

OSCAR LEESER
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1
LARRY ROMERO, DISTRICT 2
EMMA ACOSTA, DISTRICT 3
CARL L. ROBINSON, DISTRICT 4
MICHEL R. NOE, DISTRICT 5
CLAUDIA ORDAZ, DISTRICT 6
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7
CORTNEY CARLISLE NILAND, DISTRICT 8

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM
February 8, 2016

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 9:49 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Emma Acosta, Carl Robinson, Michiel Noe, Claudia Ordaz, and Lily Limón. Larry Romero and Cortney Niland requested to be excused.

AGENDA

1.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager be authorized to exercise the option to extend the Sun Metro Mass Transit Agreement for Lift Paratransit Services with MV Contract Transportation, Inc., dated May 15, 2012, and amended on September 11, 2012, by and between the City of El Paso ("Sun Metro") and MV Contract Transportation, Inc. ("MV"), for an additional two year period beginning December 1, 2017, provided that funds for the extended term are appropriated and an operating budget is approved by Sun Metro and MV has established a satisfactory record performance as determined by the Sun Metro Board.

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Acosta, Robinson, Noe, Ordaz, and Limón commented.

Representative Acosta praised Mr. Banasiak for First Transit's good work and pursuit of federal government.

The following City staff members commented:

1. Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager
2. Mr. Jay Banasiak, Director of Mass Transit
3. Mr. Bruce Collins, Director of Purchasing and Strategic Sourcing
4. Ms. Sol Cortez, Assistant City Attorney, gave legal advice.

Motion made by Representative Robinson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Acosta, Robinson, and Noe
NAYS: Representatives Ordaz and Limón
ABSENT: Representatives Romero and Niland

2.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2012, the City of El Paso entered into Contract 2012-040R Sun Metro Mass Transit Management Services Agreement (“Contract”) with First Transit, Inc. (“First Transit”) to provide Transit Management for Fixed Route Transit; and

WHEREAS, pursuant Section IV of the Contract, the City may elect to have First Transit provide additional management personnel upon agreement on the appropriate job description and salary range; and

WHEREAS, the City desires First Transit to add an Assistant Director for Streetcar Operations position as additional management personnel under the Contract.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section I of the Contract, the term of the Contract may be extended for one (1) additional two-year period at the mutual agreement of the parties provided that funds for the extended term are appropriated and an operating budget is approved by Sun Metro and MV has established a satisfactory record performance as determined by the Sun Metro Board;

WHEREAS, the City desires to exercise the option to extend the term of the Contract, for an additional two year period beginning December 1, 2017.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager is authorized to exercise the option to extend Contract 2012-040R Sun Metro Mass Transit Management Services Agreement (“Contract”) with First Transit, Inc. (“First Transit”) for an additional two year period beginning December 1, 2017 and to sign an Amendment upon the City Attorney’s review to add an Assistant Director for Streetcar Operations position as additional management personnel under the Contract.

Mr. Jay Banasiak, Director of Mass Transit
Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager

Representative Svarzbein commented on the Assistant Director of Streetcar Operations, he would prefer someone with actual rail experience.

Representative Robinson questioned, “\$97 million. \$5 million for initial study and analysis has been spent. What is cost of AD position? Operations and Maintenance?”

Mr. Banasiak replied, “\$2 million in Operations and Maintenance.”

Representative Limón questioned, “Salary for AD position?”

Mr. Banasiak replied, “\$95,000 plus 30% fringe benefits, entire package \$149,000.”

Representative Limón wants to see that same model in other contracts.

Mr. Bruce Collins, Director of Purchasing and Strategic Sourcing stated, "All motions passed here will be in effect once they are brought back to Mass Transit and approved

1st MOTION

Motion made by Representative Svarzbein, seconded by Representative Ordaz, and carried to **AUTHORIZE** the City Manager to add the position of Assistant Director of Streetcar Operations through First Transit.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Acosta, Ordaz, and Limón

NAYS: Representative Robinson

ABSENT: Representatives Romero and Niland

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Noe

2ND MOTION

Motion made by Representative Acosta, seconded by Representative Robinson, and carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution for First Transit.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Acosta, Robinson, Noe, Ordaz, and Limón

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Romero and Niland

3. Metropolitan Planning Organization Program Update.

Mayor Leeser and Representative Acosta commented.

Ms. Monica Lombrana, Director of Capital Improvement, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager explained funding issues.

Representative Acosta asked about streets being affected. She asked about Winn Road and Rojas. She asked about matching funds and their source. She work with County on connectivity of streets and where we abut County property.

Representative Acosta would like a community meeting before the Viscount project is begun.

Representative Limón questioned hiring of inspection superintendents and their duties.

NO ACTION TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

ITEMS 4 AND 5 TAKEN TOGETHER

4. Update from staff regarding Papal visit.

5. Discussion and action to allow pedestrian access on Loop 375 (Border Highway) on February 17, 2016.

Mayor Leeser commented.

Representative Acosta questioned Police Chief Greg Allen.

Representative Svarzbein questioned Mr. Cary Westin, Director of Economic and International Development.

Representative Robinson questioned Fire Chief Sam Pena.

Representative Ordaz questioned City Manager Tommy Gonzalez.

Representative Limón questioned Assistant Police Chief Patrick Maloney.

Ms. Sylvia Firth, City Attorney, gave legal advice.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Ms. Rose Gailey, volunteer with Catholic Diocese
2. Mr. Ed Garcia, resident agent in charge United States Street Service
3. Captain Jim Parker, Union Pacific Railroad Police
4. Mr. Jose Ramos, Mayor's Office, Juarez, Mexico

MOTION

Motion made by Representative Acosta, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and carried to **ISSUE** the policy statement on the justification for not allowing persons on the Border Highway, including the separation of Church and State, and **ADD** a comment that the Mayor had entertained the idea of allowing pedestrians on the Border Highway, but there was not enough time, resources or funding to provide that resource. The safety plan that the Police Department has established will remain in place.

AYES: Representatives Acosta, Robinson, Noe, Limón, and Niland

NAYS: Representatives Svarzbein and Ordaz

ABSENT: Representative Romero

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ADJOURN

Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Ordaz, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 1:21 p.m.

ABSENT: Representative Romero
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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk