

## City of San Antonio



### Drainage Bond Committee Meeting Minutes

San Antonio Public Library  
Central Branch  
600 Soledad St.

Thursday, December 15  
6:00 PM

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Bond Committee Members

A majority of appointive members, other than ex officio, shall constitute a quorum.

#### **6:07 P.M. - Call to Order, Board Room**

Co-Chair Alex Perez called the meeting to order and introduced fellow Co-Chair Ramiro Cavazos.

- Attendance of Committee Members
- Head count of general attendance: 21
- Claudia Mancilla, World Wide Translators, was present

#### **I. Opening Comments and Meeting Procedures by Committee Chairs**

Opening comments were made by Co-Chair Mr. Perez, included thanks for the committee's time throughout the process.

#### **II. Presentation by the City Attorney's Office**

Andy Segovia, City Attorney, presented guidelines for the committee decisions and ethical guidelines for voting on recommendations. He explained that if a committee member or a committee members employer directly benefits from bond funds being voted on this evening then that committee member should recues themselves from the vote.

#### **III. Staff Presentation Recommendation of Drainage Projects**

Mike Frisbie thanked the committee members for their time and contribution. He reminded them that if there is a suggested project there should be a reduction from another project. Mr. Frisbie then continued by providing a summary of the tour of the proposed project.

Mr. Frisbie discussed committee actions to date:

1. City staff met with TxDOT about the proposed project on North New Braunfels and determined a study would cost \$300,000 and would be done in conjunction with a TxDOT study currently being conducted in Alamo Heights. Mr. Frisbie stated that the Barbara Drive project could handle a reduction of \$300,000 without reducing the scope of the proposed project to accommodate the proposed North New Braunfels project.
2. City staff determined that Wigwam Drive Project could include the owner participation in the cost of the proposed project. Mr. Frisbie explained that City staff looked at the two largest drainage bond projects, Seeling Channel and Port San Antonio, to find ways to cut money to provide funds for the proposed project at Wigwam Drive.

#### **IV. Bond Committee Discussion and Analysis**

Co-Chair, Alex Perez, requested a question and answer segment with Mike Frisbie. Mr. Perez explained that Mr. Frisbie presented on the two options above based on the discussion during the last meeting.

District 9: Joel Garcia asked how realistically the committee should consider possible savings to allow for the Wigwam Drive project. Mr. Frisbie stated the project could be completed as a result of savings.

District 4: Dr. Mike Flores asked for information about how other committees have prioritizing proposed projects in the event of a savings. Mr. Frisbie stated other committees have moved money around within their own districts.

District 8: Calvin Finch asked the District 1 representatives if they are comfortable with taking \$300,000 out of the Barbara Drive project to fund North New Braunfels Study. The District 1 representatives, Lisa Zottarelli, Abe Salinas, & Jay Loudon, confirmed support.

Mr. Finch then asked members of District 7 if they were supportive of taking money from the Seeling Channel project to fund Wigwam Drive project. Mary Rogers confirmed support, but Joe Diaz denied support. Joe Diaz asked how the committee could be certain that the amount of money taken from Seeling would not stop or negatively impact the project. Mr Frisbie stated the hope is to keep the same scope, but it would be based on what is found after the design stage. Joe Diaz asked if the design was already done and Mike Frisbie informed him that design has not been done.

District 10: Jeffery McKinnie asked if Port San Antonio has other income available to pay for some of the proposed project. Mr. Frisbie stated that Port San Antonio has historically paid for the design portion of the project, approximately 10-12% of the project cost, and the city pays the remainder. However, asking Port San Antonio to increase their contribution could be an option.

District 3: Mr. Anderson, substitute for Juan Mancha, stated he walked the Wigwam Drive project and spoke with the pastor and asked if there is any State money to address this drainage issue as it was caused by the highway. Mr. Frisbie stated that this is highly unlikely as the State does not have funding to address drainage issues.

District 9: Joel Garcia asked if cutting funds from Port San Antonio could affect leveraged funds Port San Antonio has already obligated. Mr. Frisbie stated the scope of the Port San Antonio project could be reduced if money is taken from the project.

District 8: Eduardo Parra stated that Port San Antonio brings work to jobs and wants the Port San Antonio project to move forward without any reductions.

District 9: Steve Grau asked how many phases are left for Seeling channel. Art Reinhardt stated there would be multiple phases of the project to continue upstream all the way to Balcones Heights. Mr. Parra asked for dollar amount. Mr. Reinhardt stated the cost would be at least as much as was spent downstream which is about \$60 million.

District 4: Sam Luna stated that he agrees with Mr. Parra and that no monies should be taken from the proposed Port San Antonio project. He states that District 4 is not willing to give money from Port San Antonio for another project.

District 5: Al Rocha stated that all projects are important including North New Braunfels. He asked if there was another way to raise money for the study for North New Braunfels. Mike Frisbie stated it could be funded through an annual budget process, but explained the project would have to compete with all other City needs. Mr. Frisbie stated that funding a study would get the project ready for the next bond cycle.

District 5: Micheal Martinez asked the committee members to leave Port San Antonio alone and not to take funds from the proposed project.

District 8: Calvin Finch stated that many studies have been done on North New Braunfels, but he thinks that the \$300,000 will not do anything that will result in action or actual drainage improvements. He stated the study is not a good investment on the part of the committee.

District 6: Robbin Lopez stated that North New Braunfels is a big issue and that Port San Antonio could wait or be done in phases. Mr. Frisbie confirmed this and stated that any reduction could force a phasing for Port San Antonio. Mr. Frisbie also explained that Port San Antonio takes care of the maintenance and repair of the channel after construction which is normally a cost to the City of San Antonio.

District 7: Joe Diaz asked why they can't go after the State for the drainage issues caused by the Interstate Highway. Mr. Frisbie stated that Interstate Highways are constructed to remove water from the road as efficiently as possible and there isn't State money to address drainage issues caused by highway construction.

Mr. Diaz also asked why Beitel Creek is being funded if there are not structures flooding. Mr. Frisbie stated that Beitel Creek is a leveraged project and Art Reinhardt stated that completing this project would allow for more development in the area.

District 9: Joel Garcia asked how many structures or emergency vehicles are affected by the flooding on North New Braunfels. Mr. Garcia stated that North New Braunfels was designed to carry a lot of water and there are many access points in this area for residents and emergency vehicles.

District 3: Jennifer Ramos stated Port San Antonio is a very important project and she supports the project to be fully funded. She continued by saying that North New Braunfels study should move forward even though the project would cost millions of dollars.

**V. Motion**

Co-Chair Alex Perez then asked to end discussion and reminded committee members that taking monies from projects could cause a reduced project scope. Mr. Perez also said if a proposed project is voted on then funds must be taken from something else. He then asked the committee to take an informal poll and choose one of the following options before an office motion is made.

1. Leave list presented by city staff
2. Fund North New Braunfels study using monies from the Barbra Drive project
3. Fund Wigwam Drive project from funds of Seeling channel
4. Fund Wigwam Drive project drive from Port San Antonio funds
5. Fund Wigwam Drive project drive from Seeling channel and Port San Antonio

District 8: Eduardo Parra made a motion to fund the list of proposed drainage bond projects as presented by City staff; fund the study for North New Braunfels using \$300,000 from the proposed project at Barbra Drive; and place the proposed project at Wigwam Drive as first on the list for projects to be completed in the result of savings. Jay Loudon, District 1 seconded the motion.

In favor: 18

Against: 8

District 6: Robbin Lopez asked to make a motion to place Pinn Rd. and Commerce low water crossing next on project priority list. The motion was seconded by Linda Jackson, District 6.

After committee discussion it was decided that other project priorities not be set.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26