

**DEE MARGO**  
MAYOR

**TOMMY GONZALEZ**  
CITY MANAGER



**CITY COUNCIL**  
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXSANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ-BROWN, DISTRICT 3  
SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4  
MICHEL R. NOE, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA ORDAZ PEREZ, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CISSY LIZARRAGA, DISTRICT 8

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
APRIL 2, 2018  
9:05 AM**

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. Mayor Margo present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Cassandra Hernandez-Brown, Sam Morgan, Michiel Noe, Claudia Ordaz Perez, Henry Rivera, Cissy Lizarraga. Aleksandra Annello requested to be excused.

**AGENDA**

- 1. City Council Presentation by members of the City of El Paso/Sister Cities International Task Force delegation relative to the 2018 All Mexico-US Mayors Summit in Guadalajara, Mexico.**

This item was not presented; Representative Svarzbein will post on a future agenda.

- 2. Presentation on the relocation of the Economic and International Development Department to the Anson Mills Building, 303 N. Oregon.**

Ms. Jessica Herrera, Economic and International Development Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Mayor Margo commented on how it will be nice to give the different prospects the ability to work together.

Representative Ordaz Perez inquired about the relocation costs; Ms. Herrera will bring back the item with the cost on the lease along with improvement and moving expenses.

Mr. Cary Westin, Deputy City Manager for Economic Development and Tourism, mentioned that the objective is to make it cost neutral and save on other leases.

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, added that this would be close to the Visitor's Center, where it should be.

Representative Svarzbein asked if the Borderplex Office will be moving upstairs; Ms. Herrera confirmed they are.

Ms. Herrera informed the Council members that the Offices for Cd. Juarez and Southern New Mexico counterparts in the same building.

**NO ACTION** taken on this item

**3. Discussion on green infrastructure best practices and how this concept can enhance stormwater management in the region.**

Ms. Lauren Baldwin, Sustainability Coordinator, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Gonzalez commented on the fact that there is still an alignment and partnership with the Resiliency Officer position.

Representative Hernandez-Brown gave kudos to the lower valley and mission valley for their work on onsite ponding.

Representative Svarzbein asked how the initiatives presented could be implemented into a policy or ordinance with private development.

Ms. Baldwin referred to Mr. Alan Shubert, El Paso Water Vice President, who expanded on the item, answered questions from Council members and informed them that the impact development piece they disagreed with, making it mandatory, will be back before them in the next few months.

Representative Svarzbein asked if Council could do anything to help; Mr. Shubert said he would like to start a voluntary conversation; Mayor Margo added to let the process do it.

Representative Svarzbein asked if other communities incorporate arroyos with trail; Mr. Shubert answered that arroyos tend to want to move but said they are currently looking at sensitive solutions with rock to build walking and biking trails, more of that is going to be seen. He added that consultants are being pushed to minimize the impact on natural environments.

Representative Ordaz Perez asked on the length of the Storm Water Master Plan; Mr. Shubert answered they have a 10 year plan but the Master Plan is longer than that.

Representative Ordaz Perez asked if the Lower Valley is part of the plan and Mr., Shubert replied that currently, there are focus groups to identify priority of nuisance flooding; he said there is a lot of work happening in the Northeast right now, maximizing dollars, he added there are opportunities in the Lower Valley.

Representative Ordaz Perez also asked if green infrastructure is being incorporated; Mr. Shubert confirmed it is.

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item

**4. Presentation on best practices in pavement management.**

Mr. Sam Rodriguez, City Engineer, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Richard Bristol, Streets and Maintenance Director, commented.

Representative Noe mentioned George Dieter Dr. is not in his district.

Mayor Margo asked is Council can receive Thursday reports; Mr. Bristol said yes, it will be from the Public Information Office.

Representative Hernandez-Brown asked how many streets were part of the 2012 plan; Mr. Bristol replied some of them have fallen off the list but about 413 have been completed.

Mr. Tom Freeman, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, presented a PowerPoint, on Pavement Condition Index Assessment – Best Practices (copy of file in City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Rodriguez mentioned the pavement study will be a tool for Council members and will bring recommendations.

When Mayor Margo asked when it will be done Mr. Rodriguez answer was by the end of either May or June.

Representative Hernandez-Brown asked if there are cities that don't have regular maintenance for lack of funding.

Mr. Freeman will look at the data, he recommends keeping best roads to avoid reconstruction. Mayor Margo added if not, it is like digging a deeper hole, we cannot wait 20 years to do something.

Representative Hernandez-Brown commented if over 50% of the list are on critical, then staff needs to come back and let Council know; she asked what if they don't address it.

Representative Svarzbein commented on how to catch up.

Mayor Margo commented on money available and the need for the data study first so that decisions can be made.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Interim Director of Municipal Finance, presented a PowerPoint on funding options for street repairs, (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item

**5. Presentation on CID landscape administrative procedures**

Mr. Sam Rodriguez, City Engineer, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Hernandez-Brown provided an example that occurred within her district, where a vote was taken on a reconstruction project and unanimously the neighbors did not want trees; so in her opinion landscaping should be optional.

Mr. Rodriguez mentioned the City will have to work with individual property owners; Mayor Margo agreed it needs to be looked at.

Representative Svarzbein referred to Slide number 9 of the presentation and pointed out where it is stated public input will be incorporated; he added there are areas where it makes sense to help with walkable trails or where they have had trees planted by relatives long ago,

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Representative Ordaz Perez, seconded by Representative Rivera, and unanimously carried that the City Council retire into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 11:40 a.m. pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 - 551.087 to discuss the following:

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Hernandez-Brown, Morgan, Noe, Ordaz Perez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Anello

Section 551.071	CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY
Section 551.072	DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
Section 551.073	DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS
Section 551.074	PERSONNEL MATTERS
Section 551.076	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES
Section 551.087	DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS
Section 551.089	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR SECURITY AUDITS;
	CLOSED MEETING

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#### **EX1. Deliberation regarding personnel and security devices (551.076)**

Motion made, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn the Executive Session at approximately 12:38 p.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Hernandez-Brown, Morgan, Noe, Ordaz Perez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Anello

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item

### **ADJOURN**

Motion made, seconded and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at

approximately 12:38 p.m.

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk