



# City of San Antonio

## Streets & Sidewalks Committee – 12/19/06

### 2007-2012 Bond Program

#### *Committee Comments/Questions*

- Is there any particular order the list of Bond Projects are in?
  - The projects are arranged in alphabetical order
- The description of the Callaghan Rd. Phase II project is vague. In particular, the traffic light congestion and traffic flow issues do not seem to be specifically addressed.
  - Mr. McCombs stated these comments will be addressed at the January 9 meeting. Mr. Wendorf responded that many details are involved within a street project to include traffic and drainage studies. He indicated these studies would be done for the Callaghan project.
- This Bond Meeting has been organized much better than the last (December 12, 2006). The Bond Program must also remind the public about other services to maintain roads in order to be successful amongst voters.
- Is the 5-Year Street Maintenance Program funding equally distributed among the Council Districts?
  - Mr. Wendorf stated not every District gets the same amount of money. The programs are based on need.
- If you take out the bridge replacement projects from the list of 2007 Bond Projects, it does not look like the projects are evenly distributed throughout the city. For example, if you remove project #1685, all projects in the inner city and on the west side disappear.
  - Mr. Wendorf offered to discuss this further in detail with the committee member after the meeting.
- Are traffic calming strategies, specifically with collectors, figured into the 2007 Bond project recommendations?

No, traffic calming is not considered in the bond projects. The City does not perform traffic calming studies nor implement traffic calming methods for collector streets.
- The maps provided by city staff may be deceiving. I drove many of the streets on the northside of the City associated with projects from this Bond Program and I did not see any residential housing. Is there going to be a developer benefiting from this 2007 Bond Program? Is the city staff going to benefit from this Bond Program? Streets such as Roosevelt and Presa need more attention.
  - Mr. McCombs thanked the member for his statement.
- Octavia and other long-standing projects have been a serious concern to many residents. It is important these long standing projects be addressed in the Bond Program.
  - McCombs thanked member
- I have an issue regarding project #1685, Bridge Replacement program (Callaghan Rd.) and the cost of the project. This area is in need of a traffic signal and bridge repair. The area this project will address may turn into a major problem because it has been neglected.
  - Mr. Wendorf stated the City shall put the appropriate crossing needed for the project. The traffic signal request will be evaluated, and probably need one after an evaluation process. The bridge item may be a match for TXDOT projects. TXDOT surveys bridges and if the bridges score below 60 on a scale of 100, TXDOT may consider it eligible for replacement. Tom recommends the City match the money required to replace the bridge through TXDOT. There are many

similar bridges the City is looking at handling the same way. Tom gives the Timberhill project as an example of matching the funds to have TXDOT replace the bridge.

- It is necessary to have a list of bridge projects by location the City is considering matching funds through TXDOT for replacement.
  - Mr. Wendorf responded that there are hundreds of bridges across the city that is part of the bi-annual TXDOT bridge study. He states city staff will provide a list and map at the next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2006.
- The first thing I look at when considering 2007-2012 Bond Projects are staff recommendations. I try to not look at the list of proposed projects as they relate to a part of city, but rather city-wide. When I look at the list, I do not see many projects allocated to my part of town. However, when I look at the 5-Year Street Maintenance Program, I do see many projects within my part of town. Please take the boundaries away when looking at these recommendations. I believe when people focus on their own needs, they are doing a disservice by not thinking about a city-wide program. I encourage Members to look at the other funding sources for streets and drainage projects that are not included in the 2007-2012 Bond Program
  - Mr. McCombs thanked the Co-Chair for his comments and asks other Members if there are any more comments?
- I had the opportunity to drive all the recommended projects and I agreed with all of staff's recommendation except for one, #1125 Wallace Street. Why did this street make the list?
  - Ms. Sculley responded the recommendation to place Wallace Street on the list was a case of city-wide rough proportionality.
- I have volunteered to work with Public Works in the past for my community. When people ask for the City to fix their neighborhood streets, the response they get is to wait for the Bond Program. The Bond Program should concentrate on the inner city and move outward. The way it is structured now, it starts outside Loop 410. Citizens think this Bond Program will fix sidewalks and fill potholes, and this Bond Program does not address those issues right now. Citizens are not going to vote for this if this is the case.
  - Mr. McCombs reminds the Member about the leverage money they have to work with and the importance of leveraging these dollars for long-term projects that will improve the quality of life for all San Antonians. We are breaking new ground by doing a City-Wide Bond Program. A City-Wide Bond Program has never been done before in San Antonio. Let's make this change happen while under great City leadership. The Medical Center belongs to everyone, not just the residents in District 8. Many people work, live and visit the Medical Center. The Medical Center has not received one penny of government subsidy. It is time to invest in the Medical Center for all of San Antonio. I think we are headed in the right direction with the proposed 2007-2012 Bond Projects. This Bond Program will be a milestone for San Antonio. We could still choose to spend a lot more money, yet still not scratch the needs of our community.
- Of the 31 proposed Bond projects, how many will receive leverage dollars?
  - Mr. Wendorf responded that 11 of the projects will receive leverage dollars. The total leverage amount is approximately \$225 million.
- I would like a list of the projects that will receive leverage dollars.
  - Mr. McCombs stated the Committee should look at the projects receiving leverage dollars, but they should also look at what is in front of the committee as well. Tom Wendorf states he will provide that information at the next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2006.
- What districts do you live in: Chairs
  - McCombs-8, Byrd- 1
- Mr. Romo, a Committee Member, provides a handout with comments and questions he has regarding the 2007-2012 Bond Program Streets and Sidewalk projects.
  - Mr. McCombs thanked Mr. Romo for his provided comments. City staff distributed the document to all Committee Members.

- I would like to request the Streets and Sidewalks project information by Council District.
  - Ms. Sculley responded that the information can be provided but reminded the members that the City Council's direction to staff and the Bond Committee was to consider the Bond Program with a comprehensive approach.
  - Mr. Byrd feels City staff needs to honor the request. Even though City staff and the Co-Chairs do not recommend this, they agreed to provide the information.

### *Citizen Comments/Questions*

- Charlotte Kale
  - Concerned about Sentential Highway near Interstate Highway 10. Ms. Kale is asking the Board to consider more off-road hike and bike trails. Ms. Kale thanked the Members for their service.
- Alex Bernardo
  - Mr. Bernardo indicated there needed to be more hike and bike trails in San Antonio. Mr. Bernardo stated he is a member of the "Wheelman" bike team. He stated commuter safety is a concern and he asked the Board to take the commuters into consideration as they make their decisions on street bond projects.
- Bill Bettencourt
  - Mr. Bettencourt would like for all projects to be fully developed in a timely manner. He would like the City to take the statement off the city website that states this 2007-2012 Bond Program will not raise the tax rate. He feels the statement is false, he does not believe that.
- Cliff Hickel
  - Mr. Hickel asked the Committee to support bicycle lanes and commuting on the lanes when considering bond projects. He stated commuters take cars off the streets. Mr. Hickel also mentioned the need for adequate bike lanes so children can safely commute to and from school.