

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2009-R-17  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009  
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**

In attendance:

Raul G. Salinas,	Mayor
Mike Garza,	Council Member, District I
Hector Garcia,	Council Member, District II
Mike Landeck,	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Council Member, District V
Gene Belmares,	Council Member, District VI
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.,	Mayor Pro Tem, District VII
Cynthia Liendo Espinoza,	Council Member, 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. Garcia.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of September 8, 2009 and September 15, 2009

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second Cm. Narvaez  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **Citizen comments**

United Independent School District Trustee, Juan Molina, Jr., presented his Boys and Girls Scouts before City Council.

Cindy Burdorf

## **V. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2008-2009 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute and appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$258,965.00 from the Texas Department of State Health Services for Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) to provide pandemic planning for prevention, disease control, health promotion and risk communication activities for the term period September 15, 2009 through July 31, 2010; and amending the FY 2008-2009 City of Laredo full-time equivalent positions by adding three (3) full-time positions with benefits. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Valdez  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2008-2009 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute and appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$150,000.00 for continuation of the Office of Border Health-Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS) grant to continue to provide prevention, disease control, and health promotion activities from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the term period of August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2010. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo 2008-2009 Annual Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$139,813.00 and accepting a grant award in same amount from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance is contributing the full grant amount of \$139,813.00 with no match amount required by the City of Laredo. The City of Laredo and Webb County will each receive \$69,906.50. The City of Laredo will utilize this funding for the purchase of equipment for Homeland Security purposes by the Laredo Police Department for the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2012. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against:

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo's FY 2008-2009 Transit System's Capital Grant Budget by \$475,709.00. Ten (10%) percent of the capital funds from the Federal Transit Administration American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant TX-96-X001 will be used to fund El Metro's Operating Expenses. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Chapter 19 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Articles VIII, stopping, standing or parking, Section 19-355, by amending subsection(A) by separating into subsections (B) and (C) and by creating new subsections (A) and (D) through (I), thereby declaring the violation of City Ordinances relating to stopping, standing, or parking to be civil offenses; prescribing civil fines and other civil penalties; authorizing the City Manager to appoint hearing officer(s); providing for administrative appeal to municipal court; providing for the amount and disposition of civil fines, costs, and fees; and authorizing the Municipal Court to collect an administrative appeal cost for each offense appealed to Municipal Court, and to provide for severability, publication and effective date. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Alfonso Ornelas, Municipal Court Judge, noted that as a fellow elected official he was concerned regarding the approval of said amendment. He said that his constituents will no longer be protected or presumed innocent and will become a preponderance of evidence. He encouraged Council to reconsider the approval of this amendment.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a ballroom with alcohol sales on Lot 3, Block 2, Junction Park at Loop 20 Subdivision, located at 804 Los Presidentes Avenue. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit with the following conditions: operation after 1:00 AM Sunday-Thursday is prohibited; operation after 2:00 AM Friday and Saturday is prohibited; and outdoor music and speakers shall be prohibited. District I

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

Gilberto Orozco spoke in favor of the zone change request.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 12, Block 1851, Eastern Division, and 7,716.73 square feet out of Canada Avenue, located at 3002 Clark Boulevard, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Belmares

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Tract 17, D-5 Acres, located at 7092 Los Nietos Street, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Elizabeth Veronica Guzman spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Belmares

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2009-O-050 authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a flea market on Lot 1, Block 1, Ervin Farm, located at 4210 S Highway 83, by amending the provisions. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the amendment to allow for an additional six (6) months from date of final reading to commence the improvements on Phase I, and they have recommended that the following condition be added: provide an opaque fence on the north side of the site. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Landeck

10. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 16-22, Block 1, Santa Fe Subdivision, Unit XII, located at 4517, 4519, 4521, 4523, 4525, 4527, and 4529 Vanessita Court, from B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Landeck

11. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning .70 acres, located south of the proposed extension of Shiloh Avenue and approximately 131 feet north of Fishers Hill Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jesus Longoria, representing the wife, said that he and his wife went before the Planning and Zoning Commission and they received their approval for this zone change. He spoke in favor of the zone change request.

Joseph Crabtree explained that the vote at the Planning and Zoning was originally a 3/3 tied; however, it became sidetracked to a different issue and his side was not well represented. He went on to explain that he was able to obtain and submit the names of thirty six people who are against the zone change request.

Motion to close the public hearing and table the item.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a child daycare on Lot 4, Block 11, Tiara de San Isidro, Unit V, located at 714 Garnet Drive. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit with the added conditions that hours of operation be from 7:30 am—6:00 pm and the maximum number of children allowed under the C.U.P. be twenty-five (25). District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Keith Selman, City Planner, explained that the B-1 allows for office type uses and convenient stores.

Motion to close the public hearing and deny.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for the storage of flammable and explosive products (fuel) on Lot 1, Block 1, United Independent School District Central Administration Complex Plat, located at 501 Eden Lane. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Special Use Permit. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Bob Beisen, Petroleum Solutions; Cesar Trevino, United Independent School District; and Hecor Gomez, Texas Energy Engineering all spoke in favor of the Special Use Permit.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

1. The Special Use Permit is issued to United Independent School District, and is non-transferable.
2. The Special Use Permit is restricted to the activities described in the letter, Exhibit "A," which is made part hereof for all purposes.
3. The Special Use Permit is restricted to the site plan, Exhibit "B," which is made part hereof for all purposes.
4. The Special Use Permit shall comply with all Fire Code requirements including the location and treatment of the premises.
5. Provide a catchment area or a leak detention system around the tank in case of leak/spillage.
6. Provide an enclosed area to contain the above ground storage tank.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Belmares

14. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1, 2, 8, 9, and 10, Block 28, Western Division, located at 1 S Main Avenue, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-3 (Community



Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. District VIII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

## **VI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

Motion to waive the Final Reading of Ordinances 2009-O-116, 2009-O-117, 2009-O-118, 2009-O-155, 2009-O-156, 2009-O-157, 2009-O-158, 2009-O-159, 2009-O-160, 2009-O-161, 2009-O-162, 2009-O-163, 2009-O-164, 2009-O-165, 2009-O-166, 2009-O-167, and 2009-O-168.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 2009-O-116 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an amusement redemption machine establishment on Lot 1, Block 1, Friends Association Subdivision, located at 9110 McPherson Road; providing for publication and an effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-116.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7 Against: Abstain: 0

- 2009-O-117 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for accessory parking on Lot 13, Block 6, Indian Sunset Subdivision Phase 11, located at 12921 Mohawk Drive; providing for publication and an effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-117

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-118 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an amusement redemption machine establishment on Lots 9-12, Block 1, Vista Hermosa Subdivision, Unit III, and Lots 13A and 14A, Block 1, Vista Hermosa Subdivision, Unit IV, located at 5517 McPherson Road, Suites #18 and 19; providing for publication and an effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-118

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-155 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2008-2009 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute and appropriate revenues and expenditures for the continuation of the Local Public Health System-Office of Public Health Practices (OPHP) continuation grant in the amount of \$306,835.00 to continue to provide prevention, disease control, and health promotion activities from the Texas Department of State Health Services and \$256,252.00 in program income for the term period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-155

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-156 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2008-2009 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$187,752.00 in funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services, and an estimated \$22,227.00 from Program Income for continuation of the Health Department-Tuberculosis Elimination Program for the term period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-156

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-157 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2008-2009 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$188,100.00 in funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Health Resources and Services Administration to purchase equipment and software to convert the existing record documents system

into an electronic data management system for the Health Department-Environmental Health Services Division for the term period from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-157

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-158 amending the Laredo Land Development Code of the City of Laredo, by amending Article IV, Zoning Regulations, Section 24.63.2, Permitted Uses, Page IV-11, to amend Child Day Care (7 or more) to Child Day Care (13 or more); and amending Appendix A, Definitions; to delete the definition of Registered Family Home and add the definition of Child-Care Home Types (registered and licensed) and providing for publication and effective date. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-117

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-158

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-159 Amending Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinance in order to adopt the 2009 version of six codes:

1. Adopting the 2009 edition of the International Building Code by amending section 7-1 and 7-2;
2. Adopting the 2009 edition of the International Mechanical Code, by amending section 7-4;
3. Adopting the 2009 edition of the International Residential Code by amending section 7-7;
4. Adopting the 2009 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code by amending section 7-8;
5. Adopting the International Energy Conservation Code by amending section 7-9;
6. Adoption the 2009 edition of the International Existing Building Code, by amending section 7-10;

And providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-159.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-160 amending Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Laredo, entitled Plumbing by amending section 25-3 thereby Adopting the 2009 edition of the International Plumbing Code, Amending section 25-6 International Fuel Gas Code, thereby adopting the 2009 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code, amending section 25-7 Private Disposal Code, thereby adopting the 2009 edition of the International Private Sewage Disposal Code; and repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinance in conflict therewith; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-160.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-161 to adopt the proposed Annual Budget for fiscal year 2009-2010 by appropriating the proposed revenues, expenditures and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 2009 and ending September 30, 2010, consistent with the financial plan described in said Annual Budget (see Exhibit A) and motions approved by City Council (see Exhibit B) and authorizing the City Manager to implement said Annual Budget. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to waive the final reading of 2009-O-161.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve 2009-O-161 as amended by City Manager Carlos Villarreal's recommendation to add an additional \$41,000 for the Animal Shelter.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider the adoption of the budget.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to waive the final reading of the budget with the amendment for \$75,000 for a position in Congressman Cuellar's office and an amendment

to include \$50,000 for Laredo Main Street as per certification mid-year by the City Manager that the funding is available.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to adopt the final reading of the budget.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2009-O-162 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an assignment of lease for Building No. 1006 from International Dairy Products, Inc. to Rodolfo Lozano Garza located at 4608 Daugherty Avenue at the Laredo International Airport, approved on July 1, 2002, by Ordinance No. 2002-O-141 and as amended on December 2, 2002, by Ordinance No. 2002-O-307 and as further amended on November 5, 2007, by Ordinance No. 2007-O-230. Lessee wishes to assign the lease agreement from International Dairy Products, Inc. to Rodolfo Lozano Garza. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-162.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-163 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Amendment to Ground Lease (Cellular Tower) by and between the City of Laredo, a municipal corporation (Landlord), and AT&T Mobility Texas LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (Tenant) formerly known as or a successor-in-interest to LAR-TEX Cellular Telephone Company, Inc.; dated September 1, 1996 and attached hereto; to allow Landlord to modify Landlord's existing communications equipment described in Exhibit C of Lease with communications equipment as described in Exhibit C-1, therefore replacing Exhibit C with Exhibit C-1; and to allow Tenant to modify the Notice Section thereof; all other terms and conditions remain.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-163

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-164 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign Trade Zone Operator Agreement with (as listed below) as Zone Site Operator located at (respective addresses); effective October 1, 2009 and ending September

30, 2014. Providing for activation, administration, annual and transaction fees to be paid to the City.

Proposed FTZ Operators:

1. AC Imports and Exports - 12014 Sara Road – Site III
2. AZ Logistics -14602 Archer – Site III
3. Connections Global Logistics - 8202 Killam Industrial Blvd. Site III
4. H.K. Tronics - 14610 Archer Drive – Site III
5. Jett Sales - 5400 Thomas - Site I
6. KMM – 8201 Killam – Site III
7. Laredo Duty Free (UETA) – 110 International Blvd. – Site I
8. LUXA International Trading, Inc. - 14610 Archer Drive – Site III
9. NYK Logistics – 8705 Killam Industrial Blvd – Site III
10. Nippon Express – 8311 Killam Industrial Blvd - Site III
11. Seegrove International – 13601 N. Lamar Drive- Site III
12. South Texas Traffic, Inc – 8501 Killam Industrial Blvd – Site III
13. T.F.S. Customs Broker, Inc. – 8301 Killam Blvd – Site III
14. T.F.S. Customs Broker, Inc. – 8311 Killam Blvd – Site III
15. T.F.S. Customs Broker, Inc. – 14625 Archer – Site III
16. U.S. Bonded and FTZ Warehouse, LLC.–14602 Archer Drive – Site III
17. Uni-Trade Forwarding, LC \*- 204 Flecha Lane – Site 8
18. ED Group and TFS Customs Broker, Inc\*-8502 Killam Industrial Blvd-Site III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-164

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-165 Authorizing the City Manager to convey the “Surface Only” at its adjusted market value of \$20,835.00 for certain property described as:

1. A 13,890 sq. ft. (03179 of an acre) tract of land, more or less, out of that former section of Burnside Street between Santa Rita and Vidaurri Avenues, to John M. McBain and wife, Patricia G. McBain, provided that the City of Laredo retain the entire tract as a utility easement for all utilities; said tract being situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, being generally described on attached Exhibit “A”; and,
2. Approving the submitted post closure Property Improvement Plan described in Exhibit “B”, which is in compliance with Section 10 of the Street Closing/Sales Policy Handbook, and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-165

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-166 Providing that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.637000 per \$100 value, which is effectively a 0.09 percent increase in the tax rate. This tax rate, which has been the same since Tax Year 2004, will have a Maintenance and Operation Rate of \$0.512772 per \$100 value and a Interest and Sinking Fund Rate of \$0.124228 per \$100 value for the levy and the collection of General and Special Ad Valorem taxes for the City of Laredo for Tax Year 2009 and Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-166

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-167 Amending City of Laredo Code of Ordinance, Chapter 31, Article III, Division 4, water conservation as follows:

- \* reducing the Gallons Per Capita Per Day (GPCD) consumption by 20% from a four (4) year average of 190 GPCD to 150 GPCD by the year 2019
- \* requiring that no person shall be allowed to open or close a fire hydrant or fire hydrant meter without having a training and certificate from the Utilities Department for having completed a mandatory training with the exception of the City of Laredo Fire Department when conducting trainings at the fire training facility located at Pinto Valle; mandatory training will be free of charge;
- \* allowing no more than two (2) written warnings before the first citation can be issued for violations of this ordinance;
- \* increasing penalty from a range of \$20.00-\$100.00 to a flat \$500.00 per violation per day, with 50% of each fine collected to be deposited in a water conservation fund to be used only for programs related to water conservation;
- \* establishing fees for wasting water \$5.00 for the 1st citation; \$10.00-2nd citation; \$20.00-3rd citation; \$40.00-4th citation; \$80.00-5th citation; 6th citation \$320.00 with each additional fine increasing in increments of \$160.00;
- \* recommending xeriscape for all new construction including public facilities;
- \* prohibiting turf grass in parkways, narrow strips of land, medians, sloped areas (except for erosion control), and in entrances within new

residential or commercial sites, applicable to construction begun after effective date of this ordinance;

- \* allowing outdoor water use any day at any time, unless a more stringent drought triggering stage from the drought contingency ordinance is declared;
- \* expanding the days for washing vehicles to include Saturdays and Sundays at any time using a bucket, hand held hose with a positive shut off nozzle, and a hose bibb vacuum breaker (check valve) connected to faucet;
- \* allowing the washing of hard surfaced areas by using a high pressure washer only;
- \* vehicle washing fundraisers for schools, non-profit or charitable organizations will require an application with the utilities director and a \$10.00 permit fee;
- \* new swimming pools, splash parks and all other water parks shall be equipped with filtration, pumping and recirculation systems;

providing for publication, severability and an effective date (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-167

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

2009-O-168 Amending Article XII, Chapter 19, Division 2, and 5, Sections 19-562(c) and 19-601.12, of the Code of Ordinances.

- a. Division 2, Section 19-562 (c) fares for fixed transit service
  - (1) Adult fare from \$1.25 to \$1.50
  - (2) Persons 62 or over or with disabilities with El Metro identification card:
    - \* peak hours from \$0.10 to \$0.35 (peak hours: 5:30 am to 9:00 am and 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday)
    - \* non peak hours from free to \$0.35 (non peak hours: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and after 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Saturday, Sunday & holidays)
  - (3) Half fare for Medicare recipients \$0.75
  - (4) Children (5 and over, and 12 years of age and under) from \$0.25 to \$0.50



(5) Students fare from \$1.00 to \$1.25

(6) Transfers fees will be eliminated

(7) Express route service from \$1.25 to \$1.50

b. Division 5, Section 19-601.12 paratransit fares

(1) Increase the cost per trip from \$.75 to \$1.00

(2) Increase the cost for guest per trip from \$.75 to \$1.00

(3) Paratransit fare coupons from (20) trips/\$15.00 to (10) trip tickets/\$10.00

providing for effective date and for publication.

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinance 2009-O-168.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Martin Portillo asked for Council to find a solution and requested for their support.

Luis Diaz de Leon spoke against any increase of bus fares.

Belinda Alvarado spoke against the bus fare increase.

Emily Sanchez challenged the Mayor and City Council to ride the bus to find out for themselves the problems.

Francisco Estrada stated that the bus system needs to be promoted and that El Metro is a good bus system.

Carlos Villarreal said that it was important for the public to know why the City of Laredo staff is recommended a fare increase. He noted that after the completion of the census

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-O-168 as amended to reflect these changes: increasing fares by fifteen (15) cents and an additional increase of ten (10) cents in 2010; transfers will increase by ten (10) cents instead of paying an additional bus fare, and in 2011 the transfer fare will increase by an additional ten cents, and that Paratransit will increase from 25 cents to \$1.00.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Garza  
For: 6

Against: 1  
Cm. Belmares

Abstain: 0

## VII. RESOLUTIONS

16. 2009-R-100 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Trial Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the Motorola, Inc. and the Laredo Police Department for the purpose of implementing a hosted service trail. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-100.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. 2009-R-101 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) Processing Center and the City of Laredo Police Department for the purpose of providing assistance on a special needs basis. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-101.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. 2009-R-102 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the Corrections Corporation of America Webb County Detention Center (WCDC) and the City of Laredo Police Department for the purpose of providing assistance on a special needs basis. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-102.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. 2009-R-104 Adopting the 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Program of the City of Laredo.

Cm. Valdez asked to change the wording of the branch library on Mines Road. He said that he would like to leave that has part of the recreation center because there is a phase II. He went on to say that he wanted to change the name of the project to "Northwest Recreational Center Phase II" instead of branch library on Mines Road.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-104 as amended per Cm. Valdez.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. 2009-R-108 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Laredo and Al Roker Productions for the purposes of recording footage of the activities of the Laredo Police Department for the purposes of developing a Television Pilot and possibly being featured as a television series.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-108.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. 2009-R-110 A resolution to nominate a candidate and cast 879 votes for City Council Member Hector "Tito" Garcia, as the City of Laredo's candidate to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 term as per Section 6.03 of the Texas Property Tax Code. The remaining 329 votes will be cast in favor of the candidate for the Laredo Independent School District; and directing the City Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chief Appraiser of the Webb County Appraisal District before October 15, 2009.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-110.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. 2009-R-111 Accepting the conveyance of a fifteen (15) wide utility easement (Effluent Easement) from Las Tiendas Investments, Ltd., of 0.53 acres as described in copy of the utility easement attached as Exhibit 1; and approving, and authorizing City Manager to execute a contract with Las Tiendas Investments, Ltd., for provision of effluent from The Peñitas Waste Water Treatment plant to Las Tiendas' abutting property in the form attached as Exhibit 2. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-111.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. 2009-R-112 Authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the United

States Foreign-Trade Zones Board for a temporary boundary modification on behalf of Kuehne+Nagel, Inc. in accordance with Ordinance No. 2000-O-183 dated July 24, 2000. The Temporary Boundary Modification consists of temporarily transferring the designation of 1.158 acres from the City of Laredo, Foreign-Trade Zone Site No. 1, located at the Laredo International Airport to the new temporary site which shall be designated as Site No. 10 and located at 12018 Auburn Road within the El Portal Industrial Park. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-112.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. 2009-R-113 Approving and authorizing the City Manager to sign, the contract between Village 83 South, Ltd. & City of Laredo, copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1; and accepting the conveyance by Village 83 South, Ltd. to city of a highway and right-of-way easement over 3.7954 acres for Ejido Extension Project, copy of which is attached as Exhibit 2.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-113.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. 2009-R-114 Approving, and authorizing City Manager to sign, the contract between Vimosa II & City of Laredo, copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1; accepting the conveyance by Vimosa, II to city of a highway and right-of-way easement over 2.4553 acres and over 0.0860 acres, copy of which is attached as Exhibit 2; and accepting the conveyance by Vimosa, II to city of a drainage easement over 1.1978 acres for Ejido Extension Project, copy of which is attached as Exhibit 3.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-R-114.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VIII. MOTIONS

26. Consideration to renew contract number FY09-08 awarded to Ferguson Waterworks, San Antonio, Texas in the estimated amount of \$250,000.00, for the purchase of PVC pipe used by the Utilities Department. This contract renewal includes a 3% price increase from the previous contract period pricing for the 20 and 24 inch pipe due to a market price increase. This is the fourth of eight (8) sixty (60) day supply extensions. These materials are purchased on an as needed basis for construction and repair

projects. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Budget. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to award contract FY09-051 to the low bidder, Hoyt Breathing Air Products, Quinlan, Texas, for the purchase of forty (40) sets of self-contained breathing apparatus and forty (40) spare cylinders in the total amount of \$181,489.60. These are replacement air packs for the Fire Department. Funding is available from 2009 Public Property Finance Contractual Obligation (PPFCO) bond proceeds. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of August 2009, represent an increase of \$138,393.80. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Approving the property tax revenue increase for the fiscal year 2010 budget as required by the Texas Local Government Code Section 102.007 said increase being \$788,897.00 or 1.24%. This additional amount is due entirely to increase in property tax valuations and new property added to the tax roll and NOT to any increase of the current tax rate of \$.637000.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. (1) Consideration to award contract number FY09-070 to the low bidders, Staff Force, Laredo, Texas, and Manpower Inc., Laredo, Texas for providing temporary contract employees. Contract will be awarded to a primary and secondary vendor in order to provide the City of Laredo with a quality labor pool for those departments that might require temporary staff members throughout the fiscal year. All services will be

secured on an as needed basis and the estimated contract amount for this fiscal year would be \$800,000.00. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

(2) Consideration to ratify and amend the current temporary employee contract FY08-077 awarded to the low bidders, Staff Force, Laredo, Texas, and RM Personnel, Inc, Laredo, Texas. Due to an increase in required services for temporary contract personnel such as creek cleaning crews, Civic Center service personnel, landfill personnel and unanticipated voids this fiscal year, the estimated contract amount increased from \$500,000.00 to an estimated amount of \$800,000.00. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration for approval of change order #2 to Holloman Corporation, in the amount of \$3,743.00 for the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant Disinfection Facilities. This change order includes deductive items and provides for relocation of the liquid ammonia sulfate injection points, relocating evaporator equipment and drains, and additional trenching for chlorine injection points. The construction contract time is to be extended by 43 days to a total of 393 days for substantial completion and 423 calendar days to final completion. The revised contract amount is \$4,796,584.79. Funding for change order is available in the 2008 Utility Bond. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Authorizing the City Manager to award a construction contract in the sum of \$13,873,460.00 to the low bidder CSA Construction, Inc., from Houston, Texas for the expansion of the North Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant from 0.926 million gallons per day to 2.926 million gallons per day. Funding is to be provided in the 2000, 2004, 2005, and 2008 Utility Bonds. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration for acceptance, final payment and release of retainage in the amount of \$81,435.25 to Holloman Corporation for the construction of the Mary Help of Christians Booster Station Improvements. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Budget. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the engineering services contract with LNV Engineering Company, Corpus Christi, Texas in the amount of \$274,000.00 for a new total amount of \$1,122,000.00 for the additional engineering services requested to provide for a 2.0 MG ground storage tank to the Milmo Booster station site and fast-track the design submittal with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act application package to take advantage of Stimulus funding. Funding is available in the 2008 Utility Bond. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the professional engineering services contract in the amount of \$405,000.00 to Porrás Nance Engineering, Laredo, Texas for the 24"/36" transmission water main, the consultant for the amendment #1 will provide engineering and surveying to develop reports, plans, specifications, bid documents, as-built drawings and cost estimates to extend 16,000 feet of 24" water transmission main from Lyon Booster Station to Loop 20 and Saunders with an interconnection at the proposed 3MG Elevated Storage Tank near Bartlett; 800 feet of 12" diameter water main and improvements to the SH 359 Booster Station, and adding 750 gpm pump and motor to the existing booster station, empty pump bay with related piping, valves and electrical upgrades. The total new contract amount is \$905,000.00. Funding is available in the 2009 Revenue Bond. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultant Madeline Anz Slay Architecture, PLLC, Laredo, Texas, in association with Alpha Consulting Engineers, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, and Terracon Consultants, Inc., Laredo, Texas, and San Antonio, Texas, for the Roof Structure Design for Existing Laredo Main Public Library for design and preparation of plans and specifications and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

37. Consideration for approval of Amendment No. 1 in an amount not to exceed

\$200,000.00 to the professional services contract with The Broussard Group, Inc., dba TBA Partners, San Antonio, Texas, for professional design services for Phase II of the Independence Hills Regional Park. Current engineering contract amount including this Amendment No. 1 is \$470,000.00. Funding is available in the 2007 C.O. Independence Park Phase I. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

38. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder Jerry Resendez Enterprises, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$286,400.50 for the Ejido Avenue/Stewart Street Drainage Improvements. Construction contract time is ninety (90) working days. Funding is available in the 2007 Environmental Services C.O. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts with U.S. and Mexico print, billboard, and electronic media vendors listed in the enclosed attachment CVB Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Media Buy Plan. Media plan advertisements for the Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau will be placed beginning October 2009. The total amount is not to exceed \$713,102.00. Funding is subject to approval of future appropriations in the CVB Marketing Division Budget. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

40. Consideration for approval to provide final completion of the Laredo Raw Water Pumphouse No. 2 Improvements and providing for payment of retainage in the amount of \$43,740.05 to Holloman Corporation. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Budget. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



41. Consideration for approval of change order #1 to SLC Construction, L.P. Conroe, Texas for the NADB-02 Mines Road Sanitary Sewer Collection System at Peñitas to decrease the contract amount by \$7,778.49. This project is funded by the North American Development Bank (NADB). This change order consists of increased/decreased field changes to match actual constructed quantities. No extension of time to the construction contract is being requested. The revised contract amount is \$2,892,753.74. (AS AMENDED) (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder Dynser, Inc., Del Rio, Texas, in the amount of \$799,277.74 for the Canal Street Drainage and Wastewater Improvements. Construction contract time is one hundred fifty (150) working days. Funding is available in the 2008 C.O. Issue and 2008 Utilities Bond. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **IX. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

43. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Presentation and update of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Health regarding medical issues pertaining to our community, with possible action.

Mayor Salinas introduced the following Blue Ribbon Committee:

Judge Danny Valdez, Webb County

Ralph Nimchan, MD

Arturo Garza-Gongora, MD

Michael Hochman, MD

Reynaldo Godines, MD

Elmo Lopez, CEO of Doctor's Hospital

Tim Schmidt, CEO, Laredo Medical Center

Gilda Villarreal, RN, Doctor's Hospital

Mario Rodriguez, CEO, Laredo Specialty Hospital

Miguel Trevino, Jr., CEO Gateway Community Center

Gladys Keene, MD, gave the following presentation:

Progress Report to mayor and City Council on the City-County Blue Ribbon Committee on Health Issues:

On January 9, 2007 Mayor Raul G. Salinas held a “Swearing in Ceremony” for the BRC on Health Issues.

The committee has met since then and discussed its mission and charge; the following is a summary of the committee activities to date:

1. Formulated Mission Statement after charge was made clear by Mayor Salinas: May 2007.
2. Mission Statement: As concerned health leaders, the Blue Ribbon Committee on health issues is committed to promoting the health and safety of Laredo by identifying existing and emerging health and healthcare issues and will recommend specific actions to the Mayor and City Council.
3. Presented a resolution on smoking ban in all public places to support city ordinance August 2007.
4. Presented a resolution regarding coal generated plants in Texas June 2007, as water quality and pollution issues continued to surface in particular from carbon producing companies and their health impact.
5. A panel presentation by experts was provided to the BRC on water quality and health care by Texas Commission for Environmental Quality, Health Department, Environmental and utilities Department so the BRC could understand water quality and health issues and make recommendations.
6. Health Department presented an overview on public health and health care access priorities (current issues, new and emerging issues) for the BRC to provide recommendations.
7. A recommendation was given to update a resource directory, particularly on health care access especially as we continued to face barriers in recruitment and retention of providers.
8. Presentation by the County Indigent Program was provided to discuss indigent care resources, Medicaid and provider reimbursement.
9. Health Department provided an epidemiological profile and overview of health in Laredo and presented priority areas – Infectious Diseases, Mental health and Substance Abuse. The presentation included an overview of the following: underinsured, adolescent health, mental health, and substance abuse, infectious diseases, wellness and disease control and chronic diseases (rates, morbidity and mortality) as well new and emerging issues including public health emergency preparedness (chemical exposure, drug resistance, cancer, diabetes.)
10. BRC was asked by Mayor to assist with the Pediatric Cancer Support Group team led by the health Department, immediate clarification was provided on local resources support for children especially lab testing in Laredo to reduce the amount of trips to San Antonio for oncology visits. In addition, both cancer institutes provided guidance and support to families.
11. BRC developed priorities areas of concern; 1) health care access (uninsured, health professions need, retention and recruitment); 2) water quality and infectious diseases and 3) mental health and substance abuse.
12. Through the health Department a stakeholder meeting was conducted with the Substance Abuse and Mental health Services Administration (SAMSHA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention to provide federal officials on the needs for resources in this area.
13. Dr. Keene and Dr. Gonzalez met with County Judge Danny Valdez, Indigent Care Services Director Frank Salinas as well as other staff to discuss indigent care and

joint City/County efforts, with a formal presentation to County Commissioners Court to formally partner as the City/County Blue Ribbon Committee on Health Issues.

14. Met to discuss new steps and discussed an assessment to address both current and future health needs and after meeting with university of Texas Health Science Center staff/Dr. Adela Gonzalez, Executive Director of South Texas Programs, the BRC moved to conduct a comprehensive community/county wide health assessment.
15. Committee members approached Congressman Cuellar for assistance, \$200,000 has been promised for the assessment which will cover health professions, indigent care and prevention, wellness, environmental health hospital care, mental health, and allied health, dental care and potential research needs.

2. Report on the status of the Civil Service Ordinance, with possible action.

Mayor Pro Tempore Garza noted that the committee has an ordinance they would like to submit to City Council; however, he asked that this item be postponed for the next meeting.

Mayor Salinas said that there will be fourteen members on this committee and nine will be named by City Council and the Mayor and the additional five will be elected by the City of Laredo employees.

Motion to table.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Status report pertaining to the installation of a traffic signal at Loop 20 and the entrance to Laredo International Airport.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that there have been no changes since the last update. He explained that the signal for that site was not warranted by the City or approved by TxDOT.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, pointed out that TxDOT has not approved of the site and explained that the site does not have enough traffic flow to merit a signal.

B. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mike Garza

1. Status report on extension of Ejido and Merida Avenues.

Gabriel Martinez, Engineering, reported that the plans for Ejido are being completed and staff is planning to advertise for bids on September 27, 2009. He added that the time of construction would be one hundred fifty (150) days. He further explained that Crane Engineering is initiating the plans for Merida Avenue and they will be ready to go out for bids in thirty days.

2. Discussion with possible action on hiring a collection service for delinquent municipal citations. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza)

Motion to approve the hiring of a collection service for delinquent municipal citation.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council Member Juan Narvaez

1. Status report on the Andy Ramos Park, with possible action.

Oswaldo Guzman, Parks and Leisure Department, gave a comprehensive report on the improvements that are being completed at the Andy Ramos Park. He noted that they would be having a grand opening at the park in three weeks.

D. Request by Council Member Johnny Rendon

1. Discussion with possible action on selecting Aurora Street, one block west of Marcella, for paving.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, said that he has met with the Planning Director and they are in the process of working something out that would be acceptable for both parties.

Keith Selman, Planning Director, said that City Council needs to take action in order to confirm with the street paving resolution.

Motion to include the paving of Aurora Street in the street paving resolution.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Status report regarding the construction and operation of the Veterans Clinic, with possible action.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, said that staff has talked to Congressman Henry Cuellar's staff and they are in the process of moving forward with the project. He said that the City is waiting on an agreement that will be worked out between the Veteran's Administration and the UTHSC. He added that City staff will be going out with a bond issue related to this for the purchase of a property that will be donated by the City of Laredo to the UTHSC. Once the VA and Health Science Center is approve we will bring back and agreement between the City and the Federal Government within the next sixty (60) days.

3. Status report on the traffic light at the entrance of Lakeside, with possible action.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, said that staff is working on the final approval from TxDOT and once they approve of the traffic light, the City will install the light within 30 to 45 days.

4. Update on the Bartlett Avenue Extension Project, with possible action.

Cm. Rendon explained that the reason he placed this item on the agenda is because he wanted to know where the project is at as far as completion. He said that the engineer told him that they have fifty (50)% of the project paved. He went on to say that his only question is if there was going to be some type of exit or is the paving straight. A video was presented on the status of the project.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, confirmed that it is a straight shot.

E. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Discussion with possible action on creating a master plan for downtown Laredo (Co-sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mike Garza)

Keith Selman reported that there are numerous activities in the downtown area. He noted that there is a skeletal form of a master plan that has been taking shape; however, the City does not have the resources at this point in time to complete an in-house master plan.

Cm. Garza suggested going out for a request for proposal so the City can negotiate a fee.

City Manager said that the City can use hotel/motel funds because they can link it to the convention center.

Motion to go out for Request for Proposals for a master plan for downtown Laredo.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Moved: 0

Abstain: 0

**X. STAFF REPORTS**

44. Status report on the Jefferson Water Treatment Plant, with possible action.

Tomas Rodriguez reported that water treatment plant is in good working condition. working fine after replacing a 24" waterline.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

45. Request for executive session pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code, to deliberate on staff's negotiations with Taxco Development, LLC for the purchase of a 1.35 acre parcel out of Taxco's 8.66 acre tract; and return to open session.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code, to deliberate on staff's negotiations with Taxco Development, LLC for the purchase of a 1.35 acre parcel out of Taxco's 8.66 acre tract; and return to open session.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After Executive Session, Mayor Salinas announced that no formal action was taken.

**XII. 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. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

46. Consideration to authorize the purchase of six (6), 35 ft. and six (6), 40 ft. low floor diesel buses in the amount of \$4,258,488.00 from Gillig Corporation, Hayward, California, through an interlocal agreement contract no: # HDB-55-0409 with the Brownsville Urban System. Funding for the buses is available in the Transit Capital Grant Budget through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant TX-96-X001-01. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**XIII. 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: Mayor Pro Tempore Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0