

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  
MICHIEL R. NOE, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA ORDAZ, DISTRICT 6  
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7  
CORTNEY CARLISLE NILAND, DISTRICT 8

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
April 4, 2016  
9:05 AM**

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 10:23 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Michiel Noe, Claudia Ordaz, Lily Limón, and Cortney Niland. Requested to be excused: Larry Romero, Emma Acosta, and Carl L. Robinson

Motion made by Representative Niland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and carried to **EXCUSE** Representatives Larry Romero, Emma Acosta, and Carl L. Robinson from the City Council Work Session of April 4, 2016. **MOTION PASSED**

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

**AGENDA**

1. Motion made by Representative Niland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and unanimously carried to **DELETE** the item regarding discussion and action to determine whether to participate with the County of El Paso's "Joint Working Committee" to bring forward recommendations on regulation plats and related permits within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) of the City of El Paso, TX.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Noe, Ordaz, Limón, and Niland  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Representatives Romero, Acosta, and Robinson

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2.

**RESOLUTION**

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

That the City Manager be authorized to execute a Chapter 380 Economic Development Program Agreement between the City of El Paso and Fred Loya Insurance, Inc., a Texas Corporation, for the incentive to expand the Applicant's insurance services in the City of El Paso, Texas.

Mayor Leeser and Representative Limón commented.

Mr. Cary Westin, Director of Economic and International Development, commented.

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

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Noe, Ordaz, Limón, and Niland

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Romero, Acosta, and Robinson

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3. Discussion and action on the update presentation for the El Paso Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Ted Marquez, Director of Streets and Maintenance, and Rudy Pino, Engineering Division Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Limón questioned project completions.

Representative Niland questioned the Doniphan to Montoya project and the Lindberg.

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, explained the need for traffic studies after the completion of Country Club.

Representative Svarbein questioned the process to determine placement of traffic calming devices, Lindbergh traffic study and public vetting, and Pino Real.

Mr. Gonzalez explained the costs of the various traffic calming devices and mitigation efforts. Speed humps are the least expensive.

Representative Niland questioned funding of projects and expressed her confusion regarding the requests being considered today.

Representative Limón questioned, "Why is staff asking Council to approve some measures that already have been done?" She questioned the application number. "Does it indicate the year the project was submitted?"

Mr. Marquez replied, "Yes, the application number does reflect the date the project was submitted."

Representative Limón asked more detailed questions about projects year by year. She explained she needs more clarification on the projects in District 7 to see if they are still pertinent.

Mr. Rudy Pino explained the process for the projects and the public meetings and addressed the Mauer Street project.

Mayor Leeser commented on actions taken by prior Councils on projects, such as actions taken in 2008, that are now projects being completed.

Representative Limón questioned, “On 2009 Projects, how many requested? How many completed?”

Mr. Pino answered, “14 were done.”

Mr. Pino then advised of year by year completions and projects pending completions in 2010-2015.

Representative Limón stated, “This is an Incomplete and contradictory report presented here today.” She stated she needs full information to make a wise decision.

Representative Noe explained his understanding of what is being considered today.

Representative Ordaz questioned how funding is allocated to projects.

Mr. Marquez answered, “Worst streets are funded first.”

Representative Ordaz questioned Winchester Road speed calming? She requested a list of streets citizens have requested to be addressed.

Mr. Gonzalez explained that the listed pending projects are, indeed, the pending projects.

Representative Svarzbein asked what latitude Council has now to reprioritize items.

Motion made by Representative Niland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and carried to **APPROVE** the staff recommendations.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Noe, Ordaz, and Niland

NAYS: Representative Limón

ABSENT: Representatives Romero, Acosta, and Robinson

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4.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to install illuminated bollards at the intersection of Mills Avenue and Oregon Street and at the intersection of Mills Avenue and El Paso Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the installation of the bollards will provide for an aesthetically pleasing option for the temporary street closures of Mills Avenue during special events; and

**WHEREAS**, the installation of the bollards will provide for the safety of pedestrians during special events.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

That the Streets and Maintenance Department is authorized to install the illuminated bollards at the intersection of Mills Avenue and Oregon Street and at the intersection of Mills Avenue and El Paso Street.

Mr. Ted Marquez, Director of Streets and Maintenance, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Limón commented.

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

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Noe, Ordaz, Limón, and Niland

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Romero, Acosta, and Robinson

5.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, on July 20, 2004, the City Council adopted a resolution approving the use of design-build as an alternative procurement method for construction projects, as permitted by Section 271.113 of the Texas Local Government Code (now Section 2269 of the Texas Government Code);

**WHEREAS**, on July 17, 2012, the City Council adopted the City of El Paso Design-Build Procurement Policy for City facilities and City civil works projects, setting forth the criteria for determining when the design-build method would be the appropriate method of procurement and delegating authority to the City Engineer, to determine, before advertising, which of the approved alternative procurement methods for construction provide the best value to the City;

**WHEREAS**, on August 18, 2015, the City Council delegated to the Director of the Capital Improvement Department all authority previously granted to the City Engineer pursuant to contracts and similar documents for projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Capital Improvement Department has determined that Design-Build is the alternative procurement method that would provide the best value to the City for the Spray Parks Phase II construction project and requests the Council's approval of the issuance of a bid using the Design-Build method for the Spray Parks Phase II construction project.

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

**THAT** the use of the Design-Build alternative project delivery method for the Spray Parks Phase II construction project is approved and the Director of the Capital Improvement Department is authorized to issue a bid using the Design-Build method for the Spray Parks Phase II construction project.

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

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Noe, Ordaz, Limón, and Niland

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Romero, Acosta, and Robinson

6.

Presentation and discussion on the Strategic Plan Goal Team Report for the following:

Goal 1 Team (Economic Development)  
Economic and International Development, Cary Westin, (915) 212-1615

Mr. Bryan Crowe, Quality of Life Managing Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Cary Westin, Director of Economic and International Development, commented.

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Ordaz, Limón, and Niland commented.

Goal 3 Team (Visual Image)  
Streets and Maintenance, Ted Marquez, (915) 212-7015

Mr. Richard Bristol, Deputy Director for Streets and Maintenance, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Limón, Noe, Svarzbein, and Ordaz commented.

The following City staff members commented:

1. Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager
2. Ms. Ellen Smyth, Director of Environmental Services
3. Mr. Tracy Novak, Director of Parks and Recreation
4. Mr. Larry Nichols, Director of Planning and Inspections

**NO ACTION** taken on these items

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7. Discussion regarding FY 2017 City Council Budget Priorities.

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager introduced the item.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Director of Office of Management and Budget, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Niland questioned budget software for requests from Council.

Mayor Leeser questioned replenishment of fund balance.

Representative Niland questioned the calculation of the savings: \$9.6 million, \$3.7 million remaining, \$1.2 million given back to fund balance. \$3.7 could be given back to fund balance to make it \$4.9 million replenishment.

Dr. Mark Sutter, Chief Financial Officer, explained the \$9.6 million and how it was allocated to fund balance. He urged Council not to use any more of fund balance.

Representative Niland stated, "So fund balance has been restored by a little over 50%."

Representative Niland asked, "Has the City increased lowest full-time position to over \$10 per hour?"

Mr. Gonzalez explained.

Representative Limón questioned, "Vehicle/equipment replacement? How many

employees have City owned vehicles allocated to them?”

Representative Ordaz praised the Shape It Up Program as a preventative measure. She asked how it has been with participations.

Mr. Cortinas replied, “Participation has not been that good. The program is being revamped to try to increase participation.”

Ms. Nancy Bartlett, Chief Performance Officer, explained the program, the outreach efforts to employees, and the importance of the biometric component.

Mr. Gonzalez explained planned changes to next year’s plan and incentives for employees who move to the consumer driven health care plan.

Representative Svarzbein asked, “Is Council included in the biometric?”

Mr. Gonzalez replied, “Yes and Council can receive the incentive.”

Representative Ordaz asked about the Parks strategic plan to get our Parks to a B level.

Representative Limón questioned employee pay increases and performance evaluations.

Mayor Leeser asked Mr. Gonzalez to come up with a pay increase plan for all City employees for Council to approve that staff can count on.

Representative Limón would like to take the lowest paid employees and move them up first.

Mr. Gonzalez and Mayor Leeser agreed, “Yes, that is where the plan should start.”

Representative Limón asked, “This does not include contract employees, correct?”

Representative Svarzbein would also like to increase pay for Council staff, as well.

Representative Limón questioned discretionary funds for City Council. She would like it restored to \$10,000 for each Council member.

Mr. Gonzalez spoke of reviewing and analyzing staffing levels.

Representative Ordaz suggested that Council members publicize the Budget Think Tank for the community input through their City Representative newsletters.

Representative Limón questioned the budget meeting schedule.

Mayor Leeser requested more days this year for budget hearings. He received feedback from Council last year that the budget hearing schedule was too rushed.

Representative Limón would like to hear from City Department Heads this year.

Council then discussed the budget hearing schedule with Mr. Gonzalez and various operations.

Representative Svarzbein stated, "Parks and Maintenance is really important. Public Arts Program and MCAD."

**NO ACTION** taken on this item

- 8. Update on "Texas Mayors of Military Communities."

Representative Robinson and Ms. Brie Franco, Assistant City Attorney, gave updates on the meeting and on grant funding.

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, commented.

**NO ACTION** taken on this item

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**ITEMS 6 AND 8 FROM APRIL 4, 2016 CITY COUNCIL WOK SESSION RECESSED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 5, 2016.**

Motion made by Representative Ordaz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and unanimously carried to **RECESSED** the Special City Council Meeting on April 4, 2016 at 12:15 p.m. and **RECONVENED** at 4:53 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 4:52 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Michiel Noe present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Carl Robinson, Michiel Noe, Claudia Ordaz, Lilia Limón and Cortney Carlisle Niland. Requested to be excused: Larry Romero and Emma Acosta. Mayor Leeser left at 3:00 p.m.

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**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Representative Robinson, seconded by Representative Limón, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 5:02 p.m. on April 5, 2016.

ABSENT: Representatives Romero and Acosta

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk