 through March 15, 2020.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-119.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

53. 2019-R-120 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into contract with Valley AIDS Council d/b/a Westbrook Clinic (VAC) 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 period of August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2020.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-120.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

54. Consideration to rename the Drug and Alcohol Commission to the Laredo/Webb County Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

55. Consideration to reject all formal bid submittals for RFQs FY19-055, FY19-072, FY19-073, FY19-074, FY19-075, and FY19-082 for physician services due to the fact that the response to the RFQs did not meet the City's current needs and

qualifications.

Luis Cerda of the Health Department informed Council that staff wishes to reject the RFQs because none of the vendors were local. Since staff was unable to determine how the vendors would be able to provide services if they are not in Laredo, they recommended rejection of the RFQs.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, added that the current physicians under contract with the City did not meet the insurance qualifications on these RFQs.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

56. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into a continuation lease agreement between the City of Laredo and Juan Medina to allow the City of Laredo to continue to operate on the property located on 101 1st Street in Zapata, Texas 78076 for the City of Laredo Health Department Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition, supplemental and health promotion programs. The term of the agreement shall be for \$1,500.00 per month for five (5) years for a total of \$90,000.00 beginning October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2024, contingent on funding availability. Funding is available through the Health Department WIC Budget.

Cm. Torres confirmed that these programs are grant-funded. The City provides these services to 13 counties in Texas.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

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

57. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into and execute a contract between GeoComm and the City of Laredo to coordinate the management of the Enterprise Geospatial Database Management System (EGDMS) as instructed by the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC). EGDMS is the avenue through which the 9-1-1 Regional Administration uploads data and submits to CSEC. These services will be provided for two-year period to the South Texas Region in the amount of \$96,677.00. Data management services

were procured through the State Council on Competitive Government and pricing is coordinated through CSEC to each Regional Planning Council (RPC). Funding is available in the Regional 9-1-1 Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

58. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into and execute a contract between West Safety Solutions and the City of Laredo for maintenance renewal to purchase Software Subscription Support and Software Protection and Remote Technical Services Support through the Houston Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract EC07-18 in the amount of \$132,552.00. This software and technical support will be provided for each of eight (8) Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) located throughout the South Texas Region. Funding is available in the Regional 9-1-1 Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

59. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to purchase a Recovery Series Appliance Model R8060S with 30 TB Usable Capacity the City's Information Services and Telecommunications Department and a Recovery Series Appliance Model R8020S with 10 TB Usable Capacity for use by the City's Health Department from Sequel Data Systems Incorporated in the amount of \$87,016.00. Pricing is under GSA Contract #47QTCA19D008G. Funding is available in the I.S.T. Telecommunications Budget and the Health Department.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

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

60. Consideration to renew the contract with Landscapes Management Company,

LLC, for the operation and management of the clubhouse, golf course, cart facility, maintenance building and appurtenances, and any other golf course or golf related facility owned by the City and situated on the real property located at 27700 FM 1472, known as the Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course with the following terms:

1. The management fee will be \$7,000.00 per month starting October 2019 if requirements are met (\$84,000.00 annually).
2. The management fee will increase by 3% starting on October 1st, 2020 as an Incentive fee if there is an increase in Net Operating Income over the prior fiscal year.
3. In the event that Landscapes Management Company, LLC fails to meet the Net Operating Income projections by \$100,000.00 or more for fiscal year, the City shall have the right, in its discretion, to adjust the Base Management Fee as per the contract.

This is the last two (2) year extension period. This contract will commence on October 1, 2019 and end on September 30, 2021 on terms mutually agreed. There was a price reduction during the last extension period. This contract is subject to the approval of the FY 2019-2020 budget appropriations.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

61. 2019-R-117 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to accept a grant award in the amount of \$93,951.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of Commercial Motor Vehicle - Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 01, 2019 and runs through September 30, 2020. This grant is for overtime salaries. This grant requires a cash match in the amount of \$30,064.32 for a total grant amount of \$124,015.32. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-117.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

62. 2019-R-118 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to accept a grant award in

the amount of \$121,966.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation for the enforcement of the Comprehensive - Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2019 and runs through September 30, 2020. This grant is for overtime salaries. This grant requires a cash match in the amount of \$39,029.12 for a total grant amount of \$160,995.12. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-118.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

PUBLIC WORKS: STAFF SOURCE JOHN ORFILA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

63. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) cab tractor and one (1) mower from AG-PRO through John Deere Company, Cary, North Carolina, for creek maintenance of all landscaped areas in the total amount \$166,234.62 for the Public Works Department. The purchase of this equipment shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Contract Pricing Program. Funding is available in the 2019 Environmental Capital Machinery & Equipment Outlay Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

SOLID WASTE: STAFF SOURCE STEPHEN GEISS, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

64. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) grapple trucks from Rush Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in the total amount \$375,954.00 for the Solid Waste Services Department. These grapple trucks are needed for the pickup of branches and debris in the city. These trucks will be replacing units 6224 & 6225 which have already reached their useful life. The purchase of these trucks shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. Funding is available in the 2014 and 2017 Solid Waste PPFCA Capital Outlay Fund, and the 2015 C.O. Bond Capital Outlay Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

TAX: STAFF SOURCE DORA MALDONADO, TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

65. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts adjusted for the month of July 2019 represent a decrease of \$40,729.77 These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE RIAZUL MIA, UTILITIES DIRECTOR

66. 2019-R-106 Accepting the conveyance of a 5,080 sq.ft. tract of land, in the vicinity between the area known as Taco Palenque and Zapata Highway, more or less, being out of Porcion 35, Jose M. Diaz, Original Grantee, Abstract 546, Webb County, Texas and being out of Lot 3, Block 1, Lafon Subdivision Phase II, as recorded in Volume 28, Page 70, Webb County Map Records, to serve as a Utility and Access Easement for the purpose of excavating, constructing, inspecting, repairing, replacing, locating, relocating, and maintaining underground utility lines and any appurtenant or necessary facilities, over, upon, across, and through said 5,080 sq. ft. tract of land; said easement is further described by boundary survey and metes and bounds as depicted in Exhibit "A". A temporary 20' (foot) construction easement will be located at the north side of said easement; after project completion temporary construction easement will be relocated to the south side of the property line; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-106.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

67. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to purchase a Shaftless Screw Conveyor required to convey dewatered Sludge from The North Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant to the City Landfill. The item will be purchased from SPIRAC (USA) Incorporated from Newman, Georgia in the amount of \$64,089.00. Funding is available in the 2018 SEWER PPF CO.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

68. Consideration to renew annual supply contract FY16-064 for the purchase of mechanical joint fittings, brass fittings, copper pipe, repair clamps, and valve boxes for the Utilities Department with the following vendors:

- a. Sections I and II to Ferguson Waterworks, Brownsville, Texas in an amount of up to \$656,882.18;
- b. Section III to Core & Main, LP., (formerly HD Supply Waterworks) Atlanta, Georgia in an amount of up to \$177,274.40;

The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. These materials are purchased on an as needed basis by the Utilities Department-Water Operations for construction and repair projects. There was a 5% price increase during the last extension period submitted by Ferguson Waterworks. There was a 7% price increase during the last extension period submitted by Core & Main. This is the third of five extension periods. Fortline opted not to renew Section IV of this contract. Funding is available in the Water and Sewer Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

69. Consideration to renew contract FY16-065 with Core & Main, LP., (formerly HD Supply Waterworks), Atlanta, Georgia, in an amount up to \$249,465.05 for the purchase of fire hydrants and repair kits for the City of Laredo's Utilities Department. This contract will be for a one year period. This is the third of five extension periods. There was a 6% price increase during the last extension period submitted by Core & Main. Funding is available in the Water Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

70. Consideration to renew contract number FY17-033 for the purchase of rubber couplings, PVC pipe, and related materials for the Utilities Department with the following vendors:
1. Sections I, II, III, VII, and VIII to Core & Main, LP., (formerly HD Supply Waterworks), Atlanta, Georgia in an amount up to \$102,715.84;
 2. Section V to Ferguson Waterworks, Mission, Texas in an amount up to \$189,154.55;
 3. Sections IV and VI to Aguaworks Pipe & Supply, Brownsville, Texas in an amount up to \$63,333.32.

The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. These materials shall be purchased on an as needed basis by the Utilities Department-Water Operations for construction and repair projects. The term of this contract shall be for a one year period. There was a 7% increase submitted by Aguaworks during the last extension period. There was an 8% increase submitted by Core & Main during the last extension period. This is the second of four extension periods. Funding is available in the Water and Sewer Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

71. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to reject the sole bid for the UNITEC Wastewater Treatment Plant 0.18 MGD to 0.36 MGD expansion received on July 25, 2019 and opened on July 26, 2019, due to the high lump sum base bid that is over 25% above Engineer's estimate.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

72. Approval for a change order #1 with a credit resulting to the City of Laredo of \$12,953.00 and reducing the contract amount from \$333,789.00 to a total amount of \$320,836.00, extension of contract time from 120 calendar days to 180 calendar days, and acceptance, release of retainage and final payment in the

amount of \$61,916.80. Authorizing contract amendment with Southern Trenchless Solutions of Weslaco, Texas for the construction of the installation of the 15" sanitary sewer line parallel to the existing 8" sanitary sewer line in the easement starting at Del Mar Blvd. at the BBVA Compass Bank to the old McPherson lift station. Funding is available in the 2011 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XII. STAFF REPORTS

73. 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.

Motion to approve the Internal Auditor's report.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into executive session to consult with the City Attorney on pending litigation in City of Laredo vs. Jose C. Resendez Cause no. 2015EDA000004-C3 and return to open session.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Altgelt, and Cm. Balli were not present.

74. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.071(1)(A) to consult with City Attorney on pending litigation in City of Laredo vs. Jose C. Resendez Cause no. 2015EDA000004-C3; pending in County Court at Law #2, Webb County, Texas; and return to open session for possible action.

Following executive session, Mayor Saenz reported that no action was taken.

Motion to table for 30 days pursuant to information provided by staff.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Mercurio Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

XIV. 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. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

75. Approving the selection by the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee of the FY2019 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 applications for the Laredo Urbanized Area Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Funding Program and authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute and submit to the Federal Transit Administration all necessary documents resulting from said Funding Program. The FY 2019 Call for Projects received three (3) completed applications. The Third Party Funding Advisory Committee recommends for the Laredo Mass Transit Board to approve the Committee's selection of Ruth B. Cowl in the amount of \$58,165.50, the South Texas Development Council in the amount of \$58,165.50 and the Laredo Transit Management Inc. (El Metro) in the amount of \$218,505.00 and authorizing the City Manager and staff to proceed with all necessary contractual documentation and FTA applications as mentioned in the LTMI Section 5310 Program Management Plan. The Laredo Transit Management will match \$54,626.00 through local dedicated Transit Sales Tax.

Cm. Torres asked what the benefit is of the City giving the South Texas Development Council \$58,000. Claudia San Miguel, Transit Manager, explained that STDC provides transportation services which are eligible for the 5310 program; this is the first time STDC has submitted this application. She noted that, historically, the money has been given to transportation providers proportionate to the number of people that they service.

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, could not confirm if STDC provides services only for the City of Laredo or other entities. These three entities were the only ones who applied.

Cm. Torres suggested that, without justification for STDC, the City split this money between Ruth B. Cowl and El Metro. Mrs. San Miguel reminded Council that if they do not approve this recommendation, then the item must go back to

the Third Party Advisory Committee. Mr. Garcia clarified that Council can override the committee.

Mrs. San Miguel clarified that these monies are not City dollars; they are Federal Transit Administration dollars and the City is the direct recipient. She recommended that Council approve the payment to Ruthe B. Cowl and El Metro and to send the STDC payment back to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee for review.

Motion to follow staff's recommendation and approve the payments to Ruthe B. Cowl and El Metro and to send the payment for STDC back to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee for review.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6 Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Gonzalez

Cm. Altgelt

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Balli was not present.

XV. 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. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7 Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

76. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Requesting the status of the Traffic Light Synchronization Project with possible action.

Danny Magee, Traffic Director, reported that seven sections were identified as affordable roadway projects: FM 1472 (Mines Rd.), US Hwy. 83 (Zapata Hwy.), Bob Bullock Loop (Loop 20), McPherson Rd. State Hwy. 359, Business Interstate Hwy. 35, and I-35 frontage roads. The first five projects, with the exception of Hwy. 83, have been completed. The Hwy. 83 project is halfway

done and has not been completed because the consultant wanted to change the signals in that area. That is being completed this week.

Mayor Saenz asked if another 80 intersections could be planned for in the next fiscal year. Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, noted that TxDOT received the bulk of the synchronization projects because most of the roadways completed are TxDOT roadways. There are 260 total intersections, but new projects would have to again come from Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) dollars or similar mechanism or through the General Fund, which staff would have to budget.

Cm. Altgelt requested an item on the next MPO agenda for this matter.

Mr. Magee reported that staff should be able to perform some of this work in-house, but that will take a longer time to complete than what the consultant has been able to do. He noted that the intersection along Saunders was performed in-house and is beautifully-timed.

No action taken.

B. Request by Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III

1. Discussion with possible action to add sidewalks on 405 Masterson St. and any matters incident thereto. District III Priority Funds will be used for this project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres, Dr. Marte Martinez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

C. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to direct Co-Interim City Managers to procure a design and build a public pergola and outdoor play area amenities at Blas Castaneda Park; and any matters incident thereto.

Ramon Chavez, City Engineer, reported the estimated cost of this project at \$35,000 to include a metal pergola with concrete columns along with play area amenities.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Balli were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action to adopt a lactation policy that will provide a supportive work environment enabling employees to express milk during working hours in an adequate and private place, other than a restroom, in accordance with Section 619.003 of the Texas Government Code and federal law, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Vielma thanked the Human Resources, Health, and Legal Departments for their assistance and support of this item.

Melina Bermudez, Human Resources Director, reported that Employee Health & Wellness will certify a staff member starting on September 5, 2019 as a lactation specialist. This individual will also assist employees in developing a lactation schedule and facilitating any conversations with their managers/supervisors/directors.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Balli were not present.

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

1. Discussion with possible action to incorporate 2% of net proceeds of any bonds or debt obligations from any city construction project to fund Laredo public arts and culture programs and any matters incident thereto.

Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, asked for clarification on the bonds as worded on this item. She explained that bonds are strictly for brick-and-mortar projects, not programs.

Alyssa Cigarroa of CultivArte, a group of local artists, asked for Council's support in earmarking 2% of bonds or debt obligations to fund Laredo public arts and culture programs. She displayed photographs of the mural placed on Zaragoza Street and its warm receipt and improvement on impressions of Laredo. The mural is in line with the Viva Laredo Comprehensive Plan, which aims to make Laredo a destination celebrated for its contribution to the arts and culture. The Comprehensive Plan also recommends a public art ordinance to establish a set aside 2% from every Capital Improvement Project budget for the acquisition of art for municipal property. She displayed visual representations of public arts in other cities through a 2% earmark from capital improvement projects and/or bonds and obligations. One in 15 jobs in Texas are part of the creative sector, and Texas made \$350 million in 2017 state sales tax revenue from the arts and culture industry. While the average Texas city is making \$1.55 return on investment per capita, Laredo is only receiving an average of 23 cents

through the arts and culture industry. Ms. Cigarroa asked Council to approve this item and supports the local art industry in Laredo.

Regina Portillo of CultivArte confirmed that Ms. Cigarroa's reported facts are from a report of the Texas Cultural Trust compiled by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Texas Demographic Center. Dedicating this 2% to public art is a significant opportunity for growth and increased sales tax revenue. Most of the metropolitan areas that have more dollars returned to local sales than Laredo dedicate some percentage of their budget to the arts. She explained that some cities have an ordinance that allow small projects, like a small parking lot, to save the earmarked funds for a larger installation.

Cm. Mercurio Martinez noted that this proposal is a great idea for the Canseco House project, which is very important to the community.

Cm. Altgelt confirmed that capital improvement funds are specific to brick-and-mortar projects. Dr. Marte Martinez clarified his intention to model this plan after other municipalities in which a portion of the proceeds from any bond sale be dedicated to brick-and-mortar public arts. He noted that each individual construction project would carve out 2% for public art. He iterated the need for art in order to instill the "flair" that makes destination cities vibrant and attractive. The City must be showcased and window-dressed.

Cm. Torres stated his satisfaction with the idea, adding that he and Cm. Vielma initiated the Fine Arts & Culture Commission when they were first elected to Council. However, he asked if this matter wouldn't be better discussed next week during the budget workshop, as there is a long list of capital improvement projects that are pending funding. He reminded Council that most of his District Priority Funds are used for sidewalks; he asked how he is to incorporate 2% of art in sidewalks. Cm. Altgelt suggested painting the sidewalks. Cm. Torres countered that most, if not all, of the sidewalks he is improving or constructing are in residential areas. He would rather dedicate that 2% on each project for more improvements as that amount of money could improve multiple blocks of sidewalks. While he supported the idea and commends its merit, he voiced his concern over how to incorporate the idea into all of the City's projects where art installation may be difficult.

Mrs. Cabello agreed with the suggestion to discuss this matter during the budget workshop; she also suggested designating a percentage of the total amount of the bond rather than each individual project. Cm. Torres noted that Laredo is lagging behind the rest of the state in terms of infrastructure and other things that take priority, despite the fact that the arts are very important and needed in the community. He reminded Council to prioritize its needs, and the infrastructure in his district is needed and requested by his constituents. He voiced his concern of facing a 2% burden on his budget.

Cm. Vielma voiced her agreement with designating a percentage of the total bond that can be distributed to installing art throughout the entire City.

Ms. Portillo reported that the City of El Paso's public arts ordinances states: "Projects in the capital improvements program shall include an amount for works of art equal to 2% of the total funding available for the project, whether funded by general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, or certificates of obligation." Dr. Martinez noted his intention that the City of Laredo follow the same model.

Cm. Rodriguez noted that sidewalks can be imprinted artistically. He asked if Council could ensure that the artists are local in order to properly showcase Laredo's arts and culture. Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, clarified that Council could not pass any action to that effect during this discussion. Cm. Altgelt noted that the City would still need to go through the procurement process.

Cm. Altgelt noted that when cities invest in art, they see dividends on their investments. Mayor Saenz asked staff and Council to think about where the City will see the most value in art installations in terms of visitors and visibility.

A member of CultivArte informed Council that shade installations could also be considered for art. Ms. Portillo reported that during the budget workshop, there will be an item under the Library Department for a public arts master plan. This plan will help the City determine its greatest potential for return on investment.

Mrs. Cabello reiterated staff's request to discuss this item at the budget workshop before taking any action.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, reminded Council that if they are bonding for \$2 million and allocate \$400,000 to public art, then the City is actually only bonding out \$1.96 million for actual construction. He and Mrs. Cabello reminded Council that committing percentages of all projects means that there will be fewer repairs that can be made because less money is actually allocated to the construction.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, informed Council that the Manadas Creek treatment plant money is from TCEQ, who will not give the City money for art. He stated that installing vegetation is not art; Cm. Altgelt countered that landscaping can indeed be utilized artistically. He reminded Council that many of these cities allocating percentages for public arts do not own their own utilities.

Shellee Laurent, local artist, stated that art is vital to human existence. She encouraged Council to take this opportunity to beautify all of Laredo, not just a few districts. As a mother, she noted that her children play outside; by giving them something inspiring to see when they are engaged outside, children will be motivated to do more.

Steve Landin, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator, informed Council that some Departments' budgets depend on bond monies for equipment. The Fire Department alone will need \$2 million for ambulances and ladder trucks at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Cm. Torres asked staff to consider funding fine arts and culture through the Parks & Recreation Department during the budget workshop.

Motion to appropriate 2% from any eligible bond or debt obligation from any construction project to be used for public art projects, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

E. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion with possible action authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to negotiate the land between Mines Road, Tejas Loop, and I35 for future buffer for the sewer plant and any matters incident thereto.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, reported that this land is part of the property on which the Manadas Creek plant will be located.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

2. Discussion with possible action requesting the Fine Arts and Culture Commission to initiate a City of Laredo Poet Laureate Program and any matters incident thereto. (Co- Sponsored by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez)

Cm. Altgelt noted that many cities smaller than Laredo have a Poet Laureate Program. Those cities' Fine Arts and Culture Commissions select a Poet Laureate, someone who captures the spirit of a city and is available for a certain time period for invocations, ribbon cuttings, and other ways to tell the story of the community through poetry. He noted that the distinguished poets in Laredo are through the Laredo Border Slam, and perhaps the most distinguished poet in town is Armando Lopez.

Armando Lopez stated that the Laredo Border Slam team has taken Laredo's voice to other areas of the country. Many local poets are well-known in the poetry community throughout Texas. He read from one of his own poem about leaving Laredo for a brief period of time and then returning with life lessons accumulated along the way. Mr. Lopez reminded Council that when Yo Yo Ma visited the border, he brought the spirit of Laredo out to the rest of the world.

Motion to charge the Fine Arts & Culture Commission with the task of creating a

City of Laredo Poet Laureate Program.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

3. Discussion with possible action to include sidewalks on Michigan Avenue from Springfield Avenue to International Boulevard and any matters incident thereto. District VII Priority Funds will be used for this project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

F. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to install Wi-Fi network at Independence Park and El Eden/BP Newman Park.

Cm. Gonzalez reported that District I Priority Funds will be used for this item.

Homero Vazquez-Garcia, IST Director, clarified that staff has estimated costs but will need to go out for RFQs.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

2. Discussion with possible action to upgrade playgrounds at Independence Park and Cielito Lindo Park; and any matters incident thereto.

Juan Gomez, Jr., Acting Parks & Recreation Director, reported the cost estimate for Cielito Lindo Park to be \$71,000 and about \$100,000 for the Independence Hills Park.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

G. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Recognition of sponsors, participants and staff on the first annual Bull-Run Biathlon dry and mud obstacle course event.

Webb County Commissioner Jesse Gonzalez reported that Cm. Rodriguez initiated this event for South Texas in this first annual collaboration. Several obstacle course challenges were offered for participants.

Cm. Rodriguez reported that over 400 backpacks were given away to children as a result of this event. Staff played a brief video of the event's highlights and activities.

XVI. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0