

City of San Antonio



Streets Bond Committee Meeting Minutes

San Antonio Public Library
Central Branch
600 Soledad St.
Tuesday, November 29
6:00 PM

Bond Committee Members

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

6:04:P.M. - Call to Order, Board Room

Co-Chair Jim Reed called the meeting to order and stated fellow Co-Chair David Heard will be joining the meeting in a while.

- Attendance of Committee Members
- Head count of general attendance: 43
- Claudia Mancillas, World Wide Translators, was present

I. Opening Comments and Meeting Procedures by Committee Chairs

Opening comments were made by Co-Chair Jim Reed welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending.

II. Staff Professional Recommendation of Streets Projects

Mike Frisbie presented an update on the Bond Committee process, the upcoming tour and follow up from previous meeting.

- A. Tour Overview: Mr. Frisbie stated the tour would take place on Saturday, December 3rd from 9 AM to 2 PM beginning and ending at Development Services and the following projects would be visited:
 - Flores and Fredericksburg Rd (D1)
 - Broadway (D1,2)
 - Hardberger Park (D8,9)
 - Zarzamora Overpass @ UPRR/Frio St. (D5)
 - Hemisfair Internal Streets Phase 2 (D1)
 - Alamo Area (D1)

B. Unfunded projects update – 6 Projects

700 block Delmar – District 2 – \$150,000

This project was recommended by resident Raul Sifuentes and includes the construction of new sidewalks and curbs. The neighborhood is old and the original concept did not include sidewalks and curbs. Mr. Frisbie stated this project is suitable for Pedestrian Mobility Category.

700 block Porter – District 2 – \$150,000

This project was recommended by committee member Gordon Benjamin. The project includes construction and/or replacement of old sidewalks and curbs. These sidewalks and curbs appear to be over 50 year old. Project is suitable for Pedestrian Mobility Category.

Roosevelt Ave – District 3 - \$5,000,000

This project was recommended by committee member George Garcia. Bridges in the past did not accommodate pedestrian traffic. This project includes either constructing a pedestrian bridge adjacent to the bridge for \$2,500,000 or reconstructing the entire bridge to include pedestrian accommodations for \$5,000,000. Mr. Frisbie stated the best option was to build the adjacent pedestrian bridge.

Fredericksburg Road Sidewalks – District 7 - \$2,100,000

This project was recommended by committee member Bianca Maldonado. This includes two projects to construct and or repair sidewalks along a 3 mile stretch of the Fredericksburg corridor from IH 10 to Loop 410. The first project, for \$600,000, would fill in the sidewalk gaps and the second project, for \$1,500,000, would make existing sidewalks ADA compliant.

Loma Linda Drive – District 7 – \$700,000

This project was recommended by committee member Frank Fonesca. This project proposes to construct curbs and sidewalks on one side for pedestrian access as well as street resurfacing to correct some issues.

Bexar Drive – District 7 - \$115,000

This project was recommended by resident Mr. Yanez to both the Streets and Drainage committees. This project proposes to construct curbs and sidewalks on only one side for pedestrian mobility. The total project costs to reconstruct the street and add sidewalks and curbs to both sides as well as address the drainage would be \$1,400,000. This project is a good candidate for the Pedestrian Mobility category with curbs on only one side.

C. Unfunded projects Overview

Mr. Frisbie presented two documents. One is the unfunded projects list that identifies 6 projects that can be funded outside of the bond through possibility through TCI's annual process and 15 projects that can be considered for Pedestrian Mobility bond funding. The second document includes 20 new projects brought up for bond consideration.

III. Bond Committee Discussion and Analysis

Committee co-chair Jim Reed opened the floor to any questions on Mr. Frisbie's presentation.

District 8 - John Kelly asked if Roosevelt Rd (a previous state highway) had been turned

over to the City, the age of the existing bridge, and if it was a good candidate for total replacement. Mr. Frisbie stated that street not yet been turned over to the city. Mr. Frisbie stated he would look into the age and get back with the committee and stated staff will be in contact with the State to see if this bridge was on its replacement list to do a joint effort to get it funded. Mr. Kelly also inquired if any portion of Fredericksburg Rd was overseen by the State for potential leverage funding for the proposed project. Mr. Frisbie stated that Fredericksburg had already been turned over to the City.

District 6 – Oscar Roaslez referred to an unfunded project, 34th Street, that is estimated to costs \$9,000,000 and inquired about the alternate project that was estimated to cost\$880,000 to fix the sidewalks. Mr. Frisbie responded the \$9,000,000 will be the full reconstruction of the street to include sidewalks and the \$880,000 is a good alternate to only address the sidewalks.

District 2 – Gordon Benjamin inquired if any of the Pedestrian Mobility projects recommended by staff included making existing locations ADA compliant and if staff considered these types of projects when developing these recommended projects. Mr. Frisbie stated the City has an inventory of the ADA needs across the city and these recommended bond projects will address some of the needs. Additionally, the annual street maintenance program addresses these needs as streets are maintained. ADA needs can be identified specifically for bond consideration under the Pedestrian Mobility category.

District 1 – Sonny Collins asked if there were any alternatives or options to fund the \$8 million Fredericksburg Road Project. Mr. Frisbie stated that Fredericksburg was a good project but another project would need to be reduced to provide the needed funding.

District 3 - George Garcia wanted to know how leverage dollars works for projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that leverage funds means an entity joining with the City to fully fund a project. Mr. Garcia then asked at what point does the City know how much money is going be leveraged in a project. Mr. Frisbie stated that the City generally knows before a project is recommended. Mr. Garcia asked if any projects in District 3 are leveraged. Mr. Frisbie stated that the Brooks City Base Streets project has leveraged funds and that Brooks City Base is providing land, design and environmental clearance and the City's funds will be used for construction.

District 7 – Bianca Maldonado clarified that the estimate was only for the District 7 side of Fredericksburg between Balcones Heights and Zarzarmora. Ms. Maldonado encouraged her counterparts in District 1 to strongly considering funding for the District 1 side of Fredericksburg.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed acknowledged the attendance of Bond Tri Chair Darryl Byrd.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed addressed the committee regarding the ground rules for the discussion to follow. Mr. Reed stated that in previous meetings Districts 1, 5, 6, 8, 9 have stated that they are satisfied with the recommended projects within their districts or with all the projects recommended. Districts 2 and 6 are satisfied with the modifications they made to their projects. Districts 3, 7 and 10 have yet to be heard from and he asked to hear from them during this meeting. The goal is to accomplish as much as possible during this meeting before the final meeting. Mr. Reed reminded

the committee that Roberts Rules of Order will be followed; the cap of all projects is \$450 Million; only one motion at a time will be addressed; and if any adjustments are made a project that will be receiving the funding must be identified. Mr. Reed then requested either District 3, 7 or 10 to inform the Committee of where they are at in the process.

District 3 - George Garcia stated that they will be meeting with their Councilwoman tomorrow, November 30th finalize their recommendations and will provide an update at the next meeting.

District 7 – Bianca Maldonado stated that they had a last minute change and they will need to review with their Councilman one more time.

District 10 - Abel Guzman stated that District 10 is recommending two projects; 1604/Bulverde Rd turnarounds project in the amount of \$1,500,000 and the Harry Wurzbach Highway connectors project in the amount of \$3,000,000. The District 10 committee members also want to modify the Bulverde Phase I project funding from \$20,000,000 to \$15,000,000 and use the difference of \$5,000,000 to fund the Thousand Oaks from Wetmore to Perrin Beitel project, a newly identified project.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed clarified that now three districts are modifying the recommendations.

District 2 – Gordon Benjamin stated District 2 committee members would like to modify their recommendations. The District would like to restore their Pedestrian Mobility to \$6,000,000, and reduce \$2,000,000 of \$9,000,000 from the New Braunfels project and redirect it to a new project, Fort Sam Houston project for the purpose of economic development, safety, traffic enhancement and support of the military in District 2.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed informed Mike Frisbie that the committee would like to include the modifications from District 2, 6 and 10 incorporated into the motion.

District 6 - Oscar Rosalez stated the committee members would like to extend the Ingram Rd project to connect to Potranco as opposed to the T intersection staff is currently recommending. Mr. Frisbie stated that this alteration would cost between \$5 and 6 million and another project would need to be reduced to fund this extension.

Committee Member Oscar Rosalez stated he does not believe the Hardberger Park Land bridge project is a street project and motioned to take the \$3.75 million out of the Hardberger Park Land bridge project in the Streets category.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed requested Mr. Rosalez to state where the funds are to go if removed from Hardberger Park Land. Mr. Rosalez responded stating the \$3.75 million be allocated to the District 6 Ingram Rd project to fund the extension to Potranco.

Motion to remove \$3.75 million from the Hardberger Park Land bridge project and reallocate the funding to the Ingram Rd project in District 6 made by Oscar Rosalez.

Motion seconded by Gilbert Morales, District 4 committee member.

Mr. Reed opened the floor to discussion.

District 8 – John Kelly inquired if the Parks committee had already adjusted this project. Mr. Frisbie confirmed the Parks Committee had already reduced the project by \$2 million to solve an issue and that the project is down to a minimum amount of funds. Mr. Kelly commented that this project is not only for District 9 but a city wide benefit and the original plan always intended to connect the two sides of the park to address safety for pedestrians and animals. Mr. Kelly recommends the Committee stands firm on the original budget to ensure the private leveraged funds are maintained.

District 7 – Ed Garza requested clarification regarding the \$2 million removed from the Hardberger Park Land bridge project was from the city wide allocation versus a District 8 allocation as is in the Streets project. Mr. Frisbie stated that the Hardberger Park Land bridge project is a city wide allocation in both Streets and Parks.

District 9 - Patty Gibbons commented that she did not believe the Hardberger Land bridge project is fiscally responsible given the need across the city.

Ms. Gibbons motioned to Amendment to the motion to distribute the \$3.75 million equally among all districts for District priorities.

Motion seconded by Rose Hill from District 2.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed opened the floor to discussion the amended motion.

District 9 - Patty Gibbons commented that the unfunded projects so far exceed the amount recommended to be removed by her motion. Ms. Gibbons elaborated on the great need for people to feel safe on their streets with improved streets and sidewalks. Ms. Gibbons commented that the Hardberger Park Land bridge project is not a priority for tourist and is very expensive. Ms. Gibbons feels that there are higher priorities in everyone's district and strongly encourages Committee members to vote for this amendment.

District 1 – Sonny Collins noted that the City has an opportunity to get \$10-11 million in private donations to leverage the total costs and not approving this project would be turning down these funds.

6:50 – 6:59 pm - Meeting paused due to fire alarm in building.

District 8 – Mike Garza expressed his disappointment in the continued discussion on the Hardberger Park Land bridge project. Mr. Garza stated this project is for safety as well as a good investment. Mr. Garza elaborated on the importance of this project and the need to keep with the staff recommended budget. Mr. Garza expressed concern that the amount of funds each district would receive from this Amendment is minimal and it far outweighs the benefit each district would receive if the \$3.75 million was divided among the districts. Mr. Garza urged the Committee to hold off on deciding on this project until after the project is visited during the tour.

District 4 – Gilbert Morales agrees with Mike Garza from District 8 that the project

should be visited before a decision is made. Mr. Morales also stated that the funding distributed to District 4 through this motion could greatly benefit District 4. Mr. Morales does not feel this project is not actually a city wide project as residents from the south and west sides of town will most likely not visit. Mr. Morales urges the Committee to consider all perspectives and he will do the same.

District 9 – Art Downey stated that neither motion has the entire District 9 support as he is in support of the Land bridge project.

District 1 – Michelle Casillas commented that bond funds are meant to be impactful for city into the future. Ms. Casillas is in favor of the Land bridge project and feels that although the potential funds each district would receive by this motion is a lot of money the projects would not be impactful.

District 7 - Bianca Maldonado stated she understands the desire to reduce the funding for the Land bridge project; District 8 and District 9 decided they want to spend their funds on this project. Ms. Maldonado disagrees that any funding for additional sidewalks across the districts would not be impactful; however, she believes the funds for the Land bridge project is good for the city. Ms. Maldonado expressed concern that the Bond as whole will not get the votes it needs because of this project.

District 9 - Art Downey responded stating that all projects in District 9 were reviewed with the Councilman and the Land bridge project was added after as a city wide project. He is still in support of the Land bridge project.

District 8 - Mike Garza stated that there is \$10 million allocated annually for sidewalks and another \$60 million for streets. Mr. Garza believes the projects being discussed should be addressed through this annual funding. Mr. Garza stated that bond funds are for meaningful projects not maintenance projects.

Mike Frisbie reminded the Committee that the Infrastructure Management Program (IMP) robustly invests annually in infrastructure maintenance. Mr. Frisbie stated for FY 2017 there is \$64 million for Streets and another \$15 million for sidewalks. Mr. Frisbie stated that projects funded by distributing \$3.75 million among all districts would have a small impact and would most likely be used for sidewalks.

District 9 - Patty Gibbons withdrew amended motion. Rose Hill from District 2 withdrew the second.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed reiterated the original motion and opened the floor to discussion.

District 9 – Art Downey stated that there are two \$3.75 million allocations, one in District 8 and one in District 9. Mr. Downey asked which one is being referred to in the motion. Mr. Frisbie responded that it is city wide project so the distribution would come evenly from each district.

District 8 – John Kelly commented that if either \$3.75 million was removed the project could

not proceed because the \$10 million in private investment would go away. This is a leveraged project and it's a large donation that would be lost.

District 7 - Frank Fonseca commented that it is not fair to allocate the \$3.75 million to only one district and if the money is divided evenly amongst all ten districts it is not enough money to make an impact. Mr. Fonseca is in favor of the Land bridge project. Mr. Fonseca stated this type of project is the Bond Program is supposed to fund.

District 2 - Gordon Benjamin expressed his perspective that city wide projects are beneficial for the whole city and the land bridge is one of those projects. Mr. Benjamin believes this project will be something tourists come to see and it's an alternative to the Riverwalk which is beneficial to the city. Mr. Benjamin stated that this project is insurance to avoid tragedies with both people and animals in future by providing a safe way to get one side of the park to the other.

District 5 - Raymond Garza expressed his opinion that he is happy with the projects in his district and is in favor of supporting this city wide project. Mr. Garza agrees with Mr. Benjamin that this will be something people will go to see and this is a good investment for this historic Bond Program.

District 4 - Gilbert Morales asked if there are enough parking spaces to accommodate additional visitors once the Land bridge project is built. Mr. Frisbie stated there are currently 400 parking spaces for both sides. Mr. Frisbie stated the master plan contains the number of parking spaces needed and the project will be built to the master plan concept.

District 9 – Patty Gibbons responded that she had asked the same question and did not receive a response. Ms. Gibbons stated that a traffic impact analysis had not been completed and neither had an animal control report detailing the number of deceased animals. Ms. Gibbons also inquired about the maintenance costs associated with the land bridge. Ms. Gibbons stated that the Alamodome operates in the red and the taxes cover this. Ms. Gibbons urged the Committee to be fiscally responsible. Mr. Frisbie responded that no tax dollars are used to cover the Alamodome expenses, these expenses are covered with the Hotel Occupancy Tax that is paid by visitors.

District 6 - Oscar Rosalez again expressed that these funds are for streets, bridges and sidewalks for the residents of the city. Mr. Rosalez stated that Land bridge project only affects District 9. He stated the motion he made to put the funds all in District 6 was because he had to designate a project so he selected a project in his district, District 6. However upon further reflection this motion would give \$7 million from all the residents of San Antonio for streets, sidewalks and schools. The Land bridge is not a bridge for all the residents of the San Antonio but only for those residents that use the park. Mr. Rosalez recommended building a smaller bridge with less funding and use future funds to build another small bridge.

District 3 – George Garcia asks why it was decided that this project would be funded under Streets, Bridges and Sidewalks. Mr. Frisbie responded stating because it's a bridge and a park so it is carried in both categories. Mr. Garcia asked why it wasn't fully funded in Parks and if it's a bridge why was it funded in Parks too. Mr. Frisbie explained that the park will continue on top of the bridge and thus funded in Parks as well.

District 4 - Ed Cano stated that the Committee should wait till the next meeting to make any decisions on the Land bridge project and that there hasn't been any discussion on other unfunded projects. Mr. Cano is concerned a majority of these projects are not going to happen because the discussion is centered on the Land bridge project. Mr. Cano asked Mr. Frisbie about the estimated costs of the projects and if there was any way these estimates could be reduced. Mr. Frisbie responded that the estimates are solid. Mr. Frisbie explained that there is an escalation factor added based on timing of when the project will start but its limited.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed stated that he hopes any savings from this program should go to unfunded projects and when the next bond program comes these projects are given prime consideration.

District 7 - Ed Garza asked how the process worked for the \$4.5 million for public art. Mr. Frisbie stated the public art needs to be related to the bond program. Mr. Frisbie explained how projects are selected in coordination with the Department of Arts & Culture and the Public Arts Board and that every project does not need to have a public art project but that the funds are used to make a significant public art in close proximity to a bond project. Mr. Garza suggested that staff and City Council consider using some of the Public Art funding across all bond categories for the Land Bridge Project as there is a public art component to the land bridge.

District 9 Art Downey stated that due the discussion he would like to make a motion to defer the current motion.

Motion to defer the current motion to remove \$3.75 million from the Hardberger Park Land Bridge Project and reallocate to the Ingram project in District 6 to the next meeting.

Motion 2nd by Gordon Benjamin from District 2

Committee Co- Chair Jim Reed called for discussion. No discussion.

Committee Co-Chair Jim called for the vote on the motion to defer the current motion to remove \$3.75 million from the Hardberger Park Land Bridge Project and reallocate to the Ingram project in District 6 to the next meeting:

In Favor – 22 of 27

Opposed – 4 of 27

Motion passes.

District 9 - Marilyn Jowdy requested a motion.

Motion to move monies recommended by staff for downtown and city wide, totaling \$205 million, be repurposed for individual district projects and reallocated proportionally across all districts for total of \$20 million per district and that staff be

tasks to present next week \$20 million worth of projects for each district.

Motion seconded by Clayton Perry from District 10

Marilyn Jowdy commented that the Committee is here to advise and provide the input from the community. Ms. Jowdy believes all large projects across all committees are valid however what the community wants are funds for smaller streets and drainage projects within each district.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed asked Mike Frisbie to identify the location of these projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that these projects are located throughout the city and are needed projects. Mr. Frisbie stated that this motion would eliminate those projects and new district specific projects would be selected.

District 8 - Mike Garza commented that he appreciates the concept but is not in support of it. Mr. Garza further elaborated that these city wide projects benefit the whole city and does not want these projects to be reduced.

District 9 - Art Downey also did not agree with the motion. Mr. Downey believes that the purpose of a bond program is not to do small projects around the city but for large projects that cannot be done with maintenance funds.

District 1 - Sonny Collins wanted to stress that the projects recommended have been worked on for the past 11 years and this should be respected. Mr. Collins encouraged the Committee to have a vision of the future and respect the effort staff put forth with the original recommended projects.

District 8 – John Kelly sated he was in agreement with the comments from Mr. Downey and Mr. Collins.

District 10 - Clayton Perry stated that he appreciates the intent of recommended projects and agrees with them however there are large discrepancies. Mr. Perry explained that if the funds were redistributed to districts evenly, these funds could be designated for downtown and city wide projects. He appreciates the work put forth to this point but is in support the motion.

Committee Co-Chair called for a vote on the Motion that monies recommended by staff for downtown and city wide projects, totaling \$205 million, be repurposed for individual district projects and reallocated proportionally across all districts for total of \$20 million per district and that staff be tasks to present next week \$20 million worth of projects for each district:

In Favor – 6 of 27

Opposed – 22 of 27

The motion fails.

Committee Co-Chair Jim Reed called for further discussion. No discussion.

IV. Next Steps for Community Bond Committee

Bus Tour on Saturday, December 3, 2016
Next Meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2016

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.