

City of San Antonio



Facilities Bond Committee Meeting Minutes

San Antonio Public Library
Central Branch
600 Soledad St.

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

6:00 PM

600 Soledad St.

Bond Committee Members

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

6:15 P.M. – Call to Order, Board Room

Co-Chair John Clamp, called the meeting to order, and introduced fellow Co-Chair Joe Linson

- Attendance of Committee Members
- Head count of general attendance: 43
- Claudia Mancillas, Interpreter Translation Services, was present.

I. Opening Comments, Overview of Meeting Agenda and Procedures by Committee Co-Chairs

Opening remarks were made by Co-Chairs Mr. Linson and Mr. Clamp. Mr. Linson welcoming everyone to the final meeting. Mr. Linson then asked Mike Frisbie, Director of Transportation and Capital Improvements, to address the meeting.

II. Staff Clarification on Project Impacts & Address Questions From Committee Members

Mr. Frisbie first took a moment to thank all the individuals who helped make this process happen. He next addressed the committee by briefly recapping the bus tour and the happenings from the previous meetings. He walked through all the actions taken by the committee noting that the list had not yet been finalized. He also noted that in the final Parks Committee meeting they added the District 2 MLK Plaza project to their request and this committee would not need to consider it, unless additional funding was to be considered.

Assistant City Attorney Elizabeth Provencio gave a brief reminder to the committee on the application of the ethics principals, and rules and proceedings for the voting process. She also noted that if any question would come up she would be available to discuss.

Mr. Clamp then walked through the steps he would take before making the final motion to ensure that all could comply with the mentioned principals.

Mr. Linson quickly thanked everyone who helped make this process go smoothly, and reminded the committee that today they would reach consensus with the votes.

Mr. Clamp also took a moment to thank the City staff for all their work, and then thanked the committee for their work.

III. Bond Committee Discussion and Action

Lora Eckler (District 6) noted that due to confusion in the previous meeting, she elected to not motion to fund the Texana as she thought funding was included for it. She was later told that funding was not included and she motioned to fund the Texana project for \$700,000 and reduce \$700,000 in funding from the Alamo Area project.

Motion was seconded.

Lora Eckler noted that the Library Foundation has pledged to match funding dollar for dollar up to one million dollars.

Mr. Clamp asked what the reduction in funding would do to the Alamo Area project.

Mr. Frisbie responded saying it would reduce the scope or amount of work that could be leverage or complete.

Anita Uribe-Martin (District 7) noted that this would make about four million in funding for downtown.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote to fund the Texana project for \$700,000 and reduce \$700,000 in funding from the Alamo Area project, and the motion passes.

Lora Eckler then made a second motion to put the Texana project on the reserve list for \$300,000.

Motion was seconded.

Andi Rodriguez (District 1) noted that she supports this motion.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote to put the Texana project on the reserve list for \$300,000, and the motion passes.

Mr. Clamp then commented that the committee should limit the reserve project list to around \$3 or \$4 million.

Lora Eckler then motioned to put the Las Palmas Library on the reserve list for one million dollars.

Motion was seconded.

No discussion was made on this item.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote to put the Las Palmas Library on the reserve list for \$1 million, and motion passes.

Ms. Eckler began to make a motion for the Memorial Branch Library, but then withdrew the request as it would exceed the new tentative cap placed on the reserve list.

Ms. Eckler noted that due to a reduction made in the Parks meeting, she proposes adding funding for a cultural project in District 10 and asked a representative to provide detail on the project. She then made a motion to fund the Perrin Beitel Homestead at \$500,000 and reduce \$500,000 from the World Heritage Cultural Center in District 3.

Casey Whittington (District 10) provided details on the historical significance for the District 10 project. He noted that the project request is for \$1.5 million and that during the parks meeting it was reduced by half. He also noted that the \$500,000 would not fully fund the project but would help significantly.

Mr. Frisbie provided the details of the project, and noted that the property contains a homestead that needs substantial renovation. He also noted the reduction to the Cultural Center project has leveraged funds tied to it. He then asked Colleen Swain, Director of World Heritage for the City, to address the committee to discuss the impact to that project.

Ms. Swain discussed that fully matched the project could potentially be a \$10 million facility, and that it falls within the World Heritage designation. The plan is for this facility to serve as the hub or center for all the Missions.

Ms. Eckler then withdrew her motion, and the second agreed.

Mr. Whittington then motioned to fund the Perrin Beitel Homestead at \$750,000 and reduce the UTSA Sports Complex by \$750,000.

Motion was seconded.

Mr. Whittington noted that he himself is a UTSA Graduate, and that he felt the University would be able to raise funds to bridge the gap.

John Nicholas (District 8) asked for Mr. Frisbie to discuss the effect this motion could have on the UTSA project.

Mr. Frisbie stated the UTSA project is a \$75 million request, of which the University asked the City for \$25 million. Weighing all the City needs the staff recommended \$10 million. He then noted that reducing funding could result in reducing the scope or the University could try and raise additional funds.

Mr. Nicholas noted that the UTSA project cannot be funded from the State, adding that this partnership is critical to ensuring this project gets funded.

Marc Harrison (District 8) commented that the committee should keep the funding request at \$10 million to ensure the project can break ground as soon as possible. He then noted that UTSA's growth will benefit the entire City.

Mr. Nicholas, District 8, then asked Mr. Whittington, District 10, why his district defunded the project during the Parks final meeting.

Mr. Whittington commented that he was not in attendance and does not know why the project was defunded.

Joanie Barborak (District 3) commented that the committee should consider which project they feel would have a greater impact, and chose whichever would do most good.

Ms. Rodriguez commented that she felt the motion was not due to opposition for UTSA, but rather a request for District 10.

Glenn MacTaggart (District 10) commented on the sizeable endowment the University has access to, and noted that he felt they would easily raise the funds from alumnus.

Ms. Uribe-Martin commented that we need to protect our history as much as we need to protect our future.

C. Leroy Cavazos (District 1) asked what the reasoning or justification was that City Staff used to include this project in their recommendation.

Mr. Frisbie noted that this was a second phase of an existing project that benefited the community, and when weighing it amongst the other project the City could only contribute \$10 million for the UTSA project in the recommendation.

Mr. Nicholas commented that UTSA is a much younger university than most. He also noted that at \$10 million the project is already \$15 million short. He stated that the school needs the facility, and that it could help boost the local economy. He then added that he would support putting the homestead on the reserve list.

Mr. Whittington then asked if we knew how much money has been spent on the UTSA facility.

Mr. Clamp then responded noting that we would not have access that information.

Mr. Linson noted that UTSA's first bowl game was happening soon. He then commented on how much the university has achieved in such a short time. He expressed his opinion that the funding for the facility should not be reduced.

Mr. Nicholas then commented that the University of Texas system's endowment is restricted and funding could not be used for athletic purposes.

Ms. Eckler noted that the facility would be for track and field or other sports, but would not be used for football. She then commented that she felt the cut would not stop the UTSA project.

Ms. Barborak commented that the facility could be used for the European version of football.

Mr. Harrison noted that the facility would allow for community access, and that all could benefit from its construction.

Mr. Howard called for the question.

Mr. Clamp quickly noted that he himself went to UTSA but also used to represent District 10. He thinks the homestead project could find funding in other ways if this

motion failed to pass. He then called for a vote on the motion to fund the Perrin Beitel Homestead at \$750,000 and reduce the UTSA Sports Complex by \$750,000. The motion failed.

Mr. Linson calls for a motion to put the Perrin Beitel Homestead project on the reserve list at \$750,000.

Motion was seconded.

No discussion was made on this item.

Mr. Camp called for a vote to put the Perrin Beitel Homestead project on the reserve list at \$750,000, and the motion passes.

Mr. Clamp then asked City staff to populate the reserve list so if the committee chooses to do so later, it can be prioritize.

Andy Castillo (District 5) motioned to put fund the EPICenter at \$3 million, the Neighborhood Place at \$1 million, and the Forest Hills Library at \$900,000 by reducing funding to the Alamo Area project by \$1 million, from the UTSA project by \$2.9 million, and the District 9 Senior Center by \$1 million.

Manuel Garza (District 5) commented that the EPICenter project is unique, and that could help grow the renewable energy market in the future. He commented that the Neighborhood Place provides services for those in need. He also added that the Library for District 7 is in need, and should be included in this committee recommendation.

Ms. Barborak commented that she would support one project, but not the entire grouping.

Mr. Garza noted that EPICenter itself would not be self-sufficient and would still draw from the power grid.

Ms. Barborak noted that the entire EPICenter request was for over \$50 million, and she felt adding such a small amount would not fund nor secure the project.

Jim Evetts (District 9) noted that pulling funding from the Senior Center would hurt a great deal of people in need. The area doesn't currently have a center and one is greatly needed.

Marilu Reyna (District 3) commented that even if the EPICenter project is not fully funded it would show support.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote to put fund the EPICenter at \$3 million, the Neighborhood Place at \$1 million, and the Forest Hills Library at \$900,000 by reducing funding to the Alamo Area project by \$1 million, UTSA project by \$2.9 million, and the District 9 Senior Center by \$1 million, and the motion fails.

Mr. Clamp then asked staff to put the reserve list on the screen. Then he asked the committee if any changes were necessary.

Mr. Clamp then commented the reserve list may be fine as it was voted on.

Ms. Eckler then called for a motion to put the Texana first on the reserve list.

Motion was seconded.

Ms. Uribe-Martin commented that the Forest Hills Library is in great need, and it should stay where it stands.

No further discussion.

Mr. Clamp called for a vote to put the Texana first on the reserve list, and the motion fails.

Andrew Roberts (District 2) called for a motion to restore funding to the District 2 Sports Complex by reinstating the funding that was taken from the project in the last meeting in the amount of the \$1,603,446.

Motion was seconded.

Alan Neff (District 2) commented that all of District 2 is united in this motion. He then commented on restoring the staff recommendation on this item, as their community needs the facility.

Ms. Rodriguez commented that the money was pulled from the project for intervention services for women and children. She does not support restoring the funding.

Ms. Eckler commented that District 2 should work with their council member, as other sources may be available or become available.

Bill Kanyusik (District 1) noted that the previously passed motion was not against District 2, but rather looked to support other projects in need.

Mr. Clamp called for a vote on the motion to restore funding to the District 2 Sports Complex reinstating the funding that was taken from the project in the last meeting in the amount of the \$1,603,446, and the motion fails.

Mr. Clamp then noted before he could call the final vote, he needed everyone to disclose their conflicts of interest. He then noted he would pull the Palo Alto Natatorium, the Brackenridge Park, and the UTSA projects from the final motion, and those items would be voted on separately.

Mr. Kanyusik then called for a motion to finalize the committee recommended list, excluding Palo Alto Natatorium, Brackenridge Park, and the UTSA Sports Complex project, as well as adopting the reserve list in the order they were added.

Motion was seconded.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote on the motion to finalize the committee recommended list, excluding Palo Alto Natatorium, Brackenridge Park Garage, and the UTSA Sports Complex project, as well as adopting the reserve list in the order they were added, and the motion passes.

Mr. Kanyusik then motioned to include the Palo Alto Natatorium project in the final committee recommendation.

Motion was seconded.

Mr. Clamp called for a vote on the motion to include the Palo Alto Natatorium project in the final committee recommendation, and the motion passes, noting that Marie Cooper and Joanie Barborak abstain.

Mr. Kanyusik then motioned to include the Brackenridge Park Garage Project in the final committee recommendation.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote on the motion to include the Brackenridge Park Garage Project in the final committee recommendation, and the motion passes, noting that Andy Castillo abstains.

Mr. Kanyusik then motioned to include the UTSA Sports Complex project in the final committee recommendation.

Mr. Clamp then called for a vote on the motion to include the UTSA Sports Complex project in the final committee recommendation, and the motion passes, noting that Virginia Brown abstains.

IV. Next Steps for Community Bond Committee Process

Mr. Clamp then acknowledged that the committee had completed their charge.

Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson then made closing remarks.

The meeting was then adjourned.