

**CITY OF LAREDO  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
&  
ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP  
M-2010-SC-06  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
AUGUST 9, 10 & 11, 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,	Council Member, District I
Hector Garcia,	Council Member, District II
Michael Landeck,	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Gene Belmares,	Council Member, District VI
Jose Valdez, Jr.	Council Member, District VII
Cynthia Liendo-Espinoza,	Council Member, District VIII
Carlos Villarreal,	City Manager
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.	City Secretary
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Garza and Cm. Narvaez.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Narvaez joined the meeting at 5:39 pm and Cm. Garza joined the meeting at 6:35 pm.

## **VI. PUBLIC HEARING AND INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE**

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2009-2010 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute, and appropriate revenues and expenditures of \$832,500.00 per year for three (3) years for a total of \$2,497,500.00 and adding four (4) FTE positions from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) to provide early detection, health education and cancer prevention for the term period August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2013. This is the largest grant award made in the State of Texas to date by The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT).

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza and Cm. Narvaez were not present.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## **VII. MOTIONS**

2. Discussion with possible action on the acceptance of the Master Plan/Programming Plan of the Laredo Ballpark as presented by Consultant HKS Sports & Entertainment, Dallas, Texas, and possible setting of a budget for the proposed project.

Mr. Jerry Faucet reported that they had been working with city staff for the past several months on the documents being presented today. He went on to give a short presentation explaining the building program for a ballpark with a 7,000 seat capacity. He went on to explain that of that, 4500 seats would be fixed seats and 1500 would be grass burn seating. He added that the program included state-of-the-art facilities for both home and visiting teams such as clubhouses, batting cages, dugouts, bullpens and all amenities that come with a first-class minor league ballpark. He continued by explaining that the ratios developed by points of sale for food service were based off of standards developed for minor league ballparks and that public toilet facilities would meet or exceed what building code currently requires. He advised that suites on the second level of the ballpark would have their own restrooms and private restrooms for those who would be club members. He noted that the facilities would be ADA compliant. He concluded that there would be four windows for ticket sales at the main

entry to the ballpark. He presented binders with the Master Plan/Programming Plan to Mayor Salinas and City Council.

This presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston. St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Motion to accept \$17 million plus \$1 million for a total of \$18 million for the total construction cost including design.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 4

Against: 3

Abstain: 0

Cm. Landeck

Cm. Valdez

Cm. Liendo Espinoza

3. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Pre-Leasing/Development Agreement with Ventura-Sports Group-Laredo, Inc., for consultation services for the design, construction, and development of a baseball stadium and professional baseball team and further authorizing the City Manager to sign all relevant documents, subject to appropriation of funding.

Jesus Olivares, Assistant City Manager, reported that the Council had before them a baseball stadium document summary that would give them an executive summary of the three items they were about to discuss. He added that on the last page they would find what the city would be obtaining on the total package as far as guarantees from the professional baseball team during the lease period and how much money the city would be bringing in on a yearly and monthly basis. He went on to say that it contained the profit sharing included on the net income ranging from zero to \$800,000. He continued saying that they had negotiated amounts to stay with the city of \$0.50 per ticket that would be sold above \$8, 25% of the parking revenue, and 10% of the naming rights after expenses. He said that they had included 250 complimentary tickets per baseball game and use of the facility for 22 days out of the year, a city suite, ten premium tickets to each game, 10% of the assignment of operations and lease agreement and franchise after cost, contribution of \$25,000 by the city entity for a maintenance repair fund, and the complete management and operation of the facility, program event scheduling, all taken care of by the Laredo baseball investors, LCC at no additional cost to the city.

Motion to reconsider items 3 and 4 for the record.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. Landeck

Motion to adopt items 3 and 4 and bring back item 5 as an ordinance.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Garcia  
For: 5

Against: 3  
Cm. Landeck  
Cm. Valdez  
Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
For: 5

Against: 3  
Cm. Landeck  
Cm. Valdez  
Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Abstain: 0

4. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Non-Competition Agreement with Ventura Sports Group-Laredo, Inc., (including Laredo Baseball Investors, L.L.C.) limiting the parties from competing with each other on the proposed professional baseball team and the proposed baseball stadium.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
For: 5

Against: 3  
Cm. Landeck  
Cm. Valdez  
Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Abstain: 0

5. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Operations/Lease Agreement with Laredo Baseball Investors, L.L.C. (Ventura Sports Group-Laredo, Inc., Manager) for the operations and lease of the proposed baseball stadium, the establishment of a professional baseball team and further authorizing the City Manager to sign all relevant documents, subject to appropriation of funding.

City Attorney Raul Casso advised that this item should be brought back as an ordinance.

Motion to bring back this item as an ordinance.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **VIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

- a. Discussion with possible action on acquiring additional property along the east corridor of Loop 20 for additional sports venue projects.

Cm. Belmares reported that he saw a rendering that could potentially open the door to have a sports venue for amateur sports, for example a multisports complex for tournaments. He continued saying that the big question was whether or not they could access the sports venue tax for that complex which would include Little League fields, adult softball, tennis, and a soccer field. He said he would like for staff to research those two items: first, the funding mechanism, and second, the acquisition of the additional property on the east corridor at Loop 20. He advised that there were properties all the way from the airport to north of the arena that were currently available so that they could make an acquisition. He asked that within the confines of the sports venue tax, how far from the arena could they use the funds.

Cm. Valdez stated that he liked the idea but his only concern was looking at the 4A/4B tax so that they could eventually get away from using sports venue tax. He felt that they should distance themselves from that tax because the city would benefit more from the 4A/4B tax.

Motion to look into the legality of the tax issue.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Against: 0

## **IX. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 ANNUAL BUDGET:**

Mayor Salinas stated that during this budget workshop, the budgets of each of the Departments of the City of Laredo, as hereinafter listed, will be discussed; however, there may be occasion when the order of discussion may be changed by the City Council. Under review will be the number of employees in each Department, their classifications, positions, salaries and benefits of employment, such as health and life insurance, retirement benefits, licensing and continuing education; also, there will be discussed the matter of supplies and materials, land acquisitions, contracted services, equipment, capital improvements, and other charges and matters necessary to the functioning of each department in the accomplishment of its goals and objectives.

6. Approval of the 2010 Certified Appraisal Roll from the Webb County Appraisal District for the development of the City's tax roll; acceptance of the Effective and Rollback Tax Rate calculations for Tax Year 2010; and acceptance of the tax rate of \$.637000/\$100 used in calculating property tax revenues for the 2010-2011 Proposed Budget. (This will be the seventh year that the City adopts the same tax rate. Imposition of a tax rate which exceeds the effective rate of \$0.641605 or rollback rate of \$0.682489 will require additional public hearings and publications.)

Motion to accept the 2010 Certified Appraisal Roll.



This presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

C. BRIDGE

Mario Maldonado, Bridge Manager

Mario Maldonado, Bridge Manager, pointed out the 2009-2010 budget highlights.  
FY 2009-2010

Increase of \$2.1 million in revenues, 5.2%

\$2.6 million transfer to CIF

Operational expenses under budget by \$323,000

FY 2010-2011

Increase in revenues by \$853,000 or 2%

\$2.5 million transfer to CIF

No rate increase proposed

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

D. CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Blasita Lopez, Convention & Visitors Bureau Director

Blasita Lopez, Convention and Visitors Bureau Director, reported that the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau had done very well during the last month with various activities such as the pony league and expected to see some good numbers during the last few months of the fiscal year. She noted that they would be conservative with their projections. She gave a presentation before Mayor and City Council.

HOT FUNDS

Projection was at \$2.5 M- we are almost there!

Same conservative projection for FY 2011

LCVB Dept. Impact

Department budget last year \$1.8 M; same this year

Minimal increase

Internal practices for staff include soliciting sponsorships for sellable events

Leveraging resources with more partners

The sun is on the horizon for expanding Laredo's nature tourism efforts; this year Laredo was the hometown for the ICF pro tour of nature photography Borderlands of Laredo Competition and this has helped us build relationships that will be invaluable for the future. Plus our name will be on a fabulous coffee table book set to be unveiled this October. This book and our association with the events immortalizes our destination as a nature tourism savvy spot and gives us these wonderful images to market our area with- it's been a great investment of our resources. One of the lasting benefits is the connection to area private landowners; much like they are open for hunting season, we want them to be open for bird watching and nature photography tours seasonally.

Hometown of the Images for Conservation 2010 Pro Tour of Nature Photography  
Borderlands of Laredo Competition

- \$180,000 in prize money was awarded on July 10
- Winning ranch was Los Lazos, Webb County; photographer was R. Nussbaumer split \$50,000 prize

Laredo CVB receives requests that range from hotel rates to welcome bags for conferences; this is some of the data to date on this activity. We have seen an increase in religious group activity with the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's witness that held 3 different gatherings this year culminating in June with thousands of attendees at the LEA in early June- this was year 1 of a 5 year contract. Pony League has put forth a tremendous effort to attract team tournament play that has also positively impacted hotel business. Casa Laredo and LCVB have built a lasting relationship with a tour operator from Guadalajara that offers a tour package for students that study international commerce and business. This year we had 3 different university groups come in and they had an incredible economic impact overall. Staff estimates students/faculty spent close to \$1,500 US dollars while shopping, not including the hotel and food costs, with about 80 people through these tours that were handled by Casa Laredo.

Since October 2009:

- 37 Groups serviced
- 8,000 room nights booked

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

E. PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks & Leisure Services Director

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks & Leisure Services Director, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

Department M&O/Management of:

67 Parks and 4 Plazas

Veterans Field

41 Little League/Softball/Baseball Fields

22 Soccer Fields

8 City Trail Systems

6 Swimming Pools / 6 Splash Parks

7 Recreation Centers / 1 Tech-Rec Center

2 Senior Centers

Civic Center

El Mercado

City Cemetery

Laredo Public Library

Bruni Plaza Branch Library

Cybermobile

Bookmobile

Capital Improvement Park Projects

Sport Leagues (Softball (83), Basketball, Soccer)

Recreational Programming (Rec. Centers, 8 summer sites)  
Special Events (4th of July, Christmas, Halloween, ...)  
Rental of Facilities (Pavilions, Pools, Concessions, Rec Ctrs)  
Maintenance (Bridge (2), Fire Stations, PD Stations, Right of Ways)

Community Events

- Kite Festival
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- Senior Events
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Winter Wonderland
- Track and Field 2010

Accomplishments

- Independence Hills Groundbreaking
- One City One Book
- Santo Nino Walking Track
- Azteca Spray Park
- Farias Spray Park
- Anna Park

Coming Attractions

- Northwest Community Center
- James & Maria Luisa Haynes
- South Laredo Library
- Independence Hills Regional Park

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Motion to recess for day one.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Day 2

Motion to excuse Cm. Garza, Cm. Landeck, and Cm. Valdez.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Valdez and Cm. Liendo Espinoza were not present.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza joined the meeting at 6:54 pm.

F. SOLID WASTE

Stephen Geiss, Acting Solid Waste Manager

Stephen Geiss, Acting Solid Waste Manager, gave a presentation before Mayor

Salinas and City Council.

Recycling

Inbound Tons Vs. Processed Tons

	FY08-09	FY09-10
Average Tons Per Month Inbound	343.8	322.2
Average Tons Per Month Processed	187.9	217.0

Recycling Division

Revenues Vs. Expenses

	FY08-09	FY09-10
Total Expenses	\$1,859,021	\$1,846,147
Total Revenues	\$1,843,462	\$1,899,050

Recycling Sales

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sales	\$195,073	\$254,675	\$261,847	\$342,568	\$208,576	\$330,653

Sanitation Division Activities

Garbage pickup for 55,000 residents twice a week

Garbage pickup for 2,700 businesses twice a week

Garbage cart pull out service for the elderly

Branch pick up every other week

Recycle pick up every other week

Large branch pick up with grapples

A day shift & night shift downtown seven days a week.

Dead animal pick seven days a week

Provide trash cans and service to 15 events yearly

Sanitation Division

Revenues Vs. Expenses

	FY08-09	FY09-10
Total Expenses	\$7,133,166	\$5,774,515
Total Revenues	\$6,847,415	\$7,218,936

Landfill Division

Revenues Vs. Expenses

	FY08-09	FY09-10
Total Expenses	\$8,550,165	\$6,363,706
Total Revenues	\$6,564,404	\$6,335,499

Solid Waste Total

	FY08-09 (actual)	FY09-10 (Estimate)	FY09-10 (Budget)	FY10-11 (Proposed)
Expenses	\$17,906,451	\$14,312,378	\$16,900,994	\$16,172,504
Revenues	\$16,117,095	\$15,630,150	\$16,427,457	\$16,008,399

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110

Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

G. HEALTH

Dr. Hector Gonzalez, Health Director

Dr. Hector Gonzalez, Health Director, gave a presentation to Mayor Salinas and City Council.

Health Department Budget

Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011 (Proposed)
\$18,005,204.00	\$16,895,270.00

General Fund	Grants
29%	71%

Services	Percentage GF	Percentage Grant
Administration	100%	0%
Health Education	100%	0%
Budget/Grant/EMS/VS	100%	0%
MCH	14%	86%
Immunization	41%	59%
Tuberculosis	30%	70%
Patient Care	38%	62%
HIV/STD Program	7%	93%
Laboratory	100%	0%
Environmental	91%	9%
Animal Control	100%	0%
Core Public/Preparedness	0%	100%
Dental	0%	100%
WIC	0%	100%

New Fees and Efforts

Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011 (Proposed)
46,000 Immunizations	46,500
26,000 Persons Immunized	26,500 Persons
\$4.00/Person = \$104,000.00	\$8.00/Person = \$212,000.00

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Motion to instruct staff to draft an ordinance to increase immunization fees from \$4.00 to \$8.00.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza, Cm. Landeck, Cm. Valdez and Cm. Liendo Espinoza were not

present.

## H. UTILITIES

Tomas Rodriguez, Utilities Director

Tomas Rodríguez, Utilities Director, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

### American Recovery & Reinvestment Projects (ARRA)

- Jefferson Water Treatment Plant 65 MGD Processes & Electrical Upgrades - \$35,170,000
- Hendricks, Milmo & Lyon Water Booster Pump Station Improvements - \$3,966,115
- Generators & Electrical Controls for Booster Station Improvements - \$2,091,777
- 20" Waterline replacement along Jefferson St./Lyon - \$1,073,339
- 8" Waterline replacement project at various locations - \$6,680,504

### Bond Projects

- North Laredo WWTP 3 MGD Expansion - \$13,000,000
- Water & Wastewater Master Plan – under design - \$780,000
- El Pico 20 MGD WTP - \$96,000,000
- 24" Water transmission main from Killam EST to Doctor's Hospital - \$3,100,000
- Southside WWTP Expansion 1.5 MGD Phase 1 - \$4,000,000
- Southside WWTP Expansion 6 MGD Phase 2 - \$36,000,000
- 60" Water transmission main from Mines Rd. to I-35 - \$16,000,000
- SH 359 Booster Station Improvements - \$85,188
- 36/24" Water transmission main on IH 35 from Unitec Industrial Park to Loop 20 - \$3,600,000
- Manadas Creek & Mines Rd. WWTP - \$12,000,000
- Sombrettillo Creek WWTP - \$4,000,000
- 3 MG EST @ Bartlett & Price - \$3,800,000
- Flores St. drainage/water/sewer improvements - \$2,000,000
- Sewer line & manhole rehabilitation & lift station rehabilitation - \$5,500,000
- 24" waterline from Lyon Booster Sta. to Bartlett & Price and to Loop 20 & Clark - \$4,100,000

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

## I. POLICE

Carlos Maldonado, Police Chief

Carlos Maldonado, Police Chief, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

### Significant Changes

- E-Citations

- Digital Imaging Management System (DIMS)
- The conversion of Districts to Beats
- Reorganization of Sectors to Patrol West / East
- Man power resource allocation within the organization
- Exploration of an intelligence fusion center options
- Upgrade of main police building security system cameras
- Enhancement of Records filing system

Laredo Police Grants

Existing Grants:

- 13 Grants \$2,623,561

New:

- Tobacco Compliance \$ 8,200
- Laredo Border Security & Trafficking \$ 499,840

Pending:

- COPS
- Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) 2010
- Operation Stonegarden 2009 \$700,000
- Operation Stonegarden 2010
- Bulletproof Vest 2010

Performance Measures

Law Enforcement

Record Gun Bust

- 10,000 rounds of ammo
- 263 magazines
- 146 assault rifles
- 53 bayonets

Emergency Dispatch

	FY08-09 October 2008-September 2009	Projection October 2009-September 2010
Emergency 911 Calls	168,644	169,000
Calls for Service	288,998	290,000

Auto Theft Task Force Statistics

	Offenses	Recoveries	Arrests
Jan – Dec '07	1537	543	89
Jan – Dec '08	1701	416	101
Jan – Dec '09	1482	458	73

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.



### FY 2009 Grant Summary

No. of Grants: 6

Discretionary: \$19,565,744 92.3%  
Entitlement: \$ 1,633,491 7.70%  
Total FAA: \$21,199,235  
Local Match: \$ 561,660  
Total Available: \$21,758,895

Projects Funded:

- Reconstruct GA Apron Phase 4
- Reconstruct Runway 17R / 35L
- Upgrade Runway 17R Lights and Electrical Vault
- A&E Services to extend Runway 17R, relocate portion of Taxiway A and Relocate ILS
- FAR Part 150 Noise Abatement

### FY 2010 Grant Summary

No. of Grants: 4

Discretionary: \$ 6,445,629 88.90%  
Entitlement: \$ 803,152 11.10%  
Total FAA: \$ 7,248,781  
Local Match: \$ 381,516  
Total Available: \$ 7,630,297

Projects Funded:

- Reconstruct GA Apron Phase 5
- Reimburse City for ARFF Vehicle Unit
- FAR Part 150 Noise Abatement
- Wildlife Hazardous Study
- Airport GIS

### Enplanement Passenger Activity

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Thousands	74	82	91	98	113	104	102	113

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

## K. PUBLIC WORKS

John Orfila, Public Works Manager

John Orfila, Public Works Manager, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

### Projects Completed

Sidewalk Projects 24  
Paving Projects 95  
Drainage Imp. Projects 7  
Curb & Gutter Projects 18  
Valley Gutter Projects 20  
Misc. Construction Projects 62

TOTAL 226

Performance Measures

Street Paving Projects 436 Blocks  
 Storm Drainage Maintenance 672 Inlets  
 Creek Maintenance 148 Acres  
 Building Maintenance 980 Work Orders  
 Street Maint.– Pro Patchers 21,489 Pot Holes  
 Street Cleaning – Sweepers 41,090 Lane / Miles  
 Right-of-Way Maintenance 101 Miles

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary’s Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

L. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Steve Landin, Fire Chief

Steve Landin, Fire Chief, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

Received six (6) new fire engines

Unit	Station	Address
3002	No. 2	2100 Zacatecas
3003	No. 3	2420 San bernardo
3004	No. 4	1919 Houston
3007	No. 7	1120 Calton
3008	No. 8	510 Del Mar
3010	No. 10	11015 Mc Pherson

Received Mobile command unit  
 (S.h.S.P. Grant - \$850,000)

Received Airport fire truck  
 (F.A.A. Grant - \$855,000)

EMS Responses

Actual	Estimated	Proposed
08-09	09-10	10-11
22,208	23,500	25,000

Fire Responses

Actual	Estimated	Proposed
08-09	09-10	10-11
9,323	7,510	7,367

Fire Inspections

	Actual	Estimated	Proposed
	08-09	09-10	10-11
Fire Inspections	3,048	2,858	3,000

Fire Investigation	80	58	60
Plat/Plan Reviews	427	472	445
Revenue Generated	\$152,736	\$127,000	\$127,000

Progress Report for the International Training Facility  
 Training Facility Revenues

Actual	Actual	Estimated	Proposed
07/08	08-09	09-10	10-11
\$128,161	\$88,302	\$92,850	\$77,500

Training Impact Fees

The Training Center remains cost effective by providing in-house training to the organization thus saving money for the city by reducing logistical and administrative cost associated with out-of-town training.

Firefighter's Continuing Education

ARFF live burns@ DFW:	\$ 22,035
ARFF CE Training @ DFW	\$ 16,500
Fire Suppression CE (20 hr.)	\$ 42,875
Hazmat CE Training(20 hr.)	\$ 6,250

Fire Academy (for approx. 20 fire cadets)

Texas A&M Fire Academy	\$133,875
EMT / Paramedic Training/School	\$190,500
ARFF Certification Course	\$42,400
Hazmat Certification Course	\$46,400

Fire Department Training/Continuing Education

Total Savings Cost: \$500,835

Progress Report for Fire Grants

Recently Funded Grants

FY08-09	Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)	\$500,000
FY08-09	Mobile Command Unit (State Homeland Security Grant)	\$850,000

FY10-11 Applications to be submitted for grants

Assistance to firefighters grant	\$850,000
Assistance to firefighters grant fire station construction	\$2.5 million
Safer staffing grant	\$4 million

Capital Improvement Plan – Project

Laredo Fire Dept. Administrative Center	\$8.5 million
---	---------------

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110

Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

#### M. TRANSIT

Feliciano Garcia, Transit Manager

Feliciano Garcia, Transit Manager, gave a presentation before Mayor Salinas and City Council.

##### Transit Improvements

New Freedom Grants 2008-2010

\$375,000

To upgrade and construct new sidewalks and bus shelters to ADA compliance measures.

The Paratransit Advisory Committee (PAC) will make recommendations to Transit for the locations of sidewalks and shelters needing to be in compliance.

\$218,000

- Will be utilized to replace up to 10 bus lifts in compliance to with ADA requirements.

ARRA Grant 2009

\$4,281,382

The ARRA Grant is for the purchase of 12 transit buses.

\* six 35 ft

\* six 40 ft

Expected to be delivered in March 2011.

##### FTA Transit Hub Rehabilitation Grant

\$850,164

- Upgraded the first floor (Transit Center) restrooms. The public restrooms were completely demolished and equipped with 12 new stalls.
- Remodeled the Customer Service Information Office, 2nd and 3rd floor administration offices.
- Acquired two new sweepers, Transit Garage pay station, will upgrade the current telephone system and other miscellaneous equipment.

##### Fixed Route Performance Measures

Proposed 2010-2011

Cost per passenger \$3.21

Cost per hour \$76.58

##### Fixed Route Ridership

FY05-06	FY06-07	FY07-08	FY08-09	FY09-10
4.1	4.3	4.3	4.0	3.4

##### El Lift Para Transit Passenger Ridership

FY05-06	FY06-07	FY07-08	FY08-09	FY09-10
55,196	51,548	50,359	48,394	51,529

## Para Transit Performance Measures

Proposed 2010-2011

Cost per passenger \$37.75

Cost per hour \$71.01

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

- N. Funding and Operations of the departments (including divisions); of the Mayor and City Council, Building Department, City Manager's Department, City Attorney's Department, City Secretary's Department, Financial Services Department, Tax Department, Planning & Zoning Department, Human Resources, Information Services and Telecommunications Department, Economic Development Department, Engineering Department, Fleet Department, Community Development Department, Traffic Department, Environmental Services Department, Municipal Court and Third Party Funding and all other related matters.

Roger Creery, Laredo Development Foundation Director, made a presentation to Mayor Salinas and City Council.

## Strategy

Leverage our LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION supported by our vast and efficient infrastructure, complemented by our young, growing workforce to continue to:

- Add to our core International Trade business
- Increase our manufacturing presence
- Advance efforts to enhance our retail economy
- Continue to grow our call center/financial services sector
- Support regional oil and gas industries
- Facilitate expansion of business from Mexico

And in all efforts, COLLABORATE...

- International Trade Business
- Continue to support City's trade mission efforts
- Continue to prospect for investors and developers interested in adding new building capacity
- Actively participate with trade corridor organizations to promote our port
- Annual Symposium
- Business Without Borders Conference

Increase manufacturing presence

- Attend and promote at key trade shows
- Promote and continue to build relationships with Site Selectors
- Cold call and leverage all referrals from existing companies
- Annual Symposium
- Business Without Borders

### Enhance Retail Economy

- Work with developers to promote their projects
- Continue to advance efforts to secure outlet mall/large retail complex
- Attend and promote at key trade shows
- Support and collaborate with organizations promoting tourism
- Work with U.S. Department of Commerce to find funding mechanisms for San Bernardo Avenue Project

### Prospect Handling Services

- Confidential real estate solution assistance
- Confidential market analysis meetings
- Gather statistics and local demographic information
- Perform competitive analysis for prospects alternate site locations
- Advocate for local and state incentives
- Project pro-forma development and cost evaluation

### Unemployment Statistics

	2009	2010	% Change
Unemployment (Laredo MSA):	9.9%	9.3%	-9.5%
Workforce (Laredo MSA)	95,100	95,500	0.4%
Total Jobs (Laredo MSA):	85,700	86,600	1.1%
Unemployment (Texas):	8.3%	8.5%	2.4%
Available Workforce (Texas)	12,029,100	12,176,600	1.2%
Total Jobs (Texas):	11,033,300	11,136,600	0.9%
Unemployment (U.S.):	9.7%	9.6%	-1.0%
Workforce (U.S.)	155,921,000	154,767,000	-0.1%
Total Jobs (U.S.):	140,826,000	139,882,000	-0.7%

### Prospects Landed

Jobs	Capital Investment	
Domistyle	150	\$2,500,000
PROLAMSA (expansion)	50	\$1,000,000
Convergys (expansion)	300	\$100,000
Caterpillar Logistics (NL)	80	\$8,000,000
Medline (expansion, NL)	400	\$10,000,000
Las Lomas Industrial Park	n/a	\$3,000,000
Brown Hyundai	15	\$250,000
Sony	75	\$500,000
US Express	40	\$2,000,000
Chuck E. Cheese	25	\$1,000,000
MBTech Mahindra Testing	10	\$500,000

### Additional Support Services

- ALBA (Alliance of Laredo Business Associations)
- 4B Tax

- Workforce Development Collaboration
- Workforce Solutions
- Laredo Community College LMI/NAAMREI
- ISD Outreach Activities
- P-16 Council
- Emerging Technology Fund
- Border Transportation Advisory Committee
- Planning and Zoning Committee
- Main Street Organization
- Bubble Home Project

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Cm. Garcia stated that the Laredo Development Foundation needed to come back to Council with a plan that would include 25% of taxes put away just for them. He said that they needed more money but not from the general fund. He also felt that the \$37,500 for Laredo Main Street was not enough and that \$13,500 should be put into Laredo Main Street to make it whole.

Motion to cut funding by 25% for the Laredo Development Foundation and put the monies back into the general fund to go toward a raise for city employees except to put \$13,500 toward Laredo Main Street.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 3

Against: 4

Abstain: 0

Cm. Valdez

Cm. Belmares

Cm. Narvaez

Mayor Salinas

Cm. Liendo Espinoza was not present.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that the instructions that they gave the Third Party Funding Committee included a 25% cut. He went on to explain that the Council established a priority to look at organizations that directly help individuals by direct services to the public. He wished to know if they wanted to set a date so that they could meet to consider the information as part of the budget or if it would simply be part of another meeting.

Council wished to bring the Third Party Funding item back at the Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> regular City Council meeting by amending the agenda that had already been posted, eliminating recognitions, and starting the meeting at 5pm.

Cm. Valdez mentioned that he would like to revisit the C.I.P. issue at that meeting.

## **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn day 3.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 6

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 August 9th, 10th and 11th, 2010.

---

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  
City Secretary