

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M-2014-R-06  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
APRIL 21, 2014  
5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Mayor Raul G. Salinas called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Raul G. Salinas led in the pledge of allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

|                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Raul G. Salinas,      | Mayor                          |
| Mike Garza,           | District I                     |
| Esteban Rangel,       | Mayor Pro-Tempore, District II |
| Alejandro Perez, Jr., | District III                   |
| Roque Vela, Jr.,      | District V                     |
| Charlie San Miguel,   | District VI                    |
| Jorge A. Vera,        | District VII                   |
| Cynthia Liendo,       | District VIII                  |
| Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  | City Secretary                 |
| Carlos Villarreal,    | City Manager                   |
| Cynthia Collazo,      | Deputy City Manager            |
| Horacio De Leon,      | Assistant City Manager         |
| Jesus Olivares,       | Assistant City Manager         |
| Raul Casso,           | City Attorney                  |

Motion to excuse Cm. Narvaez, Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Garza.

Moved: Cm. Vera

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza joined the meeting at 5:50 pm.

Cm. San Miguel joined the meeting at 5:55 pm.

#### **IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of April 7, 2014.

Motion to approve the April 7, 2014 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

#### **V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

##### **Communiqués**

- a. Presentation of Barbara Fasken Recreation Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Cm. Vera stated that Mines Road was in dire need of a recreation center, a library and a senior center. He said that in the past three weeks since opening, there were already over 1,000 registered at the recreation center, 900 at the library, and 26 seniors already in the senior center. He concluded that they were at full capacity and might need to hire more individuals. He showed a video of the ribbon cutting ceremony.

##### **Recognitions**

- a. Recognizing the United Middle School Maverettes Dance Team for their Marching Auxiliaries National Championship at Fort Worth, Texas.

Mayor Salinas and City Council recognized United Middle School Maverettes Dance Team members Vanessa Arizpe, Marcela Ayala, Andrea Bolanos, Alyssa Caballero, Karla Caballero, Patricia Diaz, Sandra Duque, Cassandra Escobedo, Genesis Flores, Chelsea Fuentes, Mia Fuentes, Magaly Gallager, Andrea Garcia, Samira Garcia, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Cynthia Gutierrez, Karime Hinojosa, Natalia Jimenez, Jade King, Alejandra Martinez, Mariana Martinez, Kamila Mascareno, Natalia Mendiola, Amanda Patino, Kendra Pena, Amanda Ramirez, Bianca Ramirez, Becca Reyes, Alyssa Salazar, and Alexa Salinas and presented them with certificates of recognition.

- b. Recognizing the United South High School Boys Basketball Team for winning the District Championship.

Mayor Salinas and City Council recognized United South High

School Boys Basketball Team members Mario Vargas, Noe Trevino, Eddie Trevino, Eric Serrano, Mario Mata, Ricky Cantu, Kike Garza, Raul De Leon, Tony Gonzalez, Isaac Cabello, Louie Ibarra, Carlos Talamante, Jerry Lopez, Marcelo Silva, Jonathan Bravo, Eli Quiroga, Chris Leal, and Austin Solis and presented them with certificates of recognition.

**Citizen comments**

Tonie Gamboa of Leadership Laredo extended an invitation to the inaugural Dog Bowl which will be held on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the L.I.S.D. Civic Center Grounds.

**VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

- a. Creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee for the naming of a building, street or other city facility in memory of Cesar Chavez.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. City Council nominations with confirmation by the City Council to the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) Board of Directors.

Motion to appoint David Arredondo to the RMA Board of Directors as per Cm. Vela and Cm. San Miguel.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to appoint Enrique S. Valdez to the RMA Board of Directors as per Cm. Liendo and Cm. Vera.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to recommend Steve LaMantia as chairman to the RMA Board of Directors as per Cm. Garza and City Council.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Cynthia Liendo of Janie Coss Martinez to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Janie Coss Martinez to the Laredo Commission for women.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- d. Appointment by Council Member Cynthia Liendo of Angie Osterman to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Angie Osterman to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- e. City Manager's appointment to the Civil Service Commission.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that the individual would let them know later on this week.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Bridge System Construction Fund FY 2013-2014 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$477,493.00 received from Texas Municipal League (TML) for the damages caused by Hurricane Alex to the Bridge of the Americas (Bridge I) outdoor lighting. The City had received an initial payment of \$198,868.50 and has recently accepted a final payment of \$477,492.50 for said damages for a total of \$676,361.00. Funds will be used to repair the outdoor lighting at Bridge I. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees) (AS AMENDED)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
Second: Cm. Garza  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 1.84 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", and located at the northwest corner of Aguanieve Drive and Cuatro Vientos Road, from R-1A (Single-family Reduced Area District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District I

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the northeast 3.95 acres, of a 7.91 acre tract, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 8593 Casa Verde Road, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

This is a City supported project and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jed Brown from Brownstone Affordable Housing and Brownstone Construction stated that both were tracts owned by two brothers. They had a proposed development at this location for affordable housing of approximately 152 apartment units at this location. He further stated that they had since submitted an application to TBHCA to find out if they would receive tax credits in that location and would find out its status in the summer.

Martha Rubio, a resident from New Vision Subdivision said that they spoke against this request at the Planning and Zoning meeting. She addressed her disappointment in the process that was involved in this request because as they had prepared to present their opposition, she found that the staff recommendation was not to support the recommended change, but that it was an error. She added that it was explained to her that staff could not go against a resolution by City Council passed earlier in support of public housing. She asked for City Council and Cm. Vela to publicly commit to resolve, address, repair and maintain the inadequate infrastructure that exists on Casa Verde Road including the water pressure issues and issues with sewage.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the southwest 3.95 acres, of a 7.91 acre tract, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 8593 Casa Verde Road, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

This is a City supported project and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 26, Laredo Airport Subdivision, located at 1500 Calton Road, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-3 (Community Business District); Providing for publication and effective date.

This is a City supported project and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jed Brown, representing the Laredo Housing Authority, stated that this was another property that was to be used for affordable housing.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 3 and 4, Block 823, Eastern Division, located at 1414 and 1416 N. Meadow Avenue, from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is not in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Dr. Carmen Rathmell stated that these were her two lots and that she would be adding an office for her daughter who was also a physician.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 5, Block 1082, Eastern Division, located at 620 N. Urbahn Avenue, from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is not in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of the zone change. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Anna Arce, the applicant, stated that she wanted to rezone the lot to place a mobile home there.

Ricardo Godines, 1914 Aldama, stated that he was against the rezoning because they valued being designated as an R-1 and wanted to keep it that way. He found out that the neighbors wanted to put a party house next to the lot.

Sara Mendoza from 2120 Guatemozin said that they wanted to keep the neighborhood as an R-1.



Francisco Mendoza from 2120 Guatemozin also asked that more mobile homes not be allowed into the neighborhood.

Motion to close the public hearing and deny the zone change request.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.859 acres out of a 2.105 acre tract of land out of Block 80, Calton Gardens Subdivision, located at the southwest corner of the intersection of West Calton Road and Gallagher Avenue, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela  
Second: Cm. Liendo  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ron Whitehawk, on behalf of the property owner, reported that the property in question was shown on the corner of Calton and Gallagher; however, the adjoining property to the west was also under the same ownership. He added that they were asking to rezone the balance of the property. They wished to develop a small shopping center and asked for block 80 not to be split zoned; furthermore, there was no protest from the residents of the nearby residential neighborhood.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela  
Second: Cm. Vera  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 118, Block 8, Del Mar Hills, Section 1, Area "A", located at 424 East Del Mar Boulevard, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-O (Residential / Office District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is not in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District VI.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ron Whitehawk, representing the applicant, stated that the property in question was presently occupied by a single family home that had been vacant for some time and the present property owner wished to convert it to an attorney's office. He added that they had canvassed the neighbors.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

### **VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

10. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Trecon Investments Corporation, as LESSEE, for a tract of land consisting of 48,442.25 sq. ft., and located on Block No. 9 at the Laredo Airport, Subdivision Plat being the northwest corner. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on June 01, 2014 plus, two (2) consecutive ten (10) year renewal options. Initial monthly rent shall be \$1,271.61 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index; and rent adjustments based on appraisals at each ten (10) year anniversary period; providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

### **IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

Motion to waive Ordinances 2014-O-046, 2014-O-047, 2014-O-048, 2014-O-049, 2014-O-050, and 2014-O-051.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

11. 2014-O-046 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo to

correct an erroneous designation of B-3 (Community Business District) zoning on Lots 7 and 8, Block 449, Eastern Division, located at 418 and 420 West Bustamante Street, by restoring the original R-3 (Mixed Residential District) zoning as found on the original Zoning Ordinance (Map) of 1983; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-046.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

2014-O-047 Amending the 9-1-1 Regional Administration budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$969,825.00 for program and equipment budgets for Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb and Zapata Counties for the period beginning September 1, 2013 and ending August 31, 2015.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-047.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

2014-O-048 Amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 31, Article III, Division 4, Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plans in multiple sections to include a reduction in the gallons per capita per day consumption (GPCD) from 150 GPCD to 130 GPCD by year 2019 and 110 GPCD by year 2024, a change from 6 stages to 4 stages in the drought contingency plan, one change to the water treatment plant capacity, four changes to the water demand triggering conditions, one change to include a \$20.00 water surcharge to customers using more than 15,000 gallons of water per month during a Stage 4, one change to adopt the same water waste fees from the Water Conservation Plan for Stage 1 of the Drought Contingency Plan, one change to increase the penalty on the Drought Contingency Plan to \$500.00 per violation per day, and one change to establish higher water waste fees for Stages 2, 3, and 4 of the Drought Contingency Plan; providing for publication, severability and an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-048.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

2014-O-049 Authorizing the issuance of the City of Laredo, Texas International Toll Bridge Revenue Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2014 in the estimated amount of \$4,500,000.00 for the purpose of refunding International Toll Bridge System Revenue Bonds, approving an official statement, authorizing the execution of an escrow agreement and making provisions for the security thereof, delegating authority to the City Manager to select outstanding bonds to be refunded and approve all final terms of the bonds, and authorizing amendment to the City's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and ordaining other matters related to the subject.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-049.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

2014-O-050 Authorizing the issuance of the City of Laredo, Texas International Toll Bridge System Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2014 in the estimated amount of \$17,500,000.00 for the purpose of refunding International Toll Bridge Revenue Bonds, approving an official statement, authorizing the execution of a purchase contract and the execution of an escrow agreement, and making provisions for the security thereof, delegating authority to the City Manager to select outstanding bonds to be refunded and approve all final terms of the bonds, and authorizing amendment to the City's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and ordaining other matters related to the subject.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-050.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

- 2014-O-051 Authorizing the City Manager to accept the Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the purpose of repairing the fountain at Bruni Plaza and to amend the FY 2013-2014 Capital Improvement Fund budget by appropriating said funds.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-051.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

## **X. RESOLUTIONS**

12. 2014-R-34 Authorizing the City Manager to execute the renewal of a Clinical Affiliation Agreement between the City of Laredo Fire Department and Laredo Texas Hospital Company, L.P., DBA Laredo Medical Center. Laredo Fire Department provides its emergency medical technicians and paramedic students with clinical training available at Laredo Medical Center. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2014-R-34.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

13. 2014-R-36 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation for the enforcement of Vehicle Occupant Protection during the "Click it or Ticket" Campaign. This grant is for overtime salaries and fringe benefits and is funded 100% by the Texas Department of Transportation. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2014-R-36.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

14. 2014-R-43 Suspending implementation of the planned effective date of the Interim Rate Adjustment filed by Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a Centerpoint Energy Entex and Centerpoint Energy Texas Gas, under §104.301 of the Texas Utilities Code and requiring delivery of this resolution to the company by and through its Director of Regulatory Affairs.

Motion to approve Resolution 2014-R-43.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

## **XI. MOTIONS**

15. Referring the City of Laredo Comprehensive Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission and requiring that a report from the Planning and Zoning Commission with any recommendations be brought back to City Council before the adoption of the budget; in accordance with Article IX, Section 9.03 of the Charter of the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

16. Directing staff to prepare a service plan for the voluntary annexation of one tract of land totaling 3,500.07 acres, more or less, for a total annexation of 3,500.07 acres, more or less, as shown on attachment "A", in accordance with Section 43.052 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

17. Refund of property tax in the amount of \$1,466.63 payable to USA C/O CWSAMS due to an overpayment, Account No. 964-00001-014.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

18. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of March 2014, represents a decrease of \$240,670.18. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

## **XII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Motion to approve all Consent Agenda items.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

### **XII (a) RESOLUTIONS**

19. 2014-R-38 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application, if offered, to the Federal Aviation Administration in the

approximate aggregate amount of \$8,000,000.00 to Rehabilitate General Aviation Apron (Phase 8), Rehabilitate Airport Terminal Apron, Install Security Fencing to include installation of gate access controls, acquire vacuum sweeper, and design for Taxiway G extension and design rehabilitation of General Aviation Apron (Phase 10); and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents resulting from the award. The City's local match in the amount of \$888,000.00 (10%) is available in the Airport Operations Fund Budget.

20. 2014-R-39 Authorizing a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Orbit Real Estate L.L.C., for a proposed commercial project located at 1010 Juarez Ave., Lot 3, Block 170, Western Division that consists of rehabilitation of the existing professional offices, 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 rehabilitation improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$80,500.55, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$512.79 and estimated total fee waivers of \$1,342.50. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.
21. 2014-R-40 Authorizing a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Roberto Vela for a proposed commercial project located at 1920 San Bernardo Ave., Lot 5, 6, 7, 8, (N 2 vs.) of Lot 3 & 0.0762 R.O.W. Block 479, Western Division that consists of ten (10) new professional offices and retail use, 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 \$836,500.89, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$5,328.51 and estimated total fee waivers of \$3,936.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.
22. 2014-R-035 Declaring the public necessity to acquire the "surface only" of two (2) parcels of land for public safety visibility improvements at the intersection of Shiloh Drive and Backwoods Drive. Said parcels of land being more particularly described as follows:



Tract 1: a tract of land containing 1,244.63 square feet more or less, out of Lot 6, Block 6, Shiloh Crossing Subdivision, Phase 2. Tract 2: a tract of land containing 404.23 square feet more or less, out of Lot 7, Block 6, Shiloh Crossing Subdivision, Phase 2. Each tract of land is further described by metes and bounds and boundary surveys provided as Exhibits A and B. Further requesting authorization for staff to negotiate with property owners for the acquisition of said tracts by purchase at their market values established by an Independent State Certified Appraiser and further authorizing staff to initiate condemnation proceedings to acquire one or more parcels should staff be unable to acquire due to the inability to agree to a purchase price, conflict of ownership, owner refusal to sell and/or inability to locate the listed owner. Funding is available in the 2010 Utilities Sewer System Revenue Bond.

23. 2014-R-37 Declaring the public necessity to acquire the "surface only" of four (4) parcels of land in support of the West Laredo Corridor-Phase II realignment of Las Cruces Drive and Flecha Lane. This project will help address existing concerns with traffic, drainage and public safety in the immediate area. The parcels needed for Right of Way are described as follows: Tract 1: A 391.66 square foot tract of land more or less, out of a called 1.486 acre tract being described as Lot 1, Block 1, R.C. Trust Plat, recorded in Volume 20, Page 30, Webb County Plat Records. Tract 2: A 318.93 square foot tract of land and a 1,628.22 square foot tract of land more or less, out of Lot 1, Block 1, Belinda Plat, recorded in Volume 10, Page 80, Webb County Plat Records. Tract 3: A 23,641.06 square foot tract of land more or less, out of a 2 acre tract of land recorded in Volume 1927, Page 53, Webb County Deed Records and Tract 4: A 41,935.05 square foot tract more or less out of a 1.8267 acre tract of land recorded in Volume 624, Page 486 and Volume 637, Page 94, Webb County Deed Records. Tracts are further identified in attached Exhibits 1-4. Further requesting authorization for staff to negotiate with property owners for the acquisition of said tracts by purchase at their market values established by an Independent State Certified Appraiser and for staff to initiate condemnation proceedings to acquire one or more parcels should staff be unable to acquire due to the inability to agree to a purchase price, conflict of ownership, owner refusal to sell and/or inability to locate the owner. Funding is available through the West Laredo Corridor - CPL II grant in the Capital Improvement Fund.
24. 2014-R-32 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount

of \$763,195.00 to fund the Laredo Police Department HIDTA Task Force (formally known as Financial Task Force) and a grant in the amount of \$47,600.00 to fund the Rio Grande Valley (formally known as STX Public Corruption HIDTA Task Force). Both grants are funded by the Executive Office of the President, Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) at no cost to the City. Funding will be used to pay personnel salaries, fringe benefits, overtime, travel and operating expenses from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Funding for the Rio Grande Valley Financial HIDTA Task Force will be used for payment of fringe benefits, overtime, and operating expenses from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

25. 2014-R-42 Declaring a public necessity to utilize the area under IH-35, between Ugarte Street and Chicago Street, as a parking area on Sunday, April 27, 2014, for the First Annual Paseo en La Avenida San Bernardo event and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Texas Department of Transportation for the use of said property.

## **XII (b) MOTIONS**

26. Discussion with possible action to ratify the Piano Custodial Agreement entered into by the City of Laredo and the Laredo Center for the Arts for the care and custody of the City's 1964 Steinway medium grand piano Serial Number 386884D formerly stored at the Laredo Civic Center.
27. Consideration to award a contract to sole source provider, Transcore L.P., for the purchase of 5,000 Automatic Vehicle Identification (A.V.I.) sticker tags as part of the Laredo Bridge System Toll Collection System in an amount not to exceed \$62,500.00. Funding is available in the Bridge System Fund.
28. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest bidder, ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$63,930.00 for the Bartlett Avenue Sidewalks (Hillside Road to Gale Street) with a construction contract time of thirty (30) working 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 June 2014. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund.
29. Consideration for approval of amendment No. 1, an increase of \$48,290.00 to the professional services contract with Castle Engineering

& Testing, L.L.C., Laredo, Texas, for the City Street Connections at State Loop 20 for Lomas Del Sur, Cielito Lindo and Los Presidentes to provide additional laboratory, sampling and testing services of materials for quality assurance. Current contract amount with this amendment is \$73,965.00. Completion date is scheduled for January 2015. Funding is available in the Capital Grants Fund.

30. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1, an increase of \$64,750.00 to the construction contract with AZAR Services, L.L.C., Laredo, Texas, for the Upper Zacate Creek Soccer Complex to include flexible base as part of the contract, which was originally removed from base bid prior to award, additional sidewalk and rip-rap to improve stability of earthen berm along existing low flow channel and to add thirty (30) calendar days to the construction contract time. Current construction contract amount with this change order is \$488,995.70. Completion date for the project is scheduled for September 2014. Funding is available in the 2007 and 2010 C.O. Bond.
31. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) medium duty truck with utility boxes from Santex Truck Centers, San Antonio, Texas in the total amount of \$91,747.00 through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing. Funding is available in the 2013 Contractual Obligation Bond proceeds and the Public Works Department Fund.
32. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract to Miracle Recreations Equipment Company-C/O Park Place Recreations Designs, San Antonio, Texas for the purchase of Custom Mega Tower Playscape for Slaughter Park in the amount of \$164,580.00. This purchase is through the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program Pricing. Funding is available in the Community Development Block Grant 38th Action Year and in the 2008 Certificate of Obligation Bonds.
33. Consideration to award annual service contract FY14-051 to the lowest bidders:
  1. LED Electric and Lighting Contractor, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$150,000.00; and
  2. Castillo Electric & Facility Services, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$50,000.00,for electrical repair services to include, but not limited to: minor repairs, maintenance of various systems, subsystems, and/or equipment devices for various City Departments. All services will be purchased on an as needed basis. Funding will be secured from the user departmental budgets.

## END OF CONSENT AGENDA

### XIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

#### 34. A. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on a partnership between the Environmental Services Department "Keep Laredo Beautiful" Program on a project with Texas Department of Public Safety, Trooper Lugo, at intersection of Cielito Lindo and Highway 83.

Agent Abraham Lugo reported that his Quetzalcoatl project was a nonprofit organization established in 2008 which provided scholarships to the United South high school students of Laredo. He explained that his future plans were to include LBJ High School and start a community mentor project. He concluded that his proposal was to beautify Laredo as people entered it from the south side.

Cm. Garza said that years ago, they had sought and received permission from TxDOT to perform this project but it had never materialized; therefore, this time he wished for Mr. Lugo to visit with city staff to come up with a plan.

#### B. Request by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion of a fee removal/reduction charged at recreational centers for veterans, elderly and disabled people. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Esteban Rangel)

Parks and Recreation Director Osbaldo Guzman reported that the current membership fees were \$50 per year or \$15 per quarter; however, there were two recreation centers, La Ladrillera and Fasken, that allowed free amenities for seniors such as zumba.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that the amount of money going into the center was basically spent on the center itself; if they could bring back a plan that indicated an exception for those who were not financially capable on an as-needed basis, they could come back with a recommendation.

2. Request for time-line on utility work and repavement within the boundaries of the following streets: Seymour Ave., Corpus Christi St., Arkansas Ave. and Gustavus St.

Cm. Perez stated that there were streets that had not been paved in twenty years or more. He asked for a report for the ten to fifteen streets.

Utilities Department Civil Engineer Gloria Perez Saavedra reported that it would take more or less one month to contract an engineering firm, six months for the design, and six months for the construction of the waterline so that resurfacing of the streets would start in June 2015.

Streets to be resurfaced in District III

The table below indicated the reported water line breaks from 2008 to the present.

| Street    | Begin    | End       | Begin | End       | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Total No. of Line breaks per street |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------------------------|
| Musser    | Meadow   | Mainche   |       |           | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 2                                   |
| Fremont   | Loring   | ½ Milmo   |       |           | 1    | 4    | 0    | 2    | 4    | 0    | 11                                  |
| Lane      | Loring   | Mainche   | Milmo | Louisiana | 0    | 1    | 0    | 4    | 9    | 0    | 14                                  |
| Guerrero  | Loring   | Milmo     |       |           | 0    | 2    | 0    | 5    | 1    | 0    | 8                                   |
| Galveston | Meadow   | Mainche   |       |           | 0    | 2    | 0    | 4    | 1    | 0    | 8                                   |
| Garfield  | Meadow   | Mainche   |       |           | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0                                   |
| Laredo    | Bartlett | Milmo     |       |           | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 3    | 0    | 3                                   |
| Market    | Loring   | Louisiana |       |           | 1    | 1    | 0    | 4    | 5    | 1    | 12                                  |

|           |          |                |      |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------|----------|----------------|------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tapeyste  | 1/2 Lane | 1/2 Guerrero   | Mier | Corpus Christi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Texas     | Mier     | Corpus Christi |      |                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Louisiana | Mier     | 1/2 Chihuahua  |      |                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Highlighted areas represent streets that can be resurfaced from data provided.

- Discussion with possible action regarding the collection of nuisance violations from right of way.

Cm. Perez stated that he had taken some pictures of people putting out their junk such as couches and mattresses which would stay for months at a time. He thought that there was a misconception that the city was responsible for picking it up.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they would issue citations. He added that they had used a test case in picking up nuisance items, and it would take four or five crews on a full-time basis to take care of it. He concluded that if he would give them the information, they would cite them.

C. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo

- Status report on the plastic bag ordinance, with possible action.

Cm. Liendo said that the reason she brought this item to Council was because in August of 2013, they had approved a plastic bag partial ban ordinance. She knew that the enforcement date was set for January 2015 and wanted to make sure the public was informed of what exactly that was going to mean. She also stated that she thought they had not chosen a per transaction fee or the weight of the bag. She further mentioned that she had thought that they were going to ban paper bags as well. She wished to push back the enforcement date from one year of the start of the education so that the public would have a chance to get used to it.

Tricia Cortez from the Rio Grande International Study Center gave a

report before Mayor and Council.

No Plastic is Fantastic!  
 Sin Plastico es Fantastico!  
 A winning campaign for Laredo

How many plastic bags are consumed in Laredo each year?

- Laredo consumes an average of 120 MILLION plastic bags each year.  
 (City of Laredo - Solid Waste Dept.)

Question: Paper or Plastic?

Answer: Neither...Go Reusable!!

- Plastic bags are made from petroleum products, requiring millions of barrels of oil.
- Less than 5 percent of plastic grocery bags are recycled in the U.S. (EPA)
- Plastic bags can take up to 1,000 years to degrade.
- They photo-degrade and become smaller toxic particles that harm our environment, wildlife and waterways.

In the United States?

- Families accumulate nearly 60 plastic bags in just four trips to the grocery store.
- In Laredo, they end up everywhere – our trees, sidewalks, fences, creeks, river...along the river bank

| PLASTIC BAG ORDINANCES - U.S. |   |                |             |  |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------|--|
| STATE                         | CITY                                      | PLASTIC BAG    | PAPER BAG   | NOTES  |
| HAWAII                        | ALL                                       | BAN            |             | <i>First state to ban bags (Jan. 2014)</i>     |
| AMERICAN SAMOA                | ALL                                       | BAN            |             |  |
| ALASKA                        | Bethel                                    | BAN            |             | <i>Banned styrofoam food containers</i>        |
|                               | Homer                                     | BAN (2.25 mil) |             |  |
|                               | HoopeBay                                  | BAN            |             |  |
|                               | Western Alaska -- 30 villages/communities | BAN            |             |  |
| ARIZONA                       | Bisbee                                    | Ban            | 5 cent fee  |  |
| CALIFORNIA                    | Alameda County                            | BAN            | 10 cent fee |  |
|                               | Alameda                                   | BAN            | 10 cent fee |  |
|                               | Albany                                    | BAN            | 10 cent fee |  |
|                               | Berkeley                                  | BAN            | 10 cent fee | <i>Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware</i> |

|  |                    |     |                      |  |
|--|--------------------|-----|----------------------|--|
|  | Dublin             | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Emoryville         | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Fremont            | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Hayward            | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Livermore          | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Newark             | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Oakland            | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Piedmont           | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Pleasanton         | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | San Leandro        | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Union City         | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Belmont            | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Brisbane           | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Burlingame         | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Calabasas          | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Campbell           | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Capitola           | BAN | 25 cent fee          |  |
|  | Carmel by the Sea  | BAN |                      |  |
|  | Carpinteria        | BAN | YES                  |  |
|  | Chico              | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Colma              | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Culver City        | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Cupertino          | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Daly               | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  |                    |     |                      |  |
|  | Dana Point         | BAN |                      |  |
|  | East Palo Alto     | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Fairfax            | BAN |                      |  |
|  | Foster City        | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Fort Bragg         | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Glendale           | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Half Moon Bay      | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Huntington Beach   | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Laguna Beach       | BAN | 10 cent fee          | Banned polystyrene<br>(Styrofoam) foodware |
|  | Long Beach         | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Los Altos          | BAN | Fee<br>(unspecified) |  |
|  | Los Angeles County | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |
|  | Los Angeles        | BAN | 10 cent fee          |  |



|  |                        |     |   |  |
|--|------------------------|-----|---|--|
|  | Malibu                 | BAN |   | Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware  |
|  | Manhattan Beach        | BAN |   |  |
|  | Marin County           | BAN |   |  |
|  | Mendocino County       | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Menlo Park             | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Millbrae               | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Monterey               | BAN | 10 cent fee (1st year); 25 cent fee (afterward) |  |
|  | Morgan Hill            | BAN |   |  |
|  | Mountain View          | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Ojai                   | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Pacifica               | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                               |  |
|  | Palo Alto              | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                               |  |
|  | Pasadena               | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                               |  |
|  | Portola Valley         | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Redwood City           | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                               |  |
|  | Richmond               | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | San Bruno              | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | San Carlos             | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | San Francisco County   | BAN | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (July 2014)               | In 2008, 1st large U.S. city to ban bags |
|  | San Francisco          | BAN | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (July 2014)               |  |
|  | San Jose               | BAN | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (Jan. 2014)               |  |
|  | San Mateo County       | BAN | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (Jan. 2015)               |  |
|  | San Mateo              | BAN | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (Jan. 2015)               |  |
|  | San Luis Obispo County | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | San Luis Obispo        | BAN |   |  |
|  | Arroyo Grande          | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Atascadero             | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Grover Beach           | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |
|  | Morro Bay              | BAN | 10 cent fee                                     |  |

|                      |                     |               |  |  |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|--|
|                      | Paso Robles         | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Pismo Beach         | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Santa Clara County  | BAN           | 15 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Santa Cruz County   | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Santa Cruz          | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Santa Monica        | BAN           | Fee (unspecified)                        | Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware  |
|                      | Solana Beach        | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | South San Francisco | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Sunnyvale           | BAN           | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (unspecified date) |  |
|                      | Ukiah               | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Watsonville         | BAN           | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (May 2013)         |  |
|                      | West Hollywood      | BAN           | 10 cents                                 |  |
|                      | Sonoma County       | BAN           | 10 cent fee; 25 cents (in 2014)          |  |
| COLORADO             | Aspen               | BAN           | 20 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Boulder             | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                              | Eff. July 2013   |
|                      | Breckenridge        | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                              | Eff. Oct 2013  |
|                      | Carbondale          | BAN           | 20 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Durango             | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                              | Eff. March 2014  |
|                      | Roaring Fork Valley | BAN 2.25 mil+ | 20 cent fee                              |  |
|                      | Telluride           | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |
| CONNECTICUT          | Westport            | BAN           |  |  |
| DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA | D.C.                | 5 cent fee    | 5 cent fee                               | Eff. Jan 2010. Collects \$1.8-\$2 million per year. Fees go toward the Anacostia River.  |
| IOWA                 | Marshall County     | BAN           |  |  |
| MARYLAND             | Chestertown         | BAN           |  |  |
|                      | Montgomery County   | 5 cent fee    | 5 cent fee                               | Eff. Jan. 2012. Collected more than \$2 million through Nov. 2012. Retailers keep 1 cent. Funds go to County's water quality protection. |
| MASSACHUSETTS        | Brookline           | BAN           |  |  |
|                      | Great Barrington    | BAN           |  |  |
|                      | Manchester          | BAN           |  |  |
|                      | Nantucket           | BAN           |  |  |
| NEW MEXICO           | Santa Fe            | BAN           | 10 cent fee                              |  |

|                |                                 |   |                                       |  |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| NEW YORK       | East Hampton                    | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Larchmont                       | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Mamaroneck                      | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | New York City                   | 10-cent fee<br>PENDING                      |                                       |  |
|                | Rye                             | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | South Hampton                   | BAN   |                                       |  |
| NORTH CAROLINA | Barrier Islands                 |   |                                       |  |
|                | OUTER BANKS<br>Hyde County      | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | OUTER BANKS<br>Dare County      | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | OUTER BANKS<br>Currituck County | BAN   |                                       |  |
| OREGON         | Corvallis                       | BAN   | 10 cent fee                           |  |
|                | Eugene                          | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            |  |
|                | Portland                        | BAN   |                                       | Banned polystyrene<br>(Styrofoam) foodware |
| RHODE ISLAND   | Barrington                      | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                |                                 |   | 40%<br>minimum<br>recycled<br>content |  |
| TEXAS          | Austin                          | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Brownsville                     | \$1 fee per<br>transaction (not<br>per bag) |                                       |  |
|                | Dallas                          | 5 cent fee                                  | 5 cent fee                            |  |
|                | Freer                           | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Fort Stockton                   | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Kermit                          | BAN   | 10 cent fee                           |  |
|                | Laguna Vista                    | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | South Padre Island              | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Sunset Valley                   | BAN   | BAN                                   |  |
| WASHINGTON     | Bainbridge Island               | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            |  |
|                | Bellingham                      | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            |  |
|                | Edmonds                         | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Issaquah                        | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Mukilteo                        | BAN   |                                       |  |
|                | Port Townsend                   | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            |  |
|                | Seattle                         | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            | Banned polystyrene<br>(Styrofoam) foodware |
|                | Shoreline                       | BAN   | 5 cent fee                            |  |

Source: Clean Air Council, Surfrider Foundation; Plastic Bag Ban Report; and several retail industry Websites.

#### Ban vs. Fee

- We supported a ban in Laredo – with exemptions – since this is the

overwhelming trend for cities across the nation and the world to decrease plastic bags.

- The Laredo City Council has instead opted for a fee – making it one of 7 cities in the U.S. to follow this model.
- We wanted to find out and show you what has worked and not worked with fees.

Issue: What type of fee?

- In August 2013, RGISC submitted an Open Records Request to the City of Brownsville.
- We also submitted a Request for Information to the Revenue Office in Washington D.C., and the Finance Office in Montgomery County, MD.
- Here are the results from those 3 requests...

Plastic Bag Fee - City of Brownsville

- Collection of fees and therefore consumption of plastic bags continues to rise significantly in Brownsville.
- From Jan. 2011 to April 2013, Brownsville underwent a 200% increase in fees collected per month.  
Source: City of Brownsville - City Manager's Office, Aug. 2013

Plastic Bag Fee -- Washington, D.C.

- Collection of fees and consumption of bags has remained steady in D.C.
- From April 2010 to June 2013, D.C. underwent a 1.4% increase in fees collected per month.

Source:

District of Columbia's Office of Revenue Analysis - Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Aug. 2013

Number of Bags Used Each Month (Jan. 2012 to June 2013)

- Consumption of bags has remained steady in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Source:

County of Montgomery, Maryland – Office of Finance, Aug. 2013

Conclusion

- Based on the data, RGISC strongly recommends that the City Council adopt a fee-per-bag model like D.C. and Montgomery County, MD.
- NOT the \$1 fee that Brownsville adopted.
- We recommend that City Council adopt a 10-cent to 25-cent per bag fee.
- The Beacon Hill Institute at Suffolk University – which did and

extensive study of the D.C. plastic bag policy – concluded that a fee of less than 25 cents does not effectively change behavior long-term.

**Shared Goal**

We share the same goals:

- Make a change for our children’s sake and future generations of Laredo.
- Get rid of plastic bags from our environment and waterways
- Have shoppers make the switch from paper and plastic to reusable bags.

**Survey Results**

Based on results from:

RGISC-TAMIU Laredo Household Survey

(827 heads of household surveyed, in person, in all 8 City Council Districts):

|  | Yes (%)     | No (%)      | Don't know (%) |
|--|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| a. A city ordinance to <u>ban all</u> plastic bags?  | 48.8        | 36.1        | 15.1           |
| b. A city ordinance to <u>reduce</u> plastic bags?   | <b>81.0</b> | <b>11.0</b> | <b>8.0</b>     |
| c. A campaign to distribute reusable bags?           | 86.7        | 7.7         | 5.6            |
| d. An increase in fines for littering?               | 78.8        | 13.8        | 7.4            |
| e. More trash bins outside of stores?                | 88.5        | 6.6         | 4.9            |
| f. A small fee for using plastics bags at check out? | 43.3        | 48.2        | 8.5            |

**MINIMUM annual costs to the City of Laredo**

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>City Environmental Services</b>  |                    |
| Vaccum truck labor                  | \$160,000          |
| Truck diesel prices                 | \$10,823.0         |
| <b>Environmental SUBTOTAL</b>       | <b>\$170,823.0</b> |
| <b>City Solid Waste</b>             |                    |
| Wind-blown debris pickup (landfill) | \$160,000          |
| Wind-blown debris pickup (downtown) | \$8,352            |
| <b>Solid Waste SUBTOTAL</b>         | <b>\$168,352</b>   |

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$339,175</b> |
| <i>Source: Environmental Services &amp; Solid Waste departments</i> |                  |

Motion to have the \$1 fee per transaction and limit the weight of the bag at 2mil instead of 4 mil and ban paper bags as well.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza said that even paper is not acceptable under the current ban. He added that what we're going to be able to do is something accountable and efficient for the business community. He agreed with a set fee.

Environmental Services Director Riazul Mia said that the ordinance prohibits any bag less than 4mil, but we were not talking about paper bags. He explained that the ordinance had been worked on since 2005 and had gone through the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee, and paper bags had never been mentioned or discussed.

Motion to include a \$1 transaction fee, ban plastic bags below 2 mil, to extend the start date of enforcement of the ordinance until the last day of April 2015, to require that 95% of the transaction fee goes to the city, to include a ban on paper bags, and to make sure that the money collected from the 95% transaction fee goes for environmental purposes only, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

#### **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

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

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

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

35. 2014-RT-001 Authorizing the City of Laredo to accept and execute a grant application with the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, United States of America, in the amount of \$3,304,105.00 for Fiscal Year 2014 Section 5307 Urbanized Area authorized under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) to be used for operating assistance in the El Metro Operations fund and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related documents.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

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

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

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 27 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on April 21, 2014.

---

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  
City Secretary

*No Plastic is Fantastic!*  
*Sin Plastico es Fantastico!:*

A winning campaign for Laredo



April 21, 2014

*Rio Grande International Study Center*





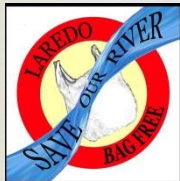
*Zacate Creek*

Photo Courtesy: RGISC

# QUESTION?



**How many plastic bags  
are consumed in Laredo  
each year?**

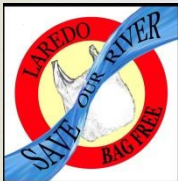


# ANSWER



Laredo consumes an average of  
**120 MILLION**  
plastic bags each year.

*(City of Laredo - Solid Waste Dept.)*



**Question: Paper or Plastic?**

**Answer: Neither...Go Reusable!!**

- ❧ Plastic bags are made from petroleum products, requiring millions of barrels of oil.
- ❧ Less than 5 percent of plastic grocery bags are recycled in the U.S. (*EPA*)
- ❧ Plastic bags can take up to 1,000 years to degrade.
- ❧ They photo-degrade and become smaller toxic particles that harm our environment, wildlife and waterways.

# In the United States?



Families accumulate nearly 60 plastic bags  
in just four trips to the grocery store.



In Laredo, they end up everywhere –  
our trees, sidewalks, fences, creeks, river...



*Photos courtesy:  
City of Laredo Environmental Services Dept.*

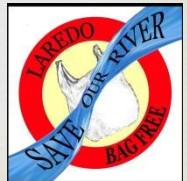


*Photos courtesy:  
City of Laredo  
Environmental  
Services Dept.*



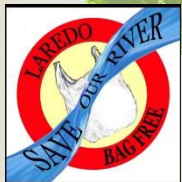


*Photos courtesy:*  
*RGISC*  
*&*  
*Environmental Services Dept.*

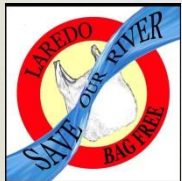




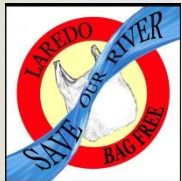
# Along the river bank



*Photo courtesy: RGISC*



*Photo courtesy: RGISC*



*Photo courtesy: RGISC*

**PLASTIC BAG ORDINANCES - U.S.**

| <b>STATE</b>   | <b>CITY</b>                               | <b>PLASTIC BAG</b> | <b>PAPER BAG</b>  | <b>NOTES</b>                                   |  |
|----------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| <b>HAWAII</b>  | ALL                                       | BAN                |                   | <i>First state to ban bags (Jan. 2014)</i>     |  |
|                | <b>AMERICAN SAMOA</b>                     | ALL                | BAN               |  |  |
| <b>ALASKA</b>  | Bethel                                    | BAN                |                   | <i>Banned styrofoam food containers</i>        |  |
|                | Homer                                     | BAN (2.25 mil)     |                   |  |  |
|                | Hooper Bay                                | BAN                |                   |  |  |
|                | Western Alaska -- 30 villages/communities | BAN                |                   |  |  |
| <b>ARIZONA</b> | Bisbee                                    | Ban                | 5 cent fee        |  |  |
|                | <b>CALIFORNIA</b>                         | Alameda County     | BAN               | 10 cent fee                                    |  |
|                |   | Alameda            | BAN               | 10 cent fee                                    |  |
|                |   | Albany             | BAN               | 10 cent fee                                    |  |
|                | Berkeley                                  | BAN                | 10 cent fee       | <i>Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware</i> |  |
|                | Dublin                                    | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Emoryville                                | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Fremont                                   | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Hayward                                   | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Livermore                                 | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Newark                                    | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Oakland                                   | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Piedmont                                  | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Pleasanton                                | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | San Leandro                               | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Union City                                | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Belmont                                   | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |
|                | Brisbane                                  | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |
|                | Burlingame                                | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |
|                | Calabasas                                 | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Campbell                                  | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |
|                | Capitola                                  | BAN                | 25 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Carmel by the Sea                         | BAN                |                   |  |  |
|                | Carpinteria                               | BAN                | YES               |  |  |
|                | Chico                                     | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Colma                                     | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |
|                | Culver City                               | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Cupertino                                 | BAN                | 10 cent fee       |  |  |
|                | Daly                                      | BAN                | Fee (unspecified) |  |  |

| CALIFORNIA<br>(Cont'd) |                    |     |  |  |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----|--|--|
|                        | Dana Point         | BAN |  |  |
|                        | East Palo Alto     | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Fairfax            | BAN |  |  |
|                        | Foster City        | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Fort Bragg         | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Glendale           | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Half Moon Bay      | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Huntington Beach   | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Laguna Beach       | BAN | 10 cent fee  | <i>Banned polystyrene<br/>(Styrofoam) foodware</i> |
|                        | Long Beach         | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Los Altos          | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Los Angeles County | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Los Angeles        | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Malibu             | BAN |  | <i>Banned polystyrene<br/>(Styrofoam) foodware</i> |
|                        | Manhattan Beach    | BAN |  |  |
|                        | Marin County       | BAN |  |  |
|                        | Mendocino County   | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Menlo Park         | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Millbrae           | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Monterey           | BAN | 10 cent fee (1st year); 25<br>cent fee (afterward) |  |
|                        | Morgan Hill        | BAN |  |  |
|                        | Mountain View      | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Ojai               | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Pacifica           | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Palo Alto          | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Pasadena           | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Portola Valley     | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | Redwood City       | BAN | Fee (unspecified)                                  |  |
|                        | Richmond           | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | San Bruno          | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |
|                        | San Carlos         | BAN | 10 cent fee  |  |

|                            |                        |  |  |   |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>CALIFORNIA (Cont'd)</b> | San Francisco County   | BAN  | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents (July 2014)               | <i>In 2008, 1st large U.S. city to<br/>ban bags</i> |
|                            | San Francisco          | BAN  | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents (July 2014)               |   |
|                            | San Jose               | BAN  | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents (Jan. 2014)               |   |
|                            | San Mateo County       | BAN  | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents (Jan. 2015)               |   |
|                            | San Mateo              | BAN  | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents (Jan. 2015)               |   |
|                            | San Luis Obispo County | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | San Luis Obispo        | BAN  |  |   |
|                            | Arroyo Grande          | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Atascadero             | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Grover Beach           | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Morro Bay              | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Paso Robles            | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Pismo Beach            | BAN  | 10 cent fee  |   |
|                            | Santa Clara County     | BAN  | 15 cent fee  |   |
| Santa Cruz County          | BAN                    | 10 cent fee                                    |  |   |
| Santa Cruz                 | BAN                    | 10 cent fee                                    |  |   |
| Santa Monica               | BAN                    | Fee (unspecified)                              | <i>Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam)<br/>foodware</i> |   |
| Solana Beach               | BAN                    | 10 cent fee                                    |  |   |
| South San Francisco        | BAN                    | 10 cent fee                                    |  |   |
| Sunnyvale                  | BAN                    | 10 cent fee;<br>25 cents<br>(unspecified date) |  |   |
| Ukiah                      | BAN                    | 10 cent fee                                    |  |   |
| Watsonville                | BAN                    | 10 cent fee; 25<br>cents (May 2013)            |  |   |

|                                 |                     |               |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>CALIFORNIA<br/>(Cont'd)</b>  | West Hollywood      | BAN           | 10 cents                        |   |
|                                 | Sonoma County       | BAN           | 10 cent fee;<br>cents (in 2014) | 25  |
| <b>COLORADO</b>                 | Aspen               | BAN           | 20 cent fee                     |   |
|                                 | Boulder             | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                     | <i>Eff. July 2013</i>   |
|                                 | Breckenridge        | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                     | <i>Eff. Oct 2013</i>  |
|                                 | Carbondale          | BAN           | 20 cent fee                     |   |
|                                 | Durango             | 10 cent fee   | 10 cent fee                     | <i>Eff. March 2014</i>  |
|                                 | Roaring Fork Valley | BAN 2.25 mil+ | 20 cent fee                     |   |
|                                 | Telluride           | BAN           | 10 cent fee                     |   |
| <b>CONNECTICUT</b>              | Westport            | BAN           |                                 |   |
| <b>DISTRICT OF<br/>COLUMBIA</b> | D.C.                | 5 cent fee    | 5 cent fee                      | <i>Eff. Jan 2010.<br/>Collects \$1.8-\$2 million<br/>per year.<br/>Fees go toward the<br/>Anacostia River.</i>  |
| <b>IOWA</b>                     | Marshall County     | BAN           |                                 |   |
| <b>MARYLAND</b>                 | Chestertown         | BAN           |                                 |   |
|                                 | Montgomery County   | 5 cent fee    | 5 cent fee                      | <i>Eff. Jan. 2012.<br/>Collected more than \$2<br/>million through Nov.<br/>2012.<br/>Retailers keep 1 cent.<br/>Funds go to County's<br/>water quality protection.</i> |

|                       |                                |                            |             |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| <b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>  | Brookline                      | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | Great Barrington               | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | Manchester                     | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | Nantucket                      | BAN                        |             |  |
| <b>NEW MEXICO</b>     | Santa Fe                       | BAN                        | 10 cent fee |  |
| <b>NEW YORK</b>       | East Hampton                   | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | Larchmont                      | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | Mamaroneck                     | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | <b>New York City</b>           | <b>10-cent fee PENDING</b> |             |  |
|                       | Rye                            | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | South Hampton                  | BAN                        |             |  |
| <b>NORTH CAROLINA</b> | Barrier Islands                |                            |             |  |
|                       | OUTER BANKS - Hyde County      | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | OUTER BANKS - Dare County      | BAN                        |             |  |
|                       | OUTER BANKS - Currituck County | BAN                        |             |  |
| <b>OREGON</b>         | Corvallis                      | BAN                        | 10 cent fee |  |
|                       | Eugene                         | BAN                        | 5 cent fee  |  |
|                       | Portland                       | BAN                        |             | <i>Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware</i> |
| <b>RHODE ISLAND</b>   | Barrington                     | BAN                        |             |  |



|                   |                    |                                       |                              |  |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| <b>TEXAS</b>      | Austin             | BAN                                   | 40% minimum recycled content |  |
|                   | Brownsville        | \$1 fee per transaction (not per bag) |                              |  |
|                   | Dallas             | 5 cent fee                            | 5 cent fee                   |  |
|                   | Freer              | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Fort Stockton      | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Kermit             | BAN                                   | 10 cent fee                  |  |
|                   | Laguna Vista       | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | South Padre Island | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Sunset Valley      | BAN                                   | BAN                          |  |
| <b>WASHINGTON</b> | Bainbridge Island  | BAN                                   | 5 cent fee                   |  |
|                   | Bellingham         | BAN                                   | 5 cent fee                   |  |
|                   | Edmonds            | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Issaquah           | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Mukilteo           | BAN                                   |                              |  |
|                   | Port Townsend      | BAN                                   | 5 cent fee                   |  |
|                   | Seattle            | BAN                                   | 5 cent fee                   | <i>Banned polystyrene (Styrofoam) foodware</i> |
|                   | Shoreline          | BAN                                   | 5 cent fee                   |  |

Source: Clean Air Council, Surfrider Foundation; Plastic Bag Ban Report; and several retail industry Websites.

# Ban vs. Fee



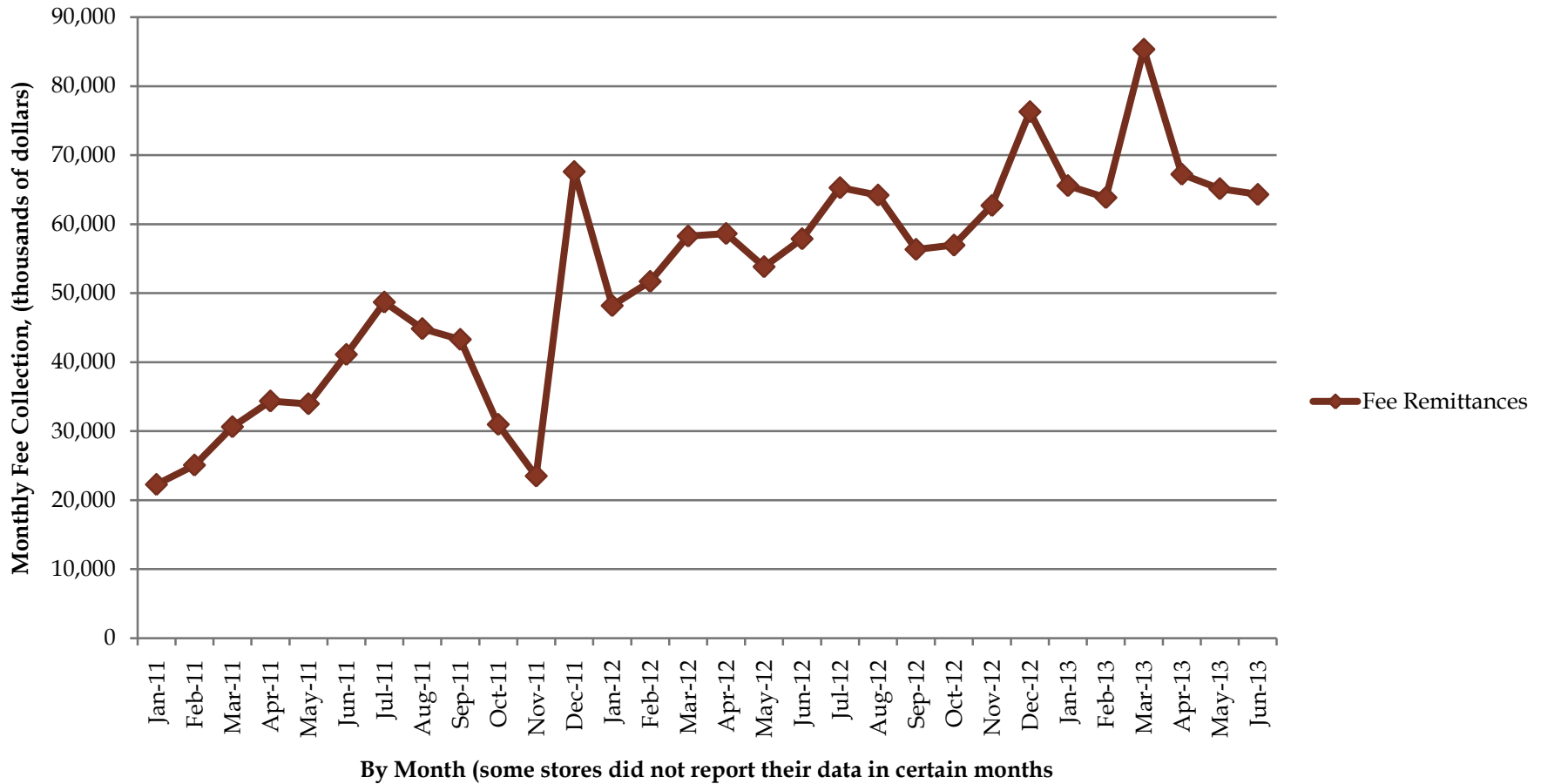
- ❧ We supported a ban in Laredo – with exemptions – since this is the overwhelming trend for cities across the nation and the world to decrease plastic bags.
- ❧ The Laredo City Council has instead opted for a fee – making it one of 7 cities in the U.S. to follow this model.
- ❧ We wanted to find out and show you what has worked and not worked with fees.

# Issue: What type of fee?



- ⌘ In August 2013, RGISC submitted an Open Records Request to the City of Brownsville.
- ⌘ We also submitted a Request for Information to the Revenue Office in Washington D.C., and the Finance Office in Montgomery County, MD.
- ⌘ Here are the results from those 3 requests...

## Plastic Bag Fee - City of Brownsville

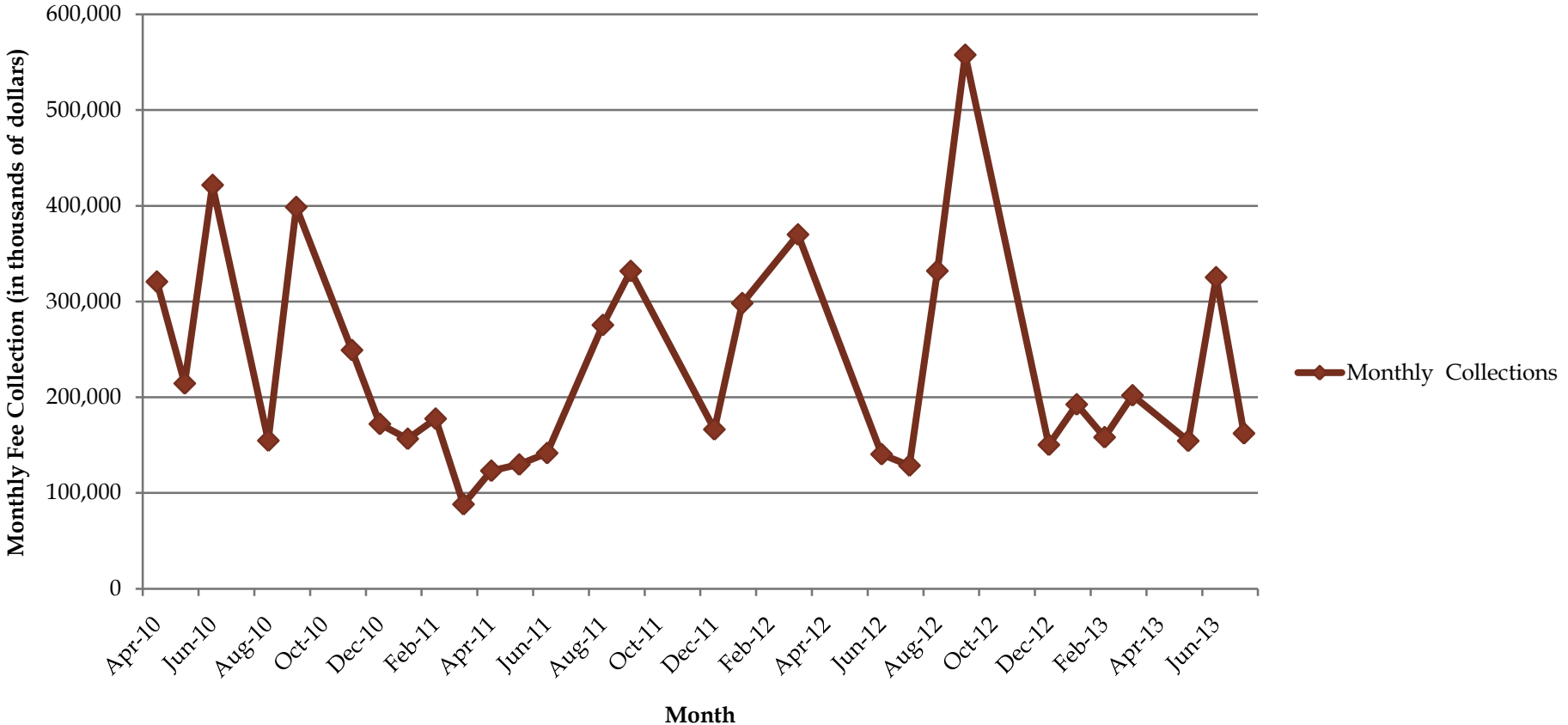


Collection of fees and therefore consumption of plastic bags continues to rise significantly in Brownsville.

From Jan. 2011 to April 2013, Brownsville underwent a **200% increase** in fees collected per month.

Source:  
City of Brownsville - City Manager's Office  
Aug. 2013

# Plastic Bag Fee -- Washington, D.C.

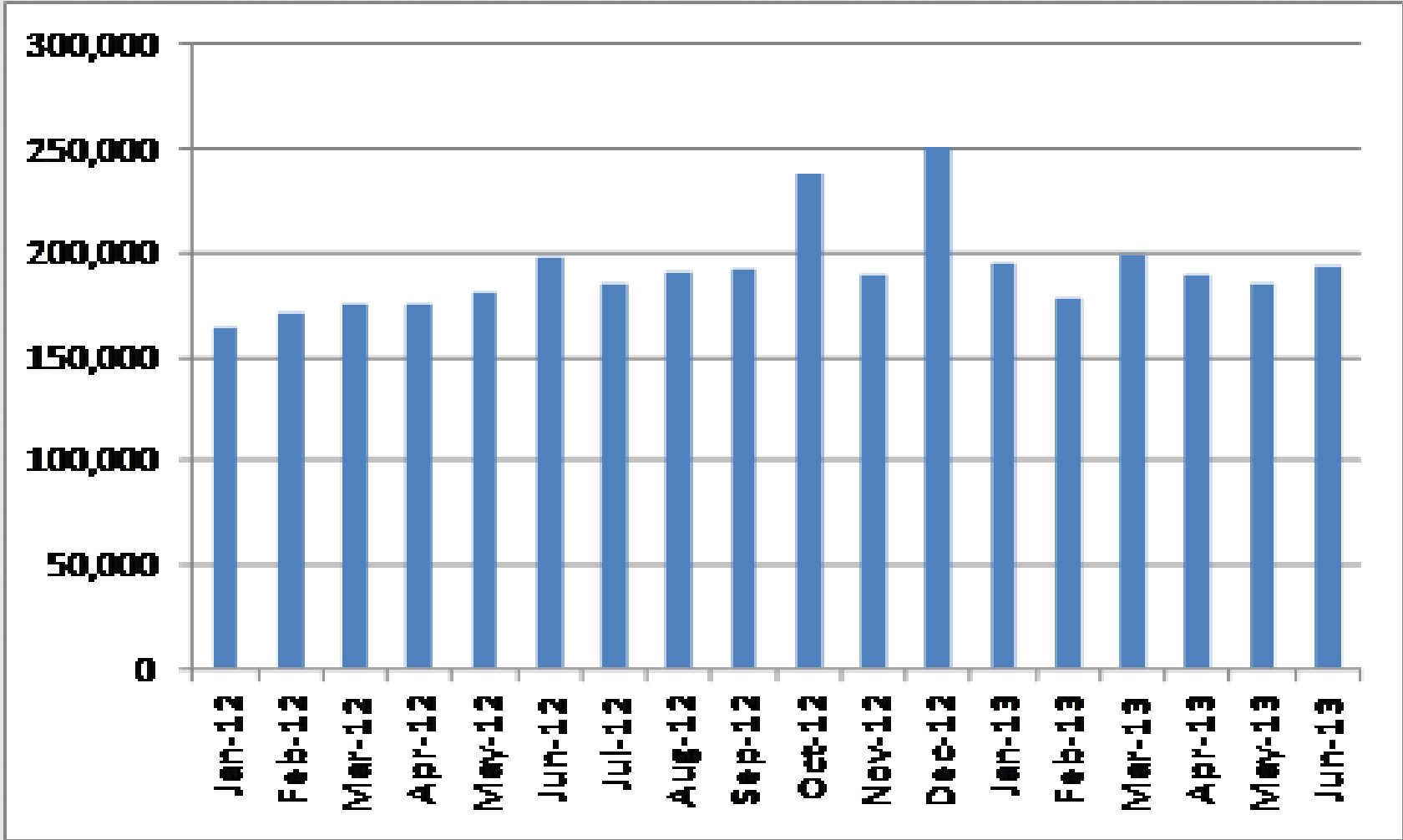


Collection of fees and consumption of bags has remained steady in D.C.

From April 2010 to June 2013, D.C. underwent a 1.4% increase in fees collected per month.

Source:  
 District of Columbia's Office of Revenue Analysis -  
 Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
 Aug. 2013

Number of Bags Used Each Month (Jan. 2012 to June 2013)



Consumption of bags has remained steady in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Source:  
County of Montgomery, Maryland - Office of Finance  
Aug. 2013

# Conclusion



- ❧ Based on the data, RGISC strongly recommends that the City Council adopt a fee-per-bag model like D.C. and Montgomery County, MD.
- ❧ NOT the \$1 fee that Brownsville adopted.
- ❧ We recommend that City Council adopt a 10-cent to 25-cent per bag fee.
- ❧ The Beacon Hill Institute at Suffolk University – which did and extensive study of the D.C. plastic bag policy – concluded that a fee of less than 25 cents does not effectively change behavior long-term.

# Shared Goal

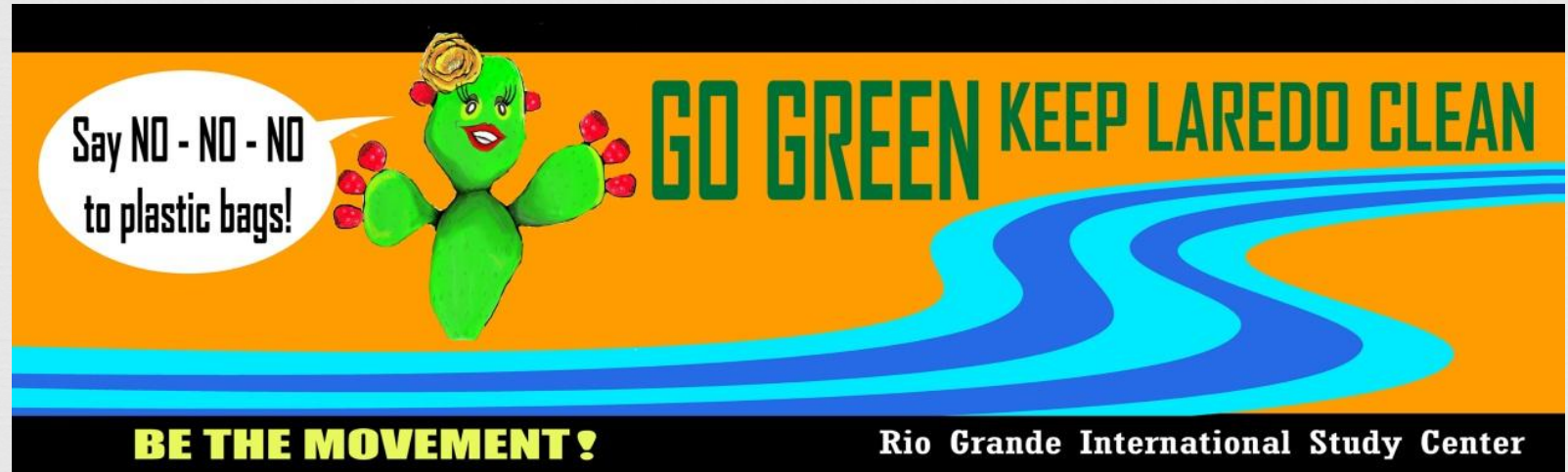


## We share the same goals:

- Make a change for our children's sake and future generations of Laredo.
- Get rid of plastic bags from our environment and waterways
- Have shoppers make the switch from paper and plastic to reusable bags.



# Laredo Plastic Bag Campaign: 2012-2014





# Survey Results

Based on results from:  
RGISC-TAMIU Laredo Household Survey  
(827 heads of household surveyed, in person,  
in all 8 City Council Districts):

|  | Yes (%)     | No (%)      | Don't know (%) |
|--|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| a. A city ordinance to <u>ban all</u> plastic bags?  | 48.8        | 36.1        | 15.1           |
| b. A city ordinance to <u>reduce</u> plastic bags?   | <b>81.0</b> | <b>11.0</b> | <b>8.0</b>     |
| c. A campaign to distribute reusable bags?           | 86.7        | 7.7         | 5.6            |
| d. An increase in fines for littering?               | 78.8        | 13.8        | 7.4            |
| e. More trash bins outside of stores?                | 88.5        | 6.6         | 4.9            |
| f. A small fee for using plastics bags at check out? | 43.3        | 48.2        | 8.5            |

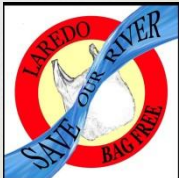
# MINIMUM annual costs to the City of Laredo

| <b>City Environmental Services</b>  |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Vaccum truck labor                  | \$160,000          |
| Truck diesel prices                 | \$10,823.0         |
| <b>Environmental SUBTOTAL</b>       | <b>\$170,823.0</b> |
| <b>City Solid Waste</b>             |                    |
| Wind-blown debris pickup (landfill) | \$160,000          |
| Wind-blown debris pickup (downtown) | \$8,352            |
| <b>Solid Waste SUBTOTAL</b>         | <b>\$168,352</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>\$339,175</b>   |

*Source: Environmental Services & Solid Waste departments*



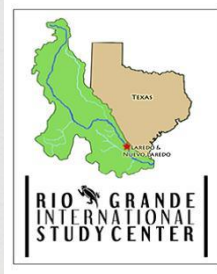
Photos courtesy:  
Environmental Services Dept.



# Thank you



*Photo courtesy: Virginia Palacios*



# Quetzalcoatl Project

US Highway 83

# What is “Quetzalcoatl Project”

- ▶ Non-profit organization
- ▶ Founded in 2008
- ▶ Provides Scholarships to local Laredo students
- ▶ Provides Sponsorships to local Laredo student activities and clubs



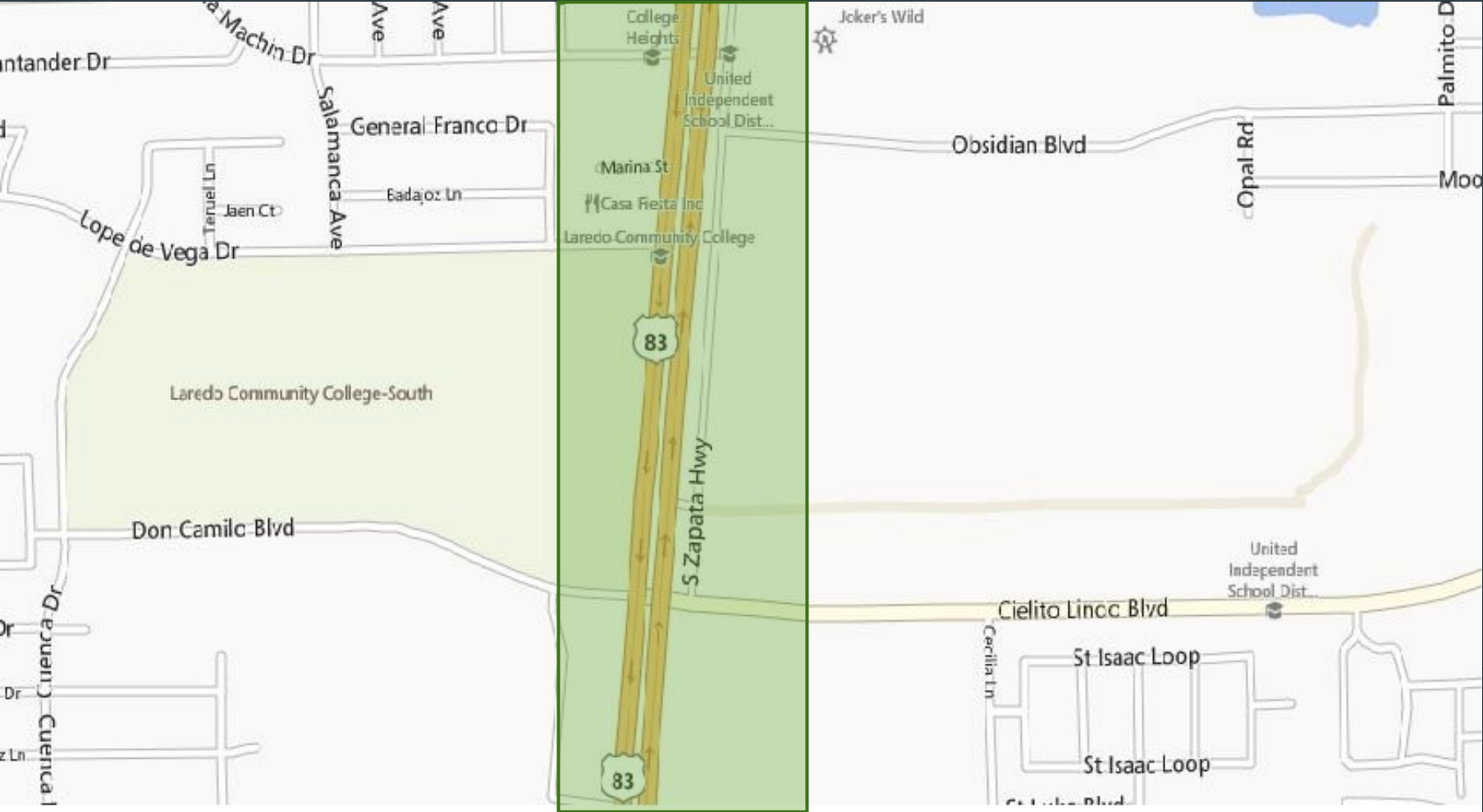
# History

- ▶ 2008-Present: Awarded annual scholarships to United South High School students
- ▶ 2010-Present: Sponsored local youth with registration fees to participate in official USBA regulated amateur boxing matches
- ▶ 2011-Present: Sponsored and assisted the Los Dos Laredos boxing gym to attend the Annual Ringside World Championship Tournament

# Future

- ▶ 2014: 1<sup>st</sup> annual scholarship to be awarded to LBJ students
- ▶ Begin community mentor project

# US Highway 83



# US Highway 83



# US Highway 83

- ▶ Beautification project with South Laredo students
- ▶ Approximately .25 miles of landscaping
- ▶ First view of Laredo when entering the city from the South



# Proposal

- ▶ Begin in phases
- ▶ Select plant life tolerant to local environment minimizing economical setbacks and allowing a higher success rate

# Phase 1

- ▶ Seek guidance from Keep Laredo Beautiful selecting the best probable combination of plant life to succeed
- ▶ Generate operational plan to execute mission goal
- ▶ Maintain notes from Phase 1 to apply and adjust for Phase 2 and future possible Phases

# Exist Plan

- ▶ If the project is deemed unsuccessful I will execute the removal of plant life to eliminate unnecessary cost to the City and return highway to original state prior to project



# Preview of Plant Life

► Red Yucca



# Preview of Plant Life

- ▶ Olive Tree



# Preview of Plant Life

- ▶ Cacti species



# Preview of Plant Life

- ▶ Palm Trees



# Requirements

- ▶ TXDOT regulations
- ▶ City agreement
- ▶ Joint liaison