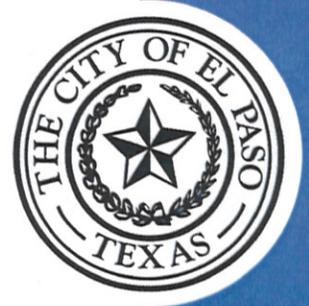


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S E R V I C E   S O L U T I O N S   S U C C E S S



## ***OFFICE OF THE MAYOR***

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
City Hall Building, #2 Civic Center Plaza  
Mayor's Board Room, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Thursday, February 10, 2011  
1:30 p.m.

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### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of Minutes for the Legislative Review Committee meetings of February 11, 2010 and December 13, 2010.
3. Discussion and action regarding proposed Federal Legislative Agenda. [Mayor's Office, Sylvia B. Firth, (915) 541-4145]
4. Adjournment.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Legislative Review Committee of the City of El Paso may retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discussed in Executive Session, but the Legislative Review Committee of the City of El Paso may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act.) The Legislative Review Committee will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward any of the following items for public discussion, as appropriate.

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



Two Civic Center Plaza  
El Paso, TX 79901  
(915) 541-4145

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City Manager  
Joyce A. Wilson



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: This Legislative Review Committee meeting for Intergovernmental Affairs has been posted in conformity with the Texas Open Meetings Act, to allow for deliberations among a majority of the members of the City Council, whether the Council members are also members of the Legislative Review Committee for Intergovernmental Affairs or not, should a majority of the entire membership of the City Council choose to attend the meeting of the Legislative Review Committee for Intergovernmental Affairs and participate in the discussions. Council member attendance at this Legislative Review Committee meeting is not required by the City Charter

Sign language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Request must be made to this department at a minimum of 24 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.

Copies of this agenda will be provided in Braille, large print or audio tape upon request. Request must be made a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.

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**Item 1. Call to order.**

The Legislative Review Committee met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. Chairman John F. Cook present and presiding and the following committee members answered roll call: Carl L. Robinson and Eddie Holguin, Jr. Absent: Committee Member Rachel Quintana. Also present was City Manager Joyce Wilson, Deputy City Managers Bill Studer, David Almonte, Jane Shang and Debbie Hamlyn; International Bridges Director Said Larbi-Cherif; Department of Transportation - Director Daryl Cole and Deputy Director Terry Quezada; Mayor's Chief of Staff and Director of Governmental Affairs Sylvia B. Firth, and Mayor's Executive Assistant Diana Nuñez. John Montgomery and John O'Donnell from Murray, Montgomery & O'Donnell – the City of El Paso's federal lobbyist – also participated in the meeting via conference call. Deputy City Manager Debbie Hamlyn left the meetings at 1:55 p.m.

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**Item 2. Approval of Minutes for the Legislative Review Committee meetings of February 11, 2010 and December 13, 2010.**

Motion made by Committee Member Robinson, seconded by Committee Member Holguin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

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**Item 3. Discussion and action regarding proposed Federal Legislative Agenda.**

Ms. Firth opened the meeting by providing a copy of the revised proposed federal legislative agenda, memorandum sent by Murray, Montgomery & O'Donnell on the FY 11 and FY 12 Federal Funding and a spreadsheet of last

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year's appropriations for the City (all on file with this set of minutes). She explained that this year's process will be different due to the moratorium on appropriations and earmarks as the Republic leadership has already stated that there will be no appropriations or earmarks. The City of El Paso will be focusing on identifying priority projects and making the delegation aware of them without specifying where the money will be coming from. Nobody knows yet where the money will be coming from but there will be some money filtered to cities in the form of grants and others.

Chairman Cook explained that the Republican Party took the position of eradicating earmarks and appropriations without the administration being aware that roads and bridges were normally funded with those monies and now they are trying to figure out what to call them.

### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – Mass Transit**

Deputy City Manager for Mobility Services Jane Shang explained all her revisions in costs and indicated the completion of projects under Mass Transit for the following categories:

- A. Administrative/Operations/Maintenance Facility
- B. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridors
- C. Fuel Tax Language
- D. Bus Acquisition
- E. Surface Transportation Reauthorization Legislative

Ms. Shang requested that the Coordinated Border Infrastructure (CBI) be added in this category. She also stated that Fuel Tax Language should continue at least for ten years; the life of the buses.

City Manager Joyce Wilson requested that the BRT be updated to include the 4% financing in the total project cost.

### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – International Ports of Entry**

Chairman Cook and City Manager Joyce Wilson commented on dedicated lanes.

Ms. Firth explained that Mr. Larbi-Cherif pointed out that the Universal Freight Shuttle should be added to the International Ports of Entry section.

Chairman Cook commented on the El Paso's Security Border Trade Demonstration Project by Secure Origins and stated that there is a kickoff date of March 7, 2011 for the pilot project to go live as funded by the maquila industry.

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### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – Public Safety and Law Enforcement**

Chairman Cook, City Manager Joyce Wilson and Ms. Firth commented on the UASI funding for the Public Safety Radio Voice/Data System Interoperability.

Mr. Montgomery recommended that the request remains listed on the agenda to show the need and for the City to retain their UASI designation.

City Manager Joyce Wilson requested that the Fire Department comes back with a breakdown of amounts and project phase for the next 18 months. She stated that she wants to make sure that they are only asking for the money that they are ready to spend and not dilute their energy requesting money for projects the City is not to implement. She proceeded to request that the e-ticketing section be deleted.

Deputy City Manager for Health and Safety David Almonte commented.

### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – Railroad Quiet Zone Pilot Program**

Ms. Firth stated that the Quiet Zone Program will remain per Council's request in case money becomes available.

### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – Climate Change and Environmental Policy**

Ms. Firth stated that this section will hardly change with the exception of an additional statement provided by the City's Sustainability Program Manager Marty Howell on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.

Ms. Wilson requested that a list of successful completed projects be listed in the federal legislative agenda.

### **Priority Legislative Initiatives – Violence in Mexico**

Ms. Firth stated that the general statement from the City in regard to the violence in Mexico will remain.

Ms. Wilson questioned if Community Development Director Bill Lilly has provided a white paper that he is working on as support of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Ms. Firth explained that she has been communicating with Mr. Lilly on what should be included in the white paper to be provided to Congressman Reyes. She mentioned that the white paper will reflect how CDBG ties into job creation and economic development.

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Mr. Montgomery reiterated that the white paper will work to leverage the need of CDBG funding and requested that it also mentions the strong partnerships with other agencies. He proceeded to question if there should be anything added in regard to the levee.

Ms. Firth responded that she believes IBWC has all the money but a timeline is needed. She stated that she will request an update from Environmental Services Director Ellen Smyth.

Ms. Firth reiterated that after transportation, preserving CDBG funding followed by the violence on the border are the main issues that the City will be focusing on.

Ms. Wilson questioned about project specific recommendations that will come from the Regional Port of Entry Operations Plan once completed in March.

Ms. Firth asked the federal lobbyist if there was an urgency for a final federal legislative agenda since there might be things that need to be added after the completion of the Regional Ports of Entry Operations Plan from the results and recommendations of the plan.

Mr. Montgomery responded that the process has been driven by appropriation requests in the past and that even though there is more time during this session, the City should hold themselves to the same schedule so that it can be referred to it in conversations and it can always be amended and updated with a memorandum.

#### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy - Immigration and Border Security**

Ms. Wilson and Ms. Shang questioned the accuracy of the facts in the immigration reform.

Ms. Firth stated that the general statement on immigration reform will remain.

#### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – Business Development**

No changes were made to this section.

#### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – International Transportation System Hub**

No changes were made to this section.

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### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – International Trade**

Ms. Shang stated that she made a change to address the importance of trade in the U.S. and Mexico to the local and national economy and job creation.

### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – Healthcare and Public Health**

Ms. Wilson questioned if there was going to be any refocusing of public health tied to the obesity initiative or is it just all focused on cutting services.

Mr. Montgomery responded he does not know how it will be treated but that he believes that there is enough support because it is such an important issue with kids and the First Lady.

Ms. Wilson reiterated on the support for providing health and mental care services to military.

### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – Rail Security**

No changes were made to this section.

### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization**

Ms. Shang stated that this section was updated.

### **Issues of Interest and Advocacy – Military Affairs**

Mr. Robinson questioned if the preservation of castner range is included on the agenda and if funding is being requested for the cleanup of the ordnance.

Mayor Cook and Ms. Firth responded that the City has a general statement on the preservation of castner range and that the best option is for it to remain in the hands of Ft. Bliss and not be cleaned up.

Ms. Firth reiterated that she will work with the City's community partners to make sure that she has all their updates.

A copy of the proposed Federal Legislative Agenda with revisions is on file with the minutes.

No action was taken on the proposed Federal Legislative Agenda.

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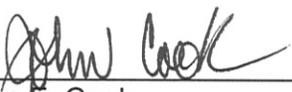
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#### Item 4. Adjournment

Motion made by Committee Member Robinson, seconded by Committee Member Holguin and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

  
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John F. Cook  
Chairman

Mayor  
John F. Cook

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