

**CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
M2019-R-14
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
September 3, 2019
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor presented the following:

1. Recognizing Robyn Colin from Nixon High School as Laredo's 1st female football coach.

Robyn Colin introduced her parents, who are also local high school athletic coaches. MPT Balli presented her with a certificate of recognition for her accomplishment.

**CITY OF LAREDO CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
M2019-R-14
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
September 3, 2019
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli led in moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 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
George J. Altgelt
Roberto Balli
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
Rosario Cabello
Robert Eads
Kristina L. Hale

District VI
District VII
District VIII, Mayor Pro-Tempore
City Secretary
Co-Interim City Manager
Co-Interim City Manager
City Attorney

Cm. Vielma joined at 5:38 p.m.
Cm. Torres joined at 5:52 p.m.
Cm. Gonzalez joined at 7:41 p.m.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of August 15, 2019 and August 19, 2019.

Motion to approve the August 15, 2019 and August 19, 2019 minutes.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

Citizen comments

Jesus Medina stated that he rented a home at 314 W. Montgomery that he soon found was rat-infested with rats that are the size of a grown man's leg. After taking this matter to the Health Department and the Environmental Services Department, he noted that there is no City Department that can control a problem such as this because it is a civil matter. He reported that he has a case in small claims court, but he found this rental property in the *Laredo Morning Times*. He rented the property at the beginning of the July and immediately noticed that it smelled like fumigation chemicals. The owner told him that the previous tenants caused the rat infestation and placed a small rodent cage that is too small to fit the size of these large rats. Nothing was caught in the small cage, so Mr. Medina had to purchase large rat traps. He noted that the attic of the house smells terrible and has been chewed up into pieces. His wife has asthma attacks after moving into this house. Mr. Medina opened a small claims case to get his deposit back, but the owner is hiding from him. He moved out of the house three weeks ago and will give the keys back to the owner but is looking for respite.

MPT Balli asked management or their designee to follow up with Mr. Medina. Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, confirmed that the Health Department will assist Mr. Medina.

Melina Bermudez, Human Resources Director, introduced three individuals who participated in the Texas Workforce Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL) Program: Briana Garcia, Marco Ortiz, and Patrick Delgadillo. The program is a six-week summer program created for students with disabilities made possible through an agreement

between the City of Laredo and the Texas Workforce Commission; the program allows the students to obtain real-world working experience in the transition from high school to college. Mrs. Bermudez commended the three students and noted the contributions they made to the City during the summer program. MPT Balli thanked the students for their work during the summer.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez of Roberto David Gonzalez to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Roberto David Gonzalez to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

2. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Cynthia Collazo to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Cynthia Collazo to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

3. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of George Altgelt as a Laredo Mass Transit Board representative on the Laredo MPO Policy Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of George Altgelt as a Laredo Mass Transit Board representative to the Laredo MPO Policy Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance adopting the proposed annual budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 by appropriating the proposed revenues, expenditures and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020, consistent with the financial plan described in said annual budget (see Exhibit "A") and motions approved by City Council at public workshop on August 26-29, 2019 (see Exhibit "B") and authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to implement said annual budget.

Dr. Marte Martinez requested amending the ordinance to add two unfunded FTEs for the fellows program, which were erroneously eliminated. He clarified that they will be unfunded so as not to affect the balanced budget.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce with two additional unfunded FTEs for the fellows program, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. An Ordinance authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute all documents for the purchase of the "Surface Only" of the following thirteen (13) tracts of land; 2720 Ventura Legally described as Lot 1 BLK 650 WD; 2720 Ventura Street Legally described as Lots 2, 3, 4 BLK 650 WD; South Part of Tract 1 (Gilbert Avenue between Water Street); ALL of BLK 649 WD; Tract 2 (Gilbert Avenue between Ventura Street and Piedregal Street); Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 & 8 BLK 640 WD; South part of Tract 3 (Atlee Avenue between Ventura Street and Piedregal Street); Lot 1-2 BLK 634 WD; Lots 3 & 4 BLK 634 WD; ALL of BLK 641 WD; Tract 4 (Atlee Avenue between Piedregal street and Soledad Street); ALL of BLK 633 WD; ALL of BLK 626 WD as Summarized on exhibit "A" from Rodolfo Garcia, Sr. in the negotiated amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Seven thousand dollars and no cents (\$297,000.00), as appraised by Frank Leal an independent state certified appraiser, for land preservation and to protect the natural resources in the areas of the river bend along the Rio Grande in proximity to the International Rail Bridge and Laredo College; funding is from the Environmental Services Department; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, Amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 6 (Pay Administration), of the City Code of Ordinance, specifically Section

2-87.7(c)(12)(a), by providing a 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to all City employees, with the exception of Interns, Cooperative Education Program employees (CO-OPS), Elected Officials, Temporary Staffing Agency employees, and employees subject to any Collective Bargaining Agreement; the adjustment to the existing wage schedule includes an adjustment to the minimum pay to \$12.00 per hour, an adjustment to the spread between all grades, and the elimination of pay grades W44 and W45 and the addition of pay grade R46 and R47; providing for a repealing clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing for an effective date of October 1, 2019.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. An Ordinance authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to activate the Laredo Fire Department's fourth Aerial Truck by reclassifying nine (9) Full Time Equivalent Firefighter positions to the position of three (3) Captains, three (3) Fire Drivers, and three (3) Fire Assistant Drivers. This Aerial Truck will be located at Fire Station #14, 5309 Cielito Lindo Blvd., and will provide quick responses and protection to South Laredo. The mobilization of this aerial truck will fulfill SAFER Grant requirements as proposed. The reclassification funding is available in the Fire Department Operating Budget. The estimated amount is \$165,238.00.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. An Ordinance authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to sell the "Surface Only" of a closed section of the 1900 Block of Bismark Street to Gerardo "Jerry" Salinas of Gateway Builders, LTD. pursuant to section 272.001(b) of the Texas Local Govt. Code. Tract was appraised and a fair market value of \$49,000.00 was established by a State Certified Independent appraiser Frank Leal. It is described as a tract of land containing 0.2257 acre (9,832 sq. ft.), more or less, out of Bismark Street R. O. W., situated in the Western Division of the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The City of Laredo reserves any and all visible and apparent easements recorded or not recorded, being generally described in attached Exhibit "A", and approving the Post Closure Property Improvement Plan as described in Exhibit "B", which is in compliance with Section 10 of the Street Closing/Sales Policy Handbook, and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2019-O-140, 2019-O-141, 2019-O-142, 2019-O-143, 2019-O-144, 2019-O-145, 2019-O-146, 2019-O-147, 2019-O-148, 2019-O-149, 2019-O-150, 2019-O-151, 2019-O-152, and 2019-O-153.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

6. 2019-O-140 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-140.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

7. 2019-O-141 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. ZC-53-2019 District VII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-141.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

8. 2019-O-142 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. ZC-58-2019 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-142.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

9. 2019-O-143 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. ZC-59-2019 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-143.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

10. 2019-O-144 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. ZC-60-2019 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-144.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

11. 2019-O-145 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. ZC-61-2019 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-145.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

12. 2019-O-146 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. ZC-62-2019 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-146.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

13. 2019-O-147 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. ZC-63-2019 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-147.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

14. 2019-O-148 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. ZC-50-2019 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-148.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

15. 2019-O-149 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. ZC-51-2019 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-149.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

16. 2019-O-150 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-150.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

17. 2019-O-151 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. 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-151.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

18. 2019-O-152 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-152.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

19. 2019-O-153 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-153.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

BRIDGE: STAFF SOURCE YVETTE LIMON, BRIDGE DIRECTOR

20. 2019-R-131 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to enter into and execute the Donation Acceptance Agreement by and between the United States of America, acting by and through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the U.S. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service, and the City of Laredo to facilitate the proposed donation to the United States of a roadway in support of a Z-Portal inspection lane at the

World Trade Bridge Land Port of Entry located in Laredo, Texas. The design and construction project, which is to occur in two phases including Phase 0 the construction of asphalt section roadways between the international bridge and the Z-Portal location and Phase 1A construction of asphalt section detour roadways beyond the Phase 0 departure roadway to detour around the main construction Phase 1 for the FAST Lanes relocation project is estimated at a cost of \$150,000.00. Funding is available in the Bridge System Construction Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-131.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

21. 2019-R-132 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute a Revocable License for Non-Federal use of Real Property (License No. GS-07B-99274) between the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and the City of Laredo to allow the City of Laredo to install improvements accepted by GSA in a fully executed Donation Acceptance Agreement (DAA) between the City of Laredo, Texas and GSA which is to facilitate the initial Phase #0 of Lane #1 FAST Lanes relocation project at the World Trade Bridge Laredo Port of Entry in Laredo, Texas. Executed DAA is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "D". No financial impact.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-132.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

BUILDING: STAFF SOURCE VICTOR LINARES, ACTING BUILDING DIRECTOR

22. 2019-R-128 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Ricardo Salazar for a proposed project located at 804 E. Elm St., west 1/3 of lot 7 & east 1/3 of lot 8; block 395; eastern division that consists of new construction of a house, 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 \$42,155.12, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$267.26

and estimated total fee waivers of \$3,112.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-128.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

23. 2019-R-129 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Famous Chicken of Laredo for a proposed project located at 5563 State HWY 359, lot 1; block 2; Las Misiones 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 ten (10) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$621,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$3,937.14 and estimated total fee waivers of \$7,171.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-129.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

24. 2019-R-130 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Lopez & Sons Investments for a proposed project located at 110 Willow Oak , lot 1; block 2; Royal Oaks Subdivision Phase 1 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 ten (10) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$1,000,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$6,340.00 and estimated total fee waivers of \$7,740.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-130.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER

- 25. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest bidder Romo Contractors, LLC, Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$359,500.00 for the City of Laredo Community Development Department Fernando A. Salinas Elderly Rental Apartments located at 1803 Juarez Avenue with a construction contract time of one hundred fifty (150) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for February 2020. Funding is available in the 2018 Home Grant and 2018 HOME Program Income.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

- 26. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 4 an increase of \$18,703.48 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 prepare categorical environmental exclusion document as required by TxDOT in accordance with requirements to receive the CBI grant funding. Current engineering contract amount with this amendment is \$1,997,237.48. Funding is available in the Bridge Construction Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

- 27. Consideration for approval to rescind the selection of consultant Gignac, Corpus Christi, Texas, for the CDBG El Eden Park Improvements – District I due to change of scope of work. No financial impact.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

FINANCE: STAFF SOURCE JOSE F. CASTILLO, ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR

28. 2019-R-127 Authorizing the City of Laredo to enter into a Inter-Local Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the Purchasing Cooperative of America (PAC), Region III Education Service Center, Victoria, Texas, and authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute this membership agreement. The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate compliance with the State of Texas bidding requirements, to identify qualified vendors of commodities, goods and services, and to realize potential cost savings for the City of Laredo.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-127.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

FIRE: STAFF SOURCE STEVE LANDIN, FIRE CHIEF

No business.

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE DR. HECTOR GONZALEZ, HEALTH DIRECTOR

29. 2019-R-133 Ratifying the execution of a contract amendment with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in the amount of \$144,171.00 with program income in the amount of \$25,241.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Primary and Acute Health Care Services to provide preventive health patient care for low income and uninsured persons for the term period from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-133.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

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

30. 2019-R-136 A Resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas, authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to approve a donation agreement between the City of Laredo and Robert "Beto" P. Gutierrez for the acceptance of \$283,162.00 for the construction of a 84' x 50' basketball court with 2 official goals and poles, 4 practice goals with poles, over a 94' x 60' concrete slab with a metal shade structure with lights and Versacourt sports floor at Divine Mercy Park. Project will also include a 6 foot fence to be placed around the court.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-136.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

31. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) portable flooring system through Ewing Irrigation Products, Laredo, Texas, in the total amount \$355,557.00 for the Parks & Recreation Department. This flooring system shall protect the turf during City-held events at the Uni-Trade Stadium. The purchase of this flooring system shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Contract Pricing Program. Funding is available in the Sports & Community Venue Unitrade Operations Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

32. Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to execute a 20-year ground lease between the City of Laredo and the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Tennis Complex (18 tennis courts) on approximately 11.32 acres of land located on and part of the campus of Texas A&M International University to be used mutually by University students and invitees, and the general public.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

Following the vote, Tina Treviño thanked Council for their approval of this motion

as well as management and staff for working on this matter.

PLANNING & ZONING: STAFF SOURCE JAMES KIRBY SNIDEMAN, PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR

33. Staff update regarding proposed revisions to the City of Laredo Land Development Code, for the purpose of amending setback requirements, with possible action.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, noted that there are two options regarding changes to the setback requirements: a city-wide change or a reduced setback overlay (RSO) zone. He explained that property setbacks are the distances typically taken from property lines restricting where structures can be located. They are put in place for privacy, safety, and environmental/greenspace reasons. Larger setbacks have become the default for newer development. The Viva Laredo Comprehensive Plan calls for targeted changes to setback requirements in certain locations, not city-wide. The Plan also calls for denser, more sustainable development and creative solutions to achieve this. It allows property owners more freedom and flexibility. He noted that the Planning Department will re-evaluate the existing Land Development Code over the next 18 months in a movement called ReCode Laredo. Staff recommends proceeding methodically so that the changes are long-lasting.

Mr. Snideman continued that the Department will have stakeholder meeting shortly and then will collect input from special interest groups; following that, the Department will gather input from the broad public, at least one public meeting in every district. These public meetings will have food and activities to make the meetings more accessible to residents. He noted that while it seems simple to simply change setback requirements, there are substantial implications associated with those changes, such as: density requirements, occupancy limitations, stormwater requirements, utility requirements, parking regulations, zoning regulations, visibility triangle requirements, height limitations, and others.

Cm. Rodriguez asked if this affects the carport setback ordinance that was just adopted, adding that the carports were expanded to encourage residents to park in their driveways rather than in the streets. Victor Linares, Acting Building Director, clarified that the carport requirements were changed to allow the carports to be extended further towards the property line only. Cm. Rodriguez recalled giving direction to allow for more paving of driveways along with the carport setback changes. Mr. Linares noted that staff did interpret any direction to change parking or driveway requirements.

Mr. Snideman reported the first option for ReCode Laredo: implementing a city-wide setback change. Benefits to this approach are that all residential zones are changed at once and that the process will be fast. However, challenges to this method are that there is no public involvement, no thorough analysis of the impact, and a risk of being “arbitrary and capricious” in the City’s land use decisions. He noted that the Planning & Zoning Commission opposed this option.

Steve Landin, Laredo Fire Chief, noted that the Fire Department's main concern is getting cars off the street so that fire trucks and emergency response vehicles can get through the neighborhoods to provide their services.

MPT Balli asked Cm. Rodriguez what he specifically wanted to approve with regards with the setback changes he previously discussed with staff. Mr. Linares noted that the setback changes regarded the Technical Review Board (TRB) recommendations for inner lots: five feet on the sides, five feet on the rear, ten feet on the front, and allowing the carport to extend to the property line. On corner lots, the recommendation is ten feet on the sides and the front, rear, and carport the same as inner lots. Cm. Rodriguez agreed but reiterated that the driveways need to be expanded so that more cars can be parked in the driveway.

Jesus Ruiz of the TRB confirmed that Council approved this directive on May 6, 2019. Cm. Rodriguez initiated a motion to approve the setback changes as recommended by the Technical Review Board.

Cm. Altgelt asked about any safety issues or requirements in place if someone is allowed to construct and operate a palapa right next to their neighbor's property line or home. He also asked about safety concerns for building on top of utility pipelines for water or sewage transportation. MPT Balli countered that there are still utility easements in place.

Mr. Snideman informed Council that if a property owner wanted to build a second-store guest house or mother-in-law suite, it could not be built within five feet of the neighbors' back yards. However, there are no height restrictions. He reported Option 2 as a Reduced Setback Overlay Zone, which allows for public notice and involvement, allows for a smaller scale implementation so that the City can study its impact, can instruct the ReCode Laredo process. However, it is time-consuming to implement. A RSO lays on top of the current zoning, which does not need to be changed. He clarified that the intention for a RSO is for more than one property, like a neighborhood or subdivision.

Cm. Torres voiced his opinion that developers in new development can apply for an RSO as an exception to the existing setback ordinance. Each respective Council Member can approve or reject that application. However, he asked about the already-established communities that already have old home and someone that wants to maximize their property use. He suggested that Council take those situations on a case-by-case basis for each property as is done with zone changes.

MPT Balli disagreed with Cm. Torres's suggestion, noting his opinion that it sounds very time-consuming and bureaucratic. Cm. Torres countered that it won't be costly because he did not think that many people want to maximize their property. MPT Balli noted that right now, people cannot take maximizing action, so they don't. However, if the requirements change so that they can, property owners may build mother-in-law suites in the very back of their property. He reminded Council that water run-off will be an issue.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that Council will have to adopt ordinances for each property as is done with zone changes. Cm. Altgelt voiced his opinion that this will be tedious. Mr. Snideman reminded Council that zone changing must go through the Planning & Zoning Commission and Council; he recommended that when staff creates the overlay zone ordinance, it covers a large area. In order to access the greater setback, there can be stipulations in place to ensure that the use of that access aligns with the rest of the neighborhood. He cautioned Council that they do not want to use an RSO on a property-by-property basis because of the time it will take. He noted that RSOs are best used when Council can identify a district or area where the City wants to increase density. He reminded Council that already, some property owners disagree with the way that their or a neighboring property is zoned, so there may be disagreement among residents of an RSO.

Cm. Torres reiterated his suggestion to allow Council considering RSOs on a case by case basis; Mr. Snideman noted that Cm. Torres gives way to spot-zoning, which is a sign of not following a plan. The courts define that as “arbitrary and capricious,” which gets the City in trouble because land use decisions need to follow a long-term plan and pattern.

MPT Balli reminded Cm. Torres that Mr. Snideman’s suggestion allows for public comment. Cm. Rodriguez withdrew his motion to approve setback changes as recommended by the Technical Review Board. He asked that this item be placed on the next Council meeting agenda under his discussion items.

Motion to approve setback changes as stated and recommended by the Technical Review Board.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

Motion withdrawn.

Cm. Altgelt suggested approving Cm. Rodriguez’s motion but giving it a 30-day window of time to evaluate its efficacy.

Mr. Snideman stated that this item has not been noticed for a 30-day period in the newspaper, which is required by the Planning & Zoning Department for any land use changes. Council can direct staff to place a notice in the paper. Cm. Rodriguez initiated a motion to place a notice for both options in the paper and to place this item on the October 3, 2019, Council meeting.

Mr. Snideman reminded Council that when the City implements city-wide changes, there is no requirement to mail notices to citizens; doing so would cost about \$20,000. Staff will only post notice in the newspaper, which residents do not tend to see. MPT Balli suggested, in addition to the newspaper, staff post information to Facebook and online.

Chief Landin stated that when people buy property, they have a reasonable expectation of what their property and their neighbor’s property is going to look

like or how much privacy they are going to have.

Motion to direct staff to place a notice of both options for revising the Land Development Code and bring the item back to the October 3, 2019, Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

MPT Balli Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Altgelt

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

34. 2019-R-124 Authorizing the Co-Interim City Managers to submit a grant application in the amount of \$66,123.00 from the Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for funding the 2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the period of October 01, 2019 through September 30, 2022. The Bureau of Justice Assistance mandates that this grant be divided equally between the City of Laredo and Webb County; \$33,061.50 will be allocated for the LPD Network Specialist and \$33,061.50 for Webb County Sheriff's Office operation enhancements. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-R-124.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

35. Consideration to award contract FY19-089 to Ruby's Air Conditioning, Inc, Laredo, TX, to retrofit and update the Laredo Police Department Headquarters Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning System (HVAC) in the amount of \$312,904.00. This system will convert twenty (20) AC units to the newest refrigerant and update them to a digital AC communication system. Funding is available in the Laredo Police Department General Fund Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

PUBLIC WORKS: STAFF SOURCE JOHN ORFILA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

36. Consideration to renew annual supply contract number FY16-068 with Emperor Services LLC, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$739,600.00 for the purchase of the following paving, and construction materials:

- a. Gravel delivered to Public Works and Utilities Job Site - \$30.00/ton
- b. Gravel picked up by City Trucks - \$20.00/Ton
- c. 3/8" Pea Gravel picked up by City Trucks - \$18.00/ton;
- d. 3/8" Pea Gravel delivered to Public Works and Utilities Job Site- \$26.00/ton;
- e. Flexible Base-Caliche delivered to Public Works and Utilities Job Site- \$16.50/ton;
- f. Flexible Base-Caliche picked up by City Trucks - \$ 7.00/ton

This contract is for the purchase of materials required for all city paving and construction projects. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. This is the third of four extension periods. There was no price increase during the last extension period. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis and funding is available in the Public Works Department, Utilities Department and various construction project budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

SOLID WASTE: STAFF SOURCE STEPHEN GEISS, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

37. Consideration to amend contract FY19-017 by 25% with Toter, LLC, Charlotte, North Carolina, for an increase amount of \$73,358.60 due to an increase in usage. This contract is for the purchase of trash containers and accessories and shall expire on 1/21/20; the new contract total amount will be \$366,794.00. All trash containers and accessories will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Services Department Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

TAX: STAFF SOURCE DORA MALDONADO, TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

38. Refund of property tax in the amount of \$998.75 payable to Corelogic Centralized Refunds due to an erroneous payment. Tax account # 994-01018-080.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

TRANSIT: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIA SAN MIGUEL, TRANSIT DIRECTOR

39. Staff report on the new Neighborhood Urban Circulator Pilot Program that started service on July 19, 2019 in the Mines Road/ Rancho Viejo Subdivision, with possible action.

Claudia San Miguel, Transit General Manager, reported that the Department received the necessary funding for the circulators during the budget workshop, which changes a significant portion of her presentation and report. She asked that this item be resubmitted for the next Council meeting so that she can incorporate the delivery of the new vans. The ridership is not as staff expected so far, but she reminded Council that the vans that are in use are retrofitted El Lift vans which can only carry 10 riders at a time. The first two weeks of this program, there were over 200 people trying to ride, so many passengers were being left behind due to the vans in use. As people were being left behind, word spread and fewer people attempted to use the circulator service. The new vans have sitting and standing capacity for 25 people standing and 25 people sitting. She reported that staff hopes to proceed with a purchase order rather than going through a state contract.

Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, countered that per Charter, the City cannot pay via purchase order for bond payments. Cm. Altgelt asked if he could pay with his District VII Priority Funds and be reimbursed. Mrs. Cabello confirmed that he could be reimbursed via resolution after the beginning of the new fiscal year.

Motion to bring this item back at the next City Council meeting and to bring a resolution for reimbursement of District VII Priority Funds at the October 2019 Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Torres were not present.

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE RIAZUL MIA, UTILITIES DIRECTOR

40. Consideration to ratify the issuance of an emergency purchase order by the Co-Interim City Managers in the amount of \$168,038.65 to Precision Pump Systems, McAllen, Texas for the labor and material to repair a Patterson 24 RHC 2-Stage 10 MGD 600 HP Raw Water Pump at El Pico Water Treatment Plant for the Utilities Department. Funding available in the Water Works Construction Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XI. STAFF REPORTS

41. 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 Auditor's Report.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

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

No action.

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

No action.

42. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct Co-Interim City Managers to authorize staff to install (1) speed hump on the 600 block of E. Plum St., between Cedar Ave and Lexington Ave., under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps, instead of a speed cushion, 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. Total cost is \$2,500.00.

Motion to approve by using District IV Priority Funds.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

2. Discussion with possible action to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Laredo Crime Stoppers, Inc. to provide the police substation in District IV, as the organization's headquarters/office; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Torres reported that the Laredo Crime Stoppers Executive Director reached out to him and Rosario Cabello regarding a possible location for LCS offices. The overhead at their current location is causing financial constraints for the organization. He noted that the police substation in District IV was a viable option. Police Chief Claudio Treviño had been amenable to the substation's proposed use as an office for Crime Stoppers.

Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, confirmed that staff can work with the organization regarding the term of their lease, starting with a year or two and then adding renewal clauses if it works for both parties.

Claudio Treviño, Police Chief, agreed that this arrangement will work, but he requested a week for police to vacate the substation. Mrs. Cabello asked that any agreement for the organization's use of this substation be contingent upon the MOU that the City has with Laredo Crime Stoppers.

Motion to direct staff to enter into a 10-year agreement with Laredo Crime Stoppers to utilize the aforementioned police substation for office use at no cost to the organization and to accommodate the organization with any changes that need to be made to the property contingent to the MOU between the City of Laredo and Laredo Crime Stoppers.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

3. Discussion with possible action regarding the feasibility, financing, location, design and construction of a Municipal Water Park and any matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez)

Cm. Torres noted that a municipal water park has come before Council for the last 25 years; he reminded Council that the City has gone out for RFQs on this project multiple times and sought private business ventures. The feedback from the private sector has been that given the local economy of Laredo, it would be better for the City to build a municipal water park rather than offering a tax abatement to a private investor; the pricing of a private water park would be ten times that of a municipal one.

Noel Valdez of Estrada-Hinojosa, the City's bond counsel, explained that in 2000, the City held a referendum on the arena and included the language "and related infrastructure." The venue sales tax statute defines related infrastructure to include a park. The City later built the baseball stadium to enhance the arena and also included "related infrastructure" in its language, which further lends to a park. He confirmed that the venue statute under the Local Government Code, Section 334, includes parks. This means that the City's venue sales tax can be used to pay for a municipal water park. In 2008, Laredo voters approved using venue sales tax to pay for operations of the arena, baseball stadium, and related infrastructure. This means that venue sales tax can be used to pay for the water park's operations. Mr. Valdez also confirmed that venue sales tax can be used to pay for the design of the water park. He voiced his understanding that the water park will be paid for with money that has already been collected and not tax-exempt bonds.

MPT Balli noted his understanding that Mr. Valdez's explanation of venue sales tax monies towards the municipal water park are specific to this location. This location already has parking to start with, though more parking may need to be added for any overflow between the venues.

Dr. Marte Martinez explained the success of the City of Round Rock's Municipal Water Park, Rock'n River. The original park opened in 2007 with a capacity of 6,000 daily visitors with admission fees of \$5 for children and senior and \$6 for adults. The water park was expanded in 2015 to 16,000 visitors, and daily admission costs are \$5 for children, \$10 for youth and seniors, and \$12 for adults.

MPT Balli noted that expansions are a good idea to attract residents to keep coming back to the park once new features have been added. Another advantage of this location is the number of hotels and restaurants in the area. Dr. Martinez added that the water park provides an opportunity for the number of hotels and restaurants to increase in the area. This location has been designated as an entertainment district, so a water park here makes

logical sense.

Aileen Ramos, Convention & Visitors Bureau Director, presented schematics of other municipalities' water parks along with their average attendance, days of operation, and expenses, as follows:

| | <u>Canyon Park</u> | <u>Round Rock</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Attendance | 38,000 | 100,000 |
| Avg. Daily | 458 | 1,388.89 |
| Days Open | 82 | 72 |
| Operation Expenses | \$371,970 | \$700,000 |

MPT Balli reported that Mayor Saenz, who could not attend today's Council meeting, submitted a letter with his questions and concerns regarding the water park. MPT Balli noted that the letter asks if Council should decide on this matter first or finish the sports complex and/or tennis courts first. Mayor Saenz also asked about putting this matter to a referendum and if an entry fee of \$5-15 would be affordable for Laredo residents.

Dr. Martinez noted that, as an economic driver, it is sometimes difficult to tell if the City is in an economic boom. Teclo Garcia, Economic Development Director, explained that under normal economic development recruitment and projects, a smaller water park is not typically what a municipality tries to bring to the community because there is not a lot of new jobs associated with it, for one. However, in terms of quality of life, this project could be seen as similar to a library or another facility that the City will pay for but considers a service to the community. He agreed that the water park can be used as an attraction to Laredo.

Mrs. Ramos agreed that the water park can be used as an attractive for the City in brochures and marketing depending on the size of the water park or aquatic center. Dr. Martinez initiated a motion to go out for RFQs for the design of a municipal water park to be located adjacent to the Uni-Trade Stadium.

Remy Salinas reported that he previously performed a tremendous amount of research on water parks with the intention of arguing against them. Initially, he did not think a water park would be successful in Laredo. However, his research has proven that Laredo is the perfect location for a municipal water park. He spoke with numerous City Managers and Budget Directors as well as reviewing the budgets of cities that have a municipal water park. The water parks that are not successful are the ones that operated via a private-public partnership; those types of water parks do not work because of the profit variable for the private party. However, the City can decide to pay for the water park and its expansion(s), and eventually, the water park will generate revenue to pay for future improvements. He informed Council that the water park in Richland Hills as built in 1995 and has become a major success story. Since its initial construction of \$7 million, the city has performed \$30 million worth of improvements paid for by the water park's own revenues after paying

off its initial capital outlay. Mr. Salinas cautioned Council not to think too small on this matter. The City has an opportunity that other cities do not, which is that Laredo has a captured audience because it is geographically isolated by the Mexican border and is 150 miles from other Texas cities. He noted that if Laredo prices admission fees just right, given the poverty rate of the community, then the neighboring communities from rural South Texas and Mexican visitors will frequent the water park. Laredoans can have a world class water park provided by the City.

Cm. Vielma voiced her support of this item, noting that it will be very beneficial for the City. She asked about the process moving forward with this decision. She asked if the City could resubmit its application to switch to a 4A/4B taxation. Mr. Valdez confirmed that resubmission of the sales tax conversion legislation bill. He reminded Council that the City's bill was passed by the legislation but vetoed by the Governor. While it is permissible for the City to take this water park to a referendum, it is not necessary because parks are included in the definition of related infrastructure. The only thing that the City has to do with the sports venue sales tax is to build the sports complex. Before converting the sales tax to a 4A/4B, the City needs to meet its obligations by building the sports complex that the citizens voted for.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that since this will be a City-owned park, the City will have some liability for injuries unless the injured party went above and beyond what is considered reasonable. She confirmed that staff will research liability for Council.

Cm. Altgelt noted that the biggest outdoor activity in Texas is birding, followed by hunting. He asked if the City could build a birding center or add birding resources or amenities to this water park. Mr. Valdez stated that if the birding feature were part of the park, then it could be paid for by sports venue sales tax. However, a birding center alone is not likely to be considered related infrastructure. When the baseball stadium was first considered, it had to go to referendum because "stadium" was not originally included in the definition of related infrastructure with the arena. Cm. Altgelt also noted his opinion that the municipal water park should be geared to locals, not necessarily out-of-town visitors.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, confirmed that staff completed a site visit of the Round Rock municipal water park, who are willing to serve as a wealth of resources and knowledge for the City of Laredo going forward.

Gilberto Sanchez, Budget Director, reported that Round Rock sold a couple of bond issues for \$3 million; when the city expanded, they sold another bond for \$6 million. They are expected to do another expansion in the next couple of years. Mrs. Ramos explained that typically in the water park industry, municipalities opens and expands in phases to increase the attraction to the facility. There is an expectation that a water park will be expanded every three to five years. Mr. Sanchez reported that Round Rock just increased its admission to \$10-12 on average.

Juan J. Gomez, Acting Parks & Recreation Director, confirmed that Round Rock did not want their patrons to pay a high admission fee and then not come back for a few months; they geared their admission prices to encourage families to come weekly or biweekly. They performed a study and determined \$12-15 to be an ideal admission fee. The concessions are run by the City, as well, and generate a significant portion of the park's revenues.

Mr. Eads voiced his understanding that municipalities may subsidize their water parks to make it affordable and then generate their revenues through concessions and locker rentals. He encouraged Council to consider maintaining those operations, as the City does not want to outsource that operation and lose the revenues. Cm. Altgelt agreed, noting his recollection that the City built the arena and the baseball stadium, then handed the keys to an outside party.

MPT Balli countered that the arena and baseball stadium are not adequate comparisons given the expertise to secure concerts and events at those venues. However, the City has the expertise to manage a water park. Mrs. Ramos confirmed that Canyon Park and Round Rock's water parks are self-sustainable through their ticket prices and concessions.

Mr. Eads added that these municipalities also pay for the operations of all of their cities' other pools and added an additional \$1 million to their General Fund. He noted that Laredo has 300 days of sunlight; if there is any city that should successfully operate a water park, it would be Laredo. The Round Rock water park is also available for rentals for private events.

Cm. Altgelt if the City of Laredo can operate a large-scale concession. MPT Balli stated his opinion that the City could easily manage this: hamburgers, hot dogs, raspas, popcorn, and nachos. Mr. Salinas added that cabanas around the concessions will be very successful. Mr. Gomez added that the water park also has a souvenir shop.

Cm. Altgelt reminded Council that this water park must be highly-shaded given the necessity in Laredo's hot months. He asked for any data to support attendance estimations, admission fees, and estimated personnel or operational costs. Mrs. Ramos noted that preliminary estimations are based upon comparisons to other cities. MPT Balli added that movie ticket prices and baseball game prices follow an industry standard, and the estimated admission prices for the water park are in line with what Laredoans already pay in town. Admission fees are also for the entire day.

Mrs. Ramos informed Council that Round Rock offers general admission or the entire day, but they offer reduced prices for twilight hours, such as 5:00 p.m. to closing.

Cm. Altgelt asked that Council include the public in the design process so that community feedback guides the design of the water park. He asked if any

mass transit routes would go to the venue. Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma confirmed that there is already a bus route that goes to the baseball stadium.

Claudia San Miguel, Transit General Manager, reported that Route 11 already drops off at this location. She noted that staff could potentially add more buses to that route to drop off visitors to the water park. By that time, though, there will be a circulator in that area.

Mr. Salinas noted that several aquatic design companies have had contact with the City of Laredo since the last RFQ. They informed Mr. Salinas that the RFQ was ambiguous and confusing, which is why many vendors did not respond to it. The RFQ did not have a focus for the vendors to know how to help the City. It did not include a budget to guide their designs, either.

Cm. Torres reminded Council that the water parks that have failed were operated in part by the private sector; they were not municipal water parks. He credited former Council Member Juan Ramirez for planting this seed many years ago, though it may not have been the right time back then.

Cm. Vielma suggested an amendment to Dr. Martinez's motion to instruct management to provide Council with a proposed operational and concessions budget with comparable data. Dr. Martinez accepted the amendment

Motion to instruct staff to go out for RFQs for the design of a municipal water park to be located adjacent to Uni-Trade Stadium and to direct management to provide Council with a proposed operational and concessions budget with comparable data from other municipalities, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to purchase and install security cameras at Bartlett Park for integration with Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) and any other matters incident thereto. Funding contingent upon FY20 Bond approval of District V priority funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

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

1. Discussion with possible action on the construction of a Biblio Tech/Senior Center to be located on the old fire station on 610 E. Del Mar and any matters incident thereto. District Priority Funds will be used for this project. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Nelly Vielma)

Dr. Marte Martinez stated the intention to turn the old fire station at this location into a senior center and Biblio Tech.

MPT Balli noted that at some point this Council approved this facility being used Webb County for a Constable's Office only as Webb County decided that they did not want the building. He asked what happened with that decision.

Steve Landin, Laredo Fire Chief, reported that he spoke with the Constable's Office last week, and they already abandoned their interest. They instead decided to build their office next to the Justice of the Peace office off I-35.

MPT Balli suggested that Dr. Martinez incorporate the change of plans into any motion that he initiates.

Ramon Chavez, City Engineer, confirmed that staff met on-site with the architect to determine if the City can accommodate both the Biblio Tech and the senior center. He presented a conceptual rendering of the interior of the building and the floorplan and reported the estimated cost of \$816,000. Dr. Marte Martinez initiated a motion to proceed with the RFP process and to rescind the initial agreement with Webb County to revert the property back to the City of Laredo for purposes of establishing a Biblio Tech/senior center.

Mr. Chavez recalled that a similar project was done in District V through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Dr. Martinez confirmed that this project would be executed in the same manner.

Rick Soliz of Able City and the Laredo Housing Authority reported that the Housing Authority would provide the preliminary prototype design services; the balance remaining would be covered by the City.

Maria Soliz, Library Director, reported that the resources needed by the Library would depend on the number of hours that the Biblio Tech is open. Currently, one branch is only opened three hours a day and is manned by one person. Staff can use this Biblio Tech for afterschool programs from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with two or three part-time employees working.

Mr. R. Soliz noted that the prototype has progressed pretty far along, and construction will take about six months; he estimated that the building will be ready in 9-10 months.

Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, recommended that Council begin this project in the upcoming fiscal year; staff will be selling bonds which takes two or three months. Starting after the new fiscal year would be best.

Cm. Vielma asked if a general MOU could be drafted since this type of project is occurring across multiple sites. Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that staff would research this request.

Cm. Rodriguez asked why one of the Library branches is only open for three hours a day. Mrs. Soliz clarified that the Santa Rita Express Library is only open for afterschool hours because the Library does not have the staffing to keep it open longer. Mrs. Cabello added the volume in and out of the branch during those hours is very low. Since the branch is in District III, management noted that Cm. Mercurio Martinez can visit and see if there were any potential reuses for this branch.

Mrs. Soliz noted that the statistics for the Santa Rita Express Library have decreased every year since the Library opened the McKendrick-Ochoa branch. Cm. Rodriguez countered that he used to live in the Santa Rita area and knows that the library branch is important there. He asked to be a part of the discussion for this branch along with Cm. Martinez. He reminded Council that the student who recently won recognition for reading the most books over the summer lives in the Santa Rita area.

Motion to direct staff to proceed with the RFP process, enter into an MOU with Biblio Tech, and to rescind the initial agreement with Webb County and revert the property back to the City of Laredo for purposes of establishing a Biblio Tech/senior center.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Torres were not present.

D. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion and possible action to determine Union Pacific railroad easement to be abandoned and revert back to the city.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Department Director, reported that the City has a significant railroad easement and wants Union Pacific to revert the property back to the City. However, the railroad has an active permit for a bridge on Flecha Lane that does not have an expiration date. The State Department sent a letter to the railroad that they have 10 years (five from today) to build the bridge or the permit will be terminated. He noted that staff can work with the City Attorney's Office to see how the City can regain this property.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that there is a perpetual easement on this property. Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, explained that documents he obtained just before the Council meeting show a perpetual easement. He could not confirm how viable this easement is because the

railroad does not have a permit or use for the property anymore. Mrs. Hale requested time for staff to review the matter.

No action taken.

2. Discussion with possible action to enforce the paving ordinance regarding the properties in and around the Las Minas Storage Facility and any matters incident thereto.

Jerry O'Brien of Las Minas Self Storage informed Council that the facility is located at the intersection of FM 1472 and the railroad tracks on I-35. He noted that owners developed the property in 2006 and performed some construction in the area. They are currently adding Phase II of their storage facility. Over the last couple of years, some property around their business underwent construction but nobody is complying with the paving ordinance set by the City. He noted that business owners in the area are trying to utilize a loophole in the ordinance referring to "dead storage" or "dead parking." Mr. O'Brien noted that without paving, the caliche in the area is creating a huge dust problem for his business; there are numerous clients complaining of the dust issue, and some have taken their business elsewhere because of it.

Cm. Altgelt recalled Mr. O'Brien showing him images of wheelbarrows full of dust. Mr. O'Brien noted that his business is constantly having to sweep and respond to the dust collecting throughout his property and among his neighbors. It seems as if the "dead storage" language in the ordinance allows businesses to operate outside of the ordinance while Mr. O'Brien's business has routinely complied.

Victor Linares, Acting Building Director, confirmed that staff has received complaints from El Dorado Court regarding dust control. Different lots have different stories as to why they do or do not have a permit. He explained that dead storage defines storage of vehicles or equipment for 30 days. The drawback of dead storage is that those businesses are not required to pave with asphalt or concrete but instead weaker materials like caliche or black tar.

Cm. Altgelt voiced his understanding that storage facilities or businesses whose vehicles are more transitory in nature must pave their lots with concrete or asphalt. Mr. Linares agreed, noting that the supposed loophole in this ordinance is the use of the term "dead storage." Certain businesses use "dead storage" as a way to bypass this paving requirement. The strain on the Building Department is tracking the movement of the vehicles to ensure that they are truly being stored for a minimum of 30 days. Cm. Altgelt voiced his opinion that this "loophole" becomes unenforceable and asked for a solution.

Mr. Linares suggested that staff coordinate with stakeholders before eliminating the dead storage allowance and standardizing the paving requirements. He noted that some dead storage business owners do actually comply with the ordinance.

Cm. Altgelt noted that the ordinance gives the business owners five years to comply with the ordinance and asked for clarification. Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, clarified that the five-year period is not for new parking lots; the language was for preexisting parking lots that were established prior to the ordinance. This language grandfathered those lots and gave them five years to come into compliance. Any new parking lot coming in after this ordinance was adopted must comply immediately. She noted, though, that parking lots with dead storage are still required to have a 10-foot wall and voiced her understanding that the businesses in question are not in compliance with that requirement.

MPT Balli reminded Council that their power is to create, repeal, and amend ordinances, but not to enforce them. He cautioned Cm. Altgelt to tread carefully with this discussion.

Mr. Linares agreed that the dead storage language of this ordinance leads to businesses taking advantage or misusing the allowance. He suggested that the City either remove the language entirely or more strictly enforce the language and have construction testing on a certain cycle or schedule for reporting back to the Building Department. There are other options, but he agreed that the language is problematic as worded.

Cm. Altgelt initiated a motion to remove the language regarding “dead storage” from the paving ordinance and attempted to amend then language from five years to 90 days regarding compliance. Mrs. Hale reminded Council that the five year language only applied to parking lots that were in effect before the ordinance was adopted; therefore, five years does not apply to any business in the City. It is moot. Mr. Linares noted that since the ordinance language creates so much confusion, removing Section (3) along with the “dead storage” language may be helpful. Cm. Altgelt amended his motion accordingly.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, noted that this directive does not include any stakeholder input. Management is able to move forward with the directive, but it will born from Council and not public engagement. Cm. Altgelt agreed but noted that District VII lives every day with diesel exhaust and dust pollution; the least that Council can do is mitigate dust pollution as it is the main air contaminant.

Mr. Linares assured Council that the Building Department has been aggressively trying to enforce this ordinance in this and other areas, including warnings, citations, and reports of findings in Council’s Friday packets. These citations go to the Municipal Court and, if unsatisfied, injunctions are served.

Cm. Altgelt reminded Council that amending this ordinance does not fix the problem; the solution is forthcoming in a new motion after this one is addressed.

Cm. Rodriguez asked about cost comparisons for paving lots with concrete

versus caliche; Mr. Linares could not confirm costs per square footage but noted that caliche is much more affordable. Cm. Rodriguez agreed that paving must be done but should be affordable for small business owners; asking small businesses to repave in 90 days is a big ask.

Mrs. Hale noted that the ordinance amendment would apply to future businesses and lots.

Motion to amend the paving ordinance by eliminating Section (2) and any reference to “dead storage” and its regulation as well as eliminating Section (3) Time Limitations and Compliance, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

Cm. Altgelt noted that under public nuisance statutes, the City is compelled to do something as it relates to the businesses generating the large amount of dust in the affected area. Mr. O'Brien reminded Council that the businesses generating the dust were given their permits two years ago, so they certainly were not grandfathered in with the current ordinance language. How these businesses were given certificates of occupancy without having properly completed their construction bewildered him.

Cm. Altgelt noted that he and Mr. Linares met earlier to brainstorm solutions, such as silt fencing or other mechanism; all solutions came back to the businesses being subject to common law public nuisances to the surrounding businesses and the residents downwind. Mrs. Hale added that the 10-foot fence that was supposed to be erected was meant to mitigate the dust; however, she noted that the fence was never erected, meaning that the business owner is still in violation of Section (2) of this ordinance. He should be cited for being in violation of the ordinance.

Mr. Linares confirmed that the business owner has been cited three times in the last three weeks for every lot not in compliance. Each citation is still pending its Municipal Court date. Mrs. Hale noted that simultaneous to and separate from the Municipal Court results, the City can seek injunctive relief against the business as it is a public nuisance. Cm. Altgelt initiated a motion to this effect.

Mr. O'Brien noted that Cm. Altgelt has been very responsive to his complaints; he added that given the amount of dust generated by this owner, a 10-foot wall will not do much to solve the problem. He asked that the City commit to following up with this action.

Motion to direct management to initiate a public nuisance lawsuit for injunctive relief to compel the business owner to comply with the paving ordinance and

to add a status update at the next Council Meeting to report the result of the Municipal Court action on this matter, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

3. Presentation by TxDOT on Mann Road exit, with possible action and any matters incident thereto.

Cm. Altgelt reminded Council that there have been a series of accidents along Mann Road as drivers exit I-35 to go to the Mall Del Norte or leaving the mall and trying to merge northbound. Accidents occur almost weekly.

Rafael Guzman, TxDOT District Traffic Engineer, explained that there are two groups of drivers on Mann Road; one is the group of drivers exiting onto Mann Road from I-35, and the other group is drivers exiting the mall or driving up the access road and attempting to turn right onto Esperanza Drive. Most people turning onto Esperanza Drive seem to be trying to get to the mall.

MPT Balli asked about the possibility of reversing the two ramps onto and off of I-35. Placing the southern entrance ramp instead be the exit ramp for people trying to get to the mall and turning the northern exit ramp into the entrance ramp for people leaving the mall and trying to get onto the highway follows a logical traffic pattern.

Mr. Guzman noted that TxDOT must implement an immediate, if temporary, solution to this problem. Together with Traffic Safety staff, TxDOT developed a delineation system of posts with a three-inch curb to keep drivers exiting onto Mann Road in the left lane for a longer period of time. It will be installed this week.

MPT Balli voiced his opinion that this temporary solution may cause more congestion at Calton Road, where they should be exiting if they are trying to get to the mall. He did not disparage the solution but simply noted a possible consequence.

Mr. Guzman noted that TxDOT has also considered closing Esperanza Drive or converting it into a one-way street to alleviate the situation as well. The few people coming down Esperanza to merge onto the highway will have some trouble with the delineation system to be put in place. However, he noticed that there is very little traffic coming out of Esperanza Drive.

MPT Balli voiced his opinion that the delineation markers might actually make it more difficult to turn onto Mann Road; lines will queue up, maybe even onto the highway. Mr. Guzman countered that the queues seen by TxDOT usually do not extend that far. He reiterated that the delineation system will only be in

place temporarily until TxDOT either closes or converts Esperanza Drive; following that, TxDOT will remove the delineation.

Cm. Vielma noted that this is the exit she takes to get home, and she has had two car accidents at this location. It is already very difficult to merge to the right to turn onto Mann Road from I-35. She agreed with MPT Balli's comments and asked about opening the right-of-way to make two right-turn lanes at that intersection so that the cars can better fan out.

Mr. Guzman voiced his professional opinion that Esperanza Drive is too close to the ramp, which makes closing it a viable solution.

Cm. Torres noted the potential to create even more congestion between Mann Road and the mall, which will impact many business owners in the area.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, reminded Council that TxDOT is attempting to fix this problem in steps, the first being the delineator poles. Adjustments will be considered and made as needed.

Regarding Esperanza Drive, Dr. Marte Martinez asked if there will be any problems with the mall having access through that street. Mr. Eads could not speak to that question but noted that in other growing cities, drivers often use intersections to backpedal back to their destinations, such as using Esperanza Drive to get to the mall rather than using the Calton Road exit. Laredo is growing into this pattern.

Cm. Altgelt reminded Council that the top priority in this matter is driver safety. He also noted that residents near the mall do not want their neighborhoods to be conduits for mall access. He agreed to the delineation system as proposed by Mr. Guzman.

MPT Balli noted that if the exit ramp were a little further south and have a stop sign rather than a yield sign for drivers on the on-ramp, then drivers could take the exit and have direct access to the mall. Cm. Mercurio Martinez disagreed, reminding Council that drivers are speeding up to get onto I-35 while those exiting are decreasing their speed. To have these conflicting driving habits within such a short distance on the interstate could likely cause worse accidents than what is happening on Mann Road now.

Mr. Guzman stated that reversing the ramps would be a long-term solution rather than something that can be done right now. Cm. Altgelt requested adding this item to the next MPO agenda. Mr. Guzman reiterated that TxDOT will install the delineation system this week.

No action taken.

E. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action to add a roof or other cover to the inner-city pool and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

MPT Balli noted that it was brought to his and Cm. Torres's attentions that the local pools, though nice, are not suitable for race training, meaning that local athletes are having to go out of town to use adequate pools. This item was added to the Council agenda as a way to support local athletes.

Victor Treviño, triathlete, reported that he swims with local group Laredo Triathlon Association, and there is no covered pool option for the few months where the weather makes it too cold for swimming in Laredo. Athletes have to patronize other venues, even crossing into Nuevo Laredo to use their facilities. He informed Council that an easy solution for this problem is an inflatable structure that costs about \$9-\$15 per square foot, which is economic compared to the cost of building an indoor pool facility. Much of the City's infrastructure is already in place for an inflatable cover. He informed Council that he will swim the English Channel next year, and a cover such as this will help him train for that event. Other members of the community will also be able to make great use of a cover such as this.

Juan J. Gomez, Acting Parks & Recreation Director, informed Council that the inflatable cover takes about a day to set up with six people and is durable enough to be put up and taken down as many times as the City wishes. It will cost about \$60,000 and comes with blowers and heaters so that staff can regulate the ambient temperature inside.

Cm. Torres stated that this cover will not only benefit athletes but also senior citizens who participate in water aerobics throughout the year. As the inner-city pool falls between District IV and District VIII, Cm. Torres stated that he and MPT Balli agreed to pay the costs evenly.

Motion to instruct management to purchase an inflatable pool cover as presented using District IV and District VIII Priority Funds.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

Mr. Gomez confirmed that the cover can be delivered by the end of November.

F. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to add lights on the Hike & Bike Trail at Independence Park and any matters incident thereto.

Juan J. Gomez, Acting Parks & Recreation Director, reported that staff is still meeting with Cm. Gonzalez regarding his specifications; there is not a presentation ready at this time. He asked that this item be brought to the next Council meeting.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding the potential availability for financing for the construction to fully turf both baseball fields located at Independence Hills Park and any matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

Upon Cm. Gonzalez's return, this item was brought back before Council.

Cm. Gonzalez reported that fully turfing the fields at Independence Hills Park was going to cost about \$1.1-1.2 million. He asked if Council would support turfing one field for now for about \$500,000.

Rosario Cabello, Co-Interim City Manager, reminded Council that staff has \$500,000 available in its bonding capacity that can be used towards artificial turf in one of the park's fields.

Motion to approve \$500,000 in bond monies to artificially turf one of the fields in Independence Hills Park.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

G. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Update regarding co-sponsoring the Miller Lite Conciertos 2019 at Uni-trade Stadium on October 18, 2019 with possible action; and any matters incident thereto.

Cm. Rodriguez clarified that this event will be held inside the facility now that the City is installing the soft surface. He noted that the City is not waiving its fees.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, confirmed that Miller Lite will pay for any additional costs that may be incurred for moving this event indoors.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma were not present.

H. Request by Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III

1. Discussion with possible action to include sidewalks on the 200 block of S. Loring (east side) and to circumvent any shade trees and any matters incident thereto.

Motion to approve with District III Priority Funds.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez was not present.

XV. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.