

**MINUTES
DRAINAGE BOND COMMITTEE MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011

6:00 PM

**CLIFF MORTON DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS SERVICES CENTER
1901 SOUTH ALAMO**

Committee Members Present:	Edward R. Day, Hugh H. Farr, Joanna Lopez, Bert Hargesheimer, Carrie Everson, Verna Eskridge, Cristel Villarreal, Jesse Pacheco, Rick Trefzer, Dr. Cha Guzman, Edward Garcia, Mary Kathy Luna, Gilbert Gallego, John Duncan, Jr., Romulo Spiller, Bennie Cole, John Wright, Joe Diaz, Nat Hardy, Randy Murdoch, Bob Costigan, Rolando Briones, Walter Ague, Art Downey, Donna Thompson, John Kuderer, Greg Cramer for Kevin Connor, Robert Leonhardt, Steve Grau, Melinda Rodriguez, Co-Chair; and Alan Schoenbaum, Co-Chair.
Committee Members Absent:	Bonnie Weed, Kevin Connor
Staff Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Peter Zaroni, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Martha Sepeda, <i>First City Attorney</i> ; Mike Frisbie, <i>CIMS Director</i> ; Maria Villagomez, <i>Budget Director</i> ; Melinda L. Uriegas, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Melinda Rodriguez and Mr. Alan Schoenbaum, Co-Chairs, called the meeting to order.

I. Opening Comments and Meeting Procedures by Committee Chairs

Opening comments by Co-Chairs Ms. Rodriguez and Mr. Schoenbaum included it being noted that a tour of identified Drainage Projects was scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2011 and Committee Members introducing themselves. Mr. Schoenbaum recognized Mayor Castro who expressed his appreciation to the Committee Members for their service.

II. Community Committee Roles and Responsibilities and Status Update of City's 2007 Bond Program

City Manager Sheryl Sculley outlined the Roles and Responsibilities of the Committee Members and provided a status of the City's 2007 Bond Program. It was noted that the 2012 Bond Program continued to focus on improving infrastructure needs. Ms. Sculley detailed funding allocations for each of the four infrastructure categories which totaled \$596 million.

III. Open Meeting, City Ethics, and Lobbying Activity

First City Attorney Martha Sepeda provided the Committee Members with a brief overview of local and state regulations regarding Open Meetings, Ethical Conduct, and Lobbying Activity.

IV. Staff Professional Recommendation of Drainage Projects

Mr. Mike Frisbie, CIMS Director, referenced the guiding principles for project selection and highlighted drainage improvements to be made. He provided a general overview of the recommended projects, scope of work, and funding allocations. It was noted that a total of 18 projects were identified for inclusion in the 2012 Bond Program and totaled \$130 million.

V. Bond Committee Discussion and Analysis

Art Downey requested detailed information regarding each project. Mr. Frisbie said information would be provided by the next meeting. Mr. Schoenbaum reminded Committee Members that a tour was scheduled.

Steve Grau asked of the number of homes being removed from the flood plain as a result of said Drainage Projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that approximately 370 homes would be removed from the flood plain and that a better total would be determined once Projects commenced.

Randy Murdoch requested clarification on the number of properties being taken from flood plain via Indian Creek Drainage Project. Mr. Frisbie noted that said project would take 14 properties out of flood plain as area is undeveloped. He confirmed that said Drainage Project was in conjunction with Ray Ellison Street Improvement Project.

Nat Hardy asked of the methodology utilized in prioritizing projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that projects were identified with the assistance of the City staff, complaints placed into 311, as well as experts from the San Antonio River Authority, Bexar County, and other agencies.

John Wright asked how the city planned on addressing homes not within the flood plain but were prone to flooding. Mr. Frisbie stated that homes would be reflected on flood plain maps.

Dr. Cha Guzman suggested that the City reference funding sources for each project. Mr. Frisbie stated that said information would be provided at the next meeting.

Gilbert Gallegos noted that none of the identified Drainage Projects were in District 5. Mr. Frisbie spoke to the varying needs of the community and stated that District 5 Projects could be reflected in other 2012 Bond categories.

Melinda Rodriguez requested that Projects be identified by City Council District. She also asked about the process for recommending additional projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that it was not too late to modify listing. It was noted that Projects could be recommended at each meeting with the Committee approving the list of Projects to be undertaken and City Council approving the recommendations.

Dr. Cha Guzman requested that Committee Members be provided with a list of projects that were considered but that did not make list due to funding constraints. Mr. Frisbie stated that said list would be provided.

VI. Citizens to be Heard

Chairman Schoenbaum called Citizens signed up to speak. He noted that Citizens would have 3 minutes to speak.

Henrietta La Grange, member of the Mulberry Girls, thanked City Staff for their hand work. She spoke in support of Phase II of the Seeling Drainage Project and highlighted the difficulties with residing in a flood zone. She thanked City staff for their hard work and dedication.

Carmen De La Rosa noted her concern with an open drainage ditch located across the street from Longfellow Middle School. She requested for the City to enclose the ditch.

Bianca Maldonado, Streets, Bridges, and Sidewalks Committee Member, spoke in support of Upper Woodlawn and Seeling Drainage Projects. She referenced the number of homes to be removed from the flood plain and noted the safety risks posed to residents and City staff after each rain event.

Ed Garza, San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) President-Elect, addressed the Committee and requested inclusion of SAISD Projects into the 2012 Bond Program. He provided the Committee with an overview of each recommended Drainage Project, funding partnerships, and impact to the community.

Lauro De Leon, Westside AARP representative, voiced his concern with the flooding occurring in his neighborhood due to inadequate drainage. He spoke on the cost associated with making home repairs and requested that the Acuña Project be included in the 2012 Bond Program.

Manuel D. Garza, Westside AARP representative, thanked Committee Members for their participation. He noted that his organization had provided the Mayor with a list of projects for inclusion in the 2012 Bond Program and requested that the projects be considered by the Committee.

Juan Zapata voiced his concern with the Sapphire Drainage Project. He noted that flooding would not be alleviated in his neighborhood as the scope of work did not include his street.

VII. Next Steps for Community Bond Committee Process

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2011.

Art Downey asked how information and recommendations would be provided to Committee Members. Mr. Frisbie noted that information would be disseminated to Chair and Members and would be available on-line.

Steve Grau requested that Committee Members be provided a map denoting all Drainage Projects being considered or being worked on by all local entities. Said map is to also reference the 2007 and 2012 Bond Projects.

Walter Ague highlighted the planning experience and resources available from the Regional Watershed Improvement Advisory Committee. He recommended that SARA present at the next meeting to discuss new ways of development and to highlight local Drainage Projects completed.

Edward Day requested a more detailed map of each Project and for the four Committees to have an open dialogue. Mr. Frisbie explained that Projects did not overlap as infrastructure needs are different.

Romulo Spiller asked if District 5 Projects would be included. Mr. Frisbie noted that Elmendorf Lake Improvement Project was a District 5 Project. He stated that District 5 may be represented in the other infrastructure categories.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.