

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2010-R-09
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
MAY 3, 2010
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,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District I
Hector Garcia,	Council Member, District II
Michael 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.	Council Member, 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

IV. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Communiqués

- a. Invitation by Pastor Lucy De Leon, Bubble Home Project Board of Directors, regarding the Bubble Home Fest scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010 at Lifedowns.

Pastor Lucy DeLeon stated that many constituents were blessed by being in this program and receiving a mobile home. She added that the project was born from an idea of Congressman Henry Cuellar who wanted to help needy families in the area. She went on to say that there were currently eighteen homes in Laredo that had been given to recipients who had been trained to be independent by learning trades. Also, the

recipients were required to attend classes about parenting and civic duties. She presented a video to Mayor and Council.

Cm. Garcia wished to reprogram funds from Community Development in order to provide from seven to ten homes to needy families in his district.

Citizen comments

Robert Barrera, American Indian Memorial Day Chairman, invited Mayor and Council to the 17th annual Memorial Day Powwow on May 28-29, 2010. He distributed flyers to explain the event more fully. He added that this event was sponsored by Mayor Raul Salinas and the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mario Zaragoza addressed safety issues in the Vista Nueva Subdivision. He mentioned an accident in the intersection in front of KLDO, adjacent to this subdivision. He went on to say that a traffic light was needed in that entrance area near Loop 20. He requested to approve the agenda item to initiate traffic lights there.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza of Mr. Victor Mora to the Transportation and Traffic Safety Committee.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garcia, Cm. Rendon, Cm. Belmares and Cm. Liendo Espinoza were not present.

- b. Appointment by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza to Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve Brian Clark.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance #2010-O-033 accepting additional grant funds in the amount of \$110,000.00 from the Homeland Security Grant Program, Texas Division of Emergency Management and to amend the City of Laredo's General Fund budget in the same amount. These additional funds are 100% funded and will be divided equally for the addition of text services to the ASTRO 25 System Master Switch and equipment for the Police Department's Bomb Squad unit. The Homeland Security Grant will now total \$1,290,350.69. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance #2009-O-123 accepting a supplemental grant in the amount of \$24,891.00 from the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority and to amend the City of Laredo's FY2009-2010 annual budget in the amount of \$24,891.00. This supplemental grant of \$24,891.00 is 100% funded at no cost to the City. The 2009-2010 Texas Burglary and Automobile Theft Prevention Authority grant funding for the Laredo Autotheft Force will now total \$458,405.00. The funding period for this grant is from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign Trade Zone Operator Agreement with United States Bonded and FTZ Warehouse, LLC, as Zone Site Operator located at 13806 North Unitec Drive within the Unitec Industrial Park-Foreign Trade Zone Site No. 6; effective June 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2014; providing for activation, administration, annual and transaction fees to be paid to the City. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinance 2010-O-046, 2010-O-047, 2010-O-048, 2010-O-049, 2010-O-050, 2010-O-051, 2010-O-052, 2010-O-053, 2010-O-054, 2010-O-055, 2010-O-056, 2010-O-057, 2010-O-058, 2010-O-059, 2010-O-060, and 2010-O-061.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. 2010-O-046 Amending Section 23-3 of Chapter 23 (Parks and Recreation) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo to allow for a \$5 increase in the annual membership fee for public recreation centers for all participants (from a present fee of \$5.00 to \$10.00); a \$25.00 fee for participation in two-week summer programs with a \$200.00 fee for non-residents; and, providing for an effective date. (As Amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-046.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-047 Amending the City of Laredo FY 2010 Airport Construction Budget to recognize additional revenues from a grant received from the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program being Grant Project No. 3-48-0136-063-2010 in the amount of \$145,629.00 to conduct a Wildlife Hazard Study and Assessment at the Laredo International Airport and appropriating said grant revenue and local match to the appropriate expenditure accounts and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment. The City's local match of five (5%) percent in the amount of \$7,665.00 is available in the Airport Construction Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-047.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-048 Amending the City of Laredo FY 2010 Airport Construction Budget to recognize additional revenues from a grant received from the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program being Grant Project No. 3-48-0136-062-2010 in the amount of \$4,000,000.00 for noise mitigation under FAR PART 150 Noise Abatement Program at the Laredo International Airport and appropriating said grant revenue and local match to the appropriate expenditure accounts and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment. The City's local match of five (5%)

percent in the amount of \$210,526.00 is available in the Airport Construction Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-048.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-049 Authorizing the City Manager to amend and appropriate the City of Laredo's Special Police FY2009-2010 annual budget in the amount of \$499,840.00 to fund the Laredo Recovery Act for Border Security and Trafficking Project. Funding for this project is available from the State of Texas Recovery Act Edward Byrne Memorial JAG or Justice Assistance Grant for the period of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011. This grant will 100% funded at no cost to the City and will used to pay overtime and purchase computer software for the Police Border Security & Trafficking Project Operations.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-049.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-050 Amending Chapter 24, Article VI, of the Laredo Land Development Code, section 24.93.6: special permit procedures: electronic displays, in order to remove the requirement that displays be located on the premises of an outdoor arena, stadium, or theater; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-050.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-051 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 9.5 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located on the east side of Ejido Road, south of Wormser Road, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); Providing for publication and effective date. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change. District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-051.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-055.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2010-O-056 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a forklift repair business on the south 2/3 of Lot 2, Block 552, Western Division, located at 1716 Shea Street; Providing for publication and effective date. Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit. District VIII (As Amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-056.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2010-O-057 Designating as a one-way southbound the 2000 and 2100 blocks of S. Milmo Avenue, between Chesnut Street and San Luis Street, and as a one-way westbound the 2300 and 2400 blocks of San Luis Street, between S. Jarvis Avenue and S. Milmo Avenue, during the peak hours of 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and 2:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, during school days, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one-way traffic and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-057.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2010-O-058 Designating as a one-way eastbound the 2900 block of Norton Street between S. New York Avenue and S. Canada Avenue, as a one-way eastbound the 2900 block of Tinaja Street, between S. New York Avenue and S. Canada Avenue, as a one-way westbound the 2900 block of Thurman Street, between S. New York Avenue and S. Canada Avenue, as a one-way westbound the 2900 block of Palo Blanco Street, between S. New York Avenue and S. Canada Avenue, as a one-way northbound the 2900 block of Canada Street, between North Street and Thurman Street, as a one-way southbound the 2700 block of Canada Street, between Tinaja Street and Palo Blanco Street, during the peak hours of 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and 2:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, during school days, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one-way traffic and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-O-058.

5. 2010-R-030 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$500,000.00 to the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to fund the Laredo Auto Theft Task Force for the period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. This grant pays salaries, fringe benefits, equipment and supplies for the LPD personnel and Webb County personnel to combat auto theft in the City of Laredo and Webb County. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-030.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 2010-R-031 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) in the amount of \$250,000.00 with \$50,000.00 in matching funds, for a total of \$300,000.00. Funds will be used to fund a small scale photovoltaic (PV) solar cell panel array system at the Environmental Services Department. This will fund an alternative energy pilot project. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-031.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 2010-R-032 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$150,000.00 to the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for the purpose of funding the Tobacco Compliance Program for the period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. Funding will be used to execute random unannounced inspections to assure retailers are in compliance with tobacco laws. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-032.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

8. 2010-R-033 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$10,503.00 fund the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program. The BVP program will fund \$10,503.00 and the City of Laredo will designate \$10,503.00 in matching funds for a total program budget of \$21,006.00. Funding will be used to replace bulletproof vests that exceed the recommended life expectancy. Funding is available in the City of Laredo Special Police Programs Transfer-In. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-033.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. 2010-R-034 Accepting a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of Vehicle Occupant Protection during the Click it or Ticket Campaign. The grant is for overtime salaries, including fringe benefits and is funded 100% by the Texas Department of Transportation. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-034.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. 2010-R-035 Authorizing the City Manager to amend the contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services and accept additional funds in the amount of \$13,535.00 for the Health Department's Maternal and Well Child Services Grant for the term of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-035.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

11. 2010-R-037 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a finance/ownership lease with Philpott Motors, Nederland, Texas and Ford Motor Credit Company—Municipal Finance, for the acquisition of fifty (50) police pursuit vehicles for the Police Department in the total principal amount of \$1,330,000.00; and authorizing the finance/ownership lease transaction including a \$500,000.00 initial payment. Funding for the lease purchase payments and the down payment is available in the Police Trust Fund budget. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-037.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. 2010-R-039 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Laredo, Texas relating to the submission of a pass-through finance application by Webb County, Texas for the improvements of Loop 20/Spur 400.

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-039.

16. Consideration for acceptance, final payment, release of the remaining retainage in the amount of \$15,870.97 and approval of final change order in the amount of \$129,692.20 to Price Construction, Ltd.; Big Spring, Texas for the Chacon Creek Wastewater Interceptor Phase II. The change order is for the extra length of casing and the rock encountered on the 30” bore under Loop 20, the extra gravel cost, the pavement work and increases and decreases to match actual constructed quantities encountered along the 21” and 24” sanitary sewer lines at different depths; the acceptance, final change order and release of retainage are subject to approval of Texas Water Development Board. The contract time for the change order was extended by 150 calendar days. The new contract amount is \$3,954,958.20 and the new contract time is 665 Calendar Days. Funding is available in the 1998-A Sewer Bond issue and \$107,589.00 from the EPA Grant. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Consideration to renew contract FY10-002 to Rafter P. Transport Inc., New Braunfels, Texas, in the amount of \$300,000.00 for providing hauling and disposal services of wastewater bio-solids from the Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant. This service supplements the department’s equipment capabilities and helps control wastewater bio-solids overflow during the rainy season. The bid price is based on a per load rate. Funding is available in the Utilities Department—Wastewater Division budget. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration to award annual supply contract number FY10-042 to the low bidder, HD Supply Wasteworks, San Antonio, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$182,165.25, for the purchase of fire hydrants for the City of Laredo’s Utilities Department. This is an annual supply contract that allows for the purchase of fire hydrants on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Fund. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration to renew contract FY09-045 to Envirodyne Laboratories, Houston, Texas, in the estimated annual amount of \$130,000.00, for providing laboratory analytical services for water and wastewater samples in accordance to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved standard methods. Funding is available in the

Utilities Department budget, Water Pollution Control Division. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Hagemeyer North America, N. Charleston, SC through the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the amount of \$110,975.00 for the purchase of an additional bomb disposal robot and accessories for the Police Department. Funding is available utilizing proceeds from Homeland Security Grant SHSP-LEAP 2009-SS-T9-0064 in General Fund. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to exercise renewal option for annual contract FY09-048 to:

1. Leyendecker Materials, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$250,000.00, for the purchase of asphalt, cold laid material (F.O.B. Plant), and the purchase of black base (F.O.B. Plant); and
2. Brothers Materials, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$90,000.00, for the purchase of black base (Site Delivered).

This contract is for the purchase of materials required for all City maintenance, paving and construction projects. The term of this contract is for a one (1) year period and is subject to the availability of funds. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department and construction projects budgets. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to award contract FY10-030 to the following bidders to provide automotive body repair services:

1. Omega Carriers LLC, Laredo, Texas, for passenger cars, light, medium and heavy duty trucks;
2. Paul Young Auto Group, Laredo, Texas, for passenger cars and light duty trucks;

and

3. Lozano Body Shop, Laredo, Texas, for passenger cars, light, medium and heavy duty trucks.

All automotive body repairs services will be secured on an as needed basis. The estimated contract amount is \$150,000.00. Staff is recommending that these contracts be awarded to these three (3) qualified vendors and to allow staff to secure repair estimates from all three vendors to get the best pricing for the needed repairs. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget. (As amended and approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Awarding a contract, not exceed \$75,000.00 to Texas Energy Engineering Services, Inc., (TEESI) and authorizing the City Manager to execute said engineering services contract. Contract will provide for assessment and engineering for the retrofit/upgrade of the Health Department's Heating Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. This project will also focus on increasing the energy efficiency of the HVAC system. Funding is available through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Refund of property tax in the amount of \$1,243.94 to the following taxpayers;
 1. A refund in the amount of \$589.23 payable to Hilario Cavazos Jr., due to an overpayment. Account #902-00010-100.
 2. A refund in the amount of \$654.71 payable to Frank Hill Jr. due to an overpayment Account #900-90441-006.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to award a contract for a Tennis Professional, in an amount of \$63,000.00 for a twenty-four (24) month period commencing on the 4th day of May 2010 and terminating on the 3rd day of May 2012. The contract will be with Raul Miguel Ramos, individually and D.B.A. Tennis Professional, to provide professional

tennis lessons at the Market Street Tennis Courts. Funding is available in the Parks Budget, Recreation Division. (Approved by Finance & Operations Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Approval to appoint Dr. Maurice Click to continue to serve as the Health Department's Health Authority under Section 121.033 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, for the period of April 1, 2010, through March 31, 2012, and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Dr. Click for professional services in the amount not to exceed \$12,720.00 per year. Funding is available in the Health Department fund in the Office of Public Health Practice (OPHP) for this grant year. The contract is subject to availability of future funding from the Texas Department of State Health Services. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

27. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. 2010-R-036 A resolution by the City Council of the City of Laredo joining forces with the Rio Grande International Study Center in its plea for a moratorium and intervention to totally oppose and prevent water from being transported, exported, or pumped from the Pecos River and Rio Grande watersheds and calling upon federal, state, cities, and counties along the border that are also impacted by this proposed action to join the City of Laredo's efforts to oppose the extraction of water from the Pecos River and Rio Grande watersheds. (Approved by Operations Committee)

John J. Johnson Castro stated that this was a huge issue that he had been dealing with for years. He added that this was under everybody's radar because of the Texas rule of capture and water code, Chapter 36. He added that Clayton Williams was proposing to extract 41 million gallons of water per day outside of the watershed to Midland, Odessa and surrounding counties.

Motion to approve Resolution 2010-R-036.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Presentation by the Healthy Eating Active Living (H.E.A.L.) Laredo Committee.

Nora Martinez from the City of Laredo Health Department reported that she was there as an equal partner with the HEAL initiative. She gave the following presentation:

HEAL

The Healthy Eating Active Living Initiative

Building the HEAL Initiative

Three Key Motivators:

New UTHSCSA Dietetics & Nutrition Program

Increasing rates of overweight, obesity, and Type II diabetes

A role for a well-coordinated, community-wide effort targeting nutrition and physical activity

HEAL Stakeholders

University of Texas Health Science Center Laredo Regional Campus

Dietetics and Nutrition Program

South Texas Environmental Education and Research Program (STEER)

CDC/Hispanic-Serving Health Professions School (HSHPS)

Mercy Ministries of Laredo

Gateway Community Health Center

City of Laredo Health Department

City of Laredo Parks & Leisure Services

HEB Public Affairs

Laredo Independent School District

United Independent School District

Laredo Health Directory

South Texas Food Bank

Teaching & Mentoring Communities (Texas Migrant Council)

Texas A&M Colonias Project

Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Border Affairs

Laredo Main Street

Economic Cost of Obesity

\$10.5 billion in 2001

\$12.7 billion in 2010

\$15.2 billion in 2020

\$39 billion in 2040

Adult Data

Diabetes

Laredo: 16% Texas: 10%

Obese

Laredo: 35% Texas: 29%

Poor Nutrition

Laredo: 80% Texas: 75%

Not Physically Active

Laredo: 35%

Texas: 28%

	Grade Level	WEBB County	TEXAS
At risk of overweight (≥ 85 th but < 95 th percentile on BMI charts)	4th	21%	19%
	8th	20%	18%
	11th	19%	16%
Overweight (BMI > 95 th percentile on BMI charts)	4th	32%	23%
	8th	22%	18%
	11th	17%	17%
0 days /week participating in 30 minutes of moderate physical activity	4th	43%	31%
	8th	30%	22%
	11th	20%	20%

National Campaign

“For the first time in American history, our children’s life expectancy may be shorter than their parents’.”

National public awareness effort to combat the epidemic of childhood obesity

Four key areas:

Making healthy choices

Healthier foods in schools

Access to healthy, affordable foods

Increasing physical activity

Efforts in Texas

San Antonio

“Active Living San Antonio”

El Paso

“Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities”

Brownsville

“Healthy Communities of Brownsville”

Mission and Vision

Mission:

The HEAL Initiative will promote an environment that supports healthy eating and active living in Laredo.

Vision:

Laredo will be recognized as having an environment in which choices for healthy eating and active living are supported and promoted.

HEAL Efforts

Health Promotion

Increase awareness of existing community resources for healthy living
Educate Laredoans on strategies to improve nutrition and increase physical activity
Support farmers market and community garden initiatives

Policy & Environmental Changes

Healthy restaurant campaign
Enhance joint-use facility agreements between city and school districts
Implement and enhance wellness programs
Work-sites, universities, schools, churches

3. Discussion with possible action to construct an area of access for pick and drop off for elderly clients at the Azteca Community Center to address safety concerns. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza)

Mayor Salinas stated that when the clients were dropped off in that area, they had to stop in the middle of the street which he felt was an accident waiting to happen.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza stated that the concern was not only for people being dropped off at the center but also for the entire neighborhood. She said that when the bus would stop to drop off the elderly clients, they stopped traffic and this was a safety hazard. She went on to say that there was a section to the right where they could possibly construct a drop off or driveway area.

Motion to instruct staff to look at the area and see what they could do to move the bus out of the street.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action regarding House Bill 1937 that enables homeowners to finance solar panels through property tax bills.

Mayor Pro Tempore Garza reported that through the research of staff, he found that the tax rate of certain subdivisions could be raised in order to make improvements and then get paid back through those funds.

Riazul Mia, Environmental Services Director, reported that the House Bill 1937 came from a federal program called PACE. He added that they were planning on coming back to Council to discuss a small revolving loan fund to see if it were successful.

2. Discussion regarding the inclusion of the proposed City Charter amendments for the Monday, May 10, 2010 Workshop.

Mayor Pro Tempore Garza wanted to confirm that the Charter amendments were on the May 10, 2010 workshop agenda.

C. Request by Council Member Hector “Tito” Garcia

1. Discussion with possible action regarding congestion concerns at exit of Vista Nueva Subdivision located on Loop 20 and Maria Luisa Drive.

Cm. Garcia stated that although he hadn’t seen a letter from U.I.S.D. as mentioned by Mario Zaragoza, traffic in that area was growing and to exit the subdivision was very dangerous. He added that perhaps they could get a temporary light there.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that eventually it was part of the upcoming project to force traffic to go to the right. Meanwhile, they needed to look at how to move traffic better through the area.

D. Request by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck

1. Discussion with possible action regarding alleged indecent dancing in publicly exposed locations. Possible presentation by Pastor Rincon. (Co-sponsored by Mayor Tempore Mike Garza)

Cm. Landeck stated that he had received many phone calls concerning indecent dancing in publicly exposed locations in his district and felt that the public required clarification.

Pastor Rincon reported that since a few months ago, a social phenomenon had been taking place. He mentioned that the operating of some local businesses involved using young women wearing very revealing clothing, showing body parts such as the behind, to attract clientele. He added that the young women would ask for tips that could be placed in their bras. He felt that this matter needed to be brought before an ethics or moral committee for consideration. He went on to say that children should not be exposed to such a spectacle and would be adversely affected in a moral and spiritual sense, and that it was also demeaning to women, robbing them of dignity. He concluded that this promoted the macho culture.

Police Chief Maldonado reported that this was an issue that they had looked at, and frankly, they had to work within the confines of the law. He added that there was nothing prohibiting what they were doing as long as they were clothed. He advised that they had visited with the owners of the establishments and had asked that they be cognizant of what they were doing in the community.

E. Request by Council Member Juan Narvaez

1. Discussion with possible action to utilize \$350,000.00 from the 2009 C.O.— Clark/Meadow Project for the Buenos Aires Community Center.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to install speed humps and speed cushions by Milton Elementary School and speed cushions by Alma Pierce Elementary School as part of the ongoing pilot project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

F. Request by Council Member Johnny Rendon

1. Discussion with possible action regarding funding for improvements located between Base #1 and Base #2 near the Airport. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Gene Belmares, Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza, & Council Member Juan Narvaez)

Mireya Mancha-Chavez reported that Little League rules were that they had to play twelve games to be eligible for All-Stars, but they had only one field. Therefore, they were currently playing in other fields and this presented a hardship for parents without reliable cars to drive long distances.

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks and Leisure Services, mentioned that they were looking at about \$65,000 not including lights in order to improve the field.

Mayor Pro Tempore Garza mentioned that U.I.S.D. was exploring the possibility of doing flag football at the middle schools and wondered if this would also be a possibility for Little League. He mentioned that there were softball fields at all of the high schools.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza asked if the quote given by Mr. Guzman was including the improvements to the concession stand. She also indicated that she would like to contribute to the improvements from her discretionary funds.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal asked if they could take the \$65,000 and divide it among five Council Members' discretionary funds from Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.

Motion to work with Council Members to improve the field as amended.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

G. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion on Summer 2010 City of Laredo water production and distribution, with possible action.

Tomas Rodriguez, Utilities Director, reported that in March 2008, there was a peak period of 42 million gallons, and in March 2009, 38.4 million. This year, it was 38.9 million gallons, but during peak of last year, it was 50.7 million gallons in July. He went on to say that there were no problems anticipated with the current water usage

because the water treatment plant had a capacity of 65 million gallons, ground storage of 37 million gallons, and elevated storage of 8 million. He concluded that another tank of 3 million gallons per day was currently being constructed.

2. Discussion with possible action to install speed cushions as part of the pilot project on Live Oak and Winrock Drive and the extension on Northstar Drive.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, said that the pilot price of the speed cushions was \$4,000 per set of speed humps.

Motion to approve the speed humps to be paid for through discretionary funds.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action on accepting a donation of land for a neighborhood park located in Khaledi Heights.

Cm. Belmares stated that the goal was to try to put park land within a 15-20 minute walk of anywhere in his district, but the northeast corner did not have a park available. He wished to find some land that they could work with to make a neighborhood park.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to accept the donation of land.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

H. Request by Council Member Jose A. Valdez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the status of the Northwest Recreation Center.

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks Director, said that there was a project scheduled and that they were looking at May 16th 2010 to schedule an advertisement for bids. He added that the bid should be awarded toward the end of June.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding the Anna Street Baseball Park.

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks Director, stated that they were looking at the end of the month to have everything ready and the parking lot was already started.

I. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Discussion with possible action on drafting a resolution opposing the SB 1070 Arizona Immigration Law. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Raul G. Salinas)

Cm. Liendo Espinoza stated that Arizona signed into law a bill that would let police officers arrest any person if they felt that it were probable cause that they were an unlawful alien. She felt that this was racial profiling and wished for Laredo to let the

federal and state government know that this was not something of which they would approve.

Francisco Gallegos appeared to speak in favor of opposing Arizona's immigration law and draft a resolution.

Motion to instruct the City Attorney to draft a resolution opposing the SB 1070 Arizona Immigration Law and incorporate it into the legislative agenda.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. STAFF REPORTS

28. Discussion with possible action to consider Police Officer Arturo Benavides' final request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code. Officer Benavides has returned to full duty status.

Dan Migura, Human Resources Director, reported that they were asking for a motion to extend the Injury Leave.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Presentation on the Sister Cities Festival by Gustavo Guevara, City Secretary.

A video was shown of the event.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XIV. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 22 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on May 3, 2010.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary