

City of San Antonio



Minutes

Intergovernmental Relations

2021 – 2023 Council Members

Manny Pelaez, Dist. 8

Justin Rodriguez

Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, Dist. 2 | Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, Dist. 4

Marialyn Barnard | Clayton Perry, Dist. 10

Jeff Coyle, Assistant City Manager

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

10:00 AM

Council Briefing Room

The Intergovernmental Relations Committee convened a regular meeting in the Norma S. Rodriguez Council Chamber in the Municipal Plaza Building beginning at 10:10 AM. Deputy City Clerk Aurora Perkins took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Committee Members present:

Members Present: Manny Pelaez, *Chair*
Justin Rodriguez, *Co-Chair*
Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, *Member*
Marialyn Barnard, *Member*
Clayton Perry, *Member*

Members Absent: Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, *Member*

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from the August 10, 2022 meeting of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia moved to Approve the minutes of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting of August 10, 2022. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Pelaez, Rodriguez, Rocha Garcia, Barnard, Perry

Absent: McKee-Rodriguez

Briefing and Possible Action on

2. Briefing on the City's Legislative Program for the 88th State Legislative Session. [Jeff Coyle, Assistant City Manager; Sally Basurto, Director, Government Affairs]

Chair Pelaez informed the Committee that this Item was in the preliminary stages of review and would require oversight and input from the Committee and noted that this was going to be a lengthy but important process. Assistant City Manager Jeff Coyle introduced the Item and Governmental Affairs Director Sally Basurto, Consultants Jesse Ancira and Mike Toomey who provided the briefing on the 88th State Legislative Program. Assistant City Manager Coyle stated that the Item was for briefing purposes and to obtain feedback from the Committee prior to voting on to move the Item forward to the full City Council.

Basurto provided an overview of the regular session timeline from November 2022 through June 2023 and stated that staff would provide updates to the Committee several times. She stated that the 88th State Legislative Program was funded at \$27 billion. Basurto reviewed the Program development process and reviewed the four pillars of the structure of the 88th State Legislative Program which included: 1) Protection of community interests, 2) Economic & community development, 3) Public health & safety, and 4) Infrastructure & resiliency. Basurto provided an overview of the local governance stance (support or opposition) on each of the pillar components and how City staff was working with local stakeholders and partners to address each category and legislative items.

Basurto noted that under the protection of community interests' pillar legislation included topics of scope of local elected officials, revenue generation, review of non-discrimination ordinances and municipal court issues. She noted topics under the economic and community development pillar included affordable housing, economic development and workforce/education issues.

Basurto stated that under the public health and safety pillar included topics of healthcare, nutrition and violence prevention. She noted that issues under digital inclusion, transportation and sustainability were covered under the infrastructure and resiliency pillar.

Basurto reviewed the various community partners who were working with City staff in the session process.

DISCUSSION

Chair Pelaez thanked Mr Toomey and Mr Ancira for their insight in the legislative process.

Co-Chair Rodriguez stated that the package presented was comprehensive and was consistent with the Bexar County package. He noted that the City's package did not address property tax issues which could be considered by the City.

Councilmember Perry stated that the package was comprehensive but requested data or information on what community partners were submitting to the legislative process. Assistant City Manager Coyle stated that staff would provide the input and noted that partner input was similar to

those of the City's interest and both worked closely to assist each other in addressing their priorities.

Chair Pelaez noted that in the past when he was on local partner boards that there had been good collaboration with the City and the partners.

Councilmember Perry requested additional bullets on category items briefed in order to obtain more background activity. Basurto stated that staff would provide background documents for the Committee's review. Assistant City Manager Coyle provided further clarification on the data sources and partner input.

Councilmember Perry asked Ancira and Toomey for their perspective of items presented and what items they felt were supported by the legislature. Toomey stated that the package presented was comprehensive and realistic in how the City supported or opposed to specific items. Ancira agreed with Toomey's insight and reviewed the current landscape for digital and broadband expansion and property tax issues. Both supported the City's stance in the package. Ancira expressed concern on gun control and social issues passing in the legislature but that the package was balanced so to meet City priorities. Toomey stated that he had concerns for Medicare and gun control reform. Councilmember Perry thanked the team for their input and stated that he was very interested on how the City would direct their "silver bullets" to address their priorities.

Commissioner Barnard stated that it was important for the City and Bexar County to share their priorities for the 88th Session and asked if the City and Bexar County would participate in the additional sessions. She expressed support for property tax and broadband reform. She agreed that the package was comprehensive and quite extensive and would require great oversight. Toomey stated that he did not anticipate additional sessions but would be prepared to address as needed. Assistant City Manager Coyle stated that the City was not leading any particular items but that would be supportive or defensive of items for partners and City interests.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia stated that she supported Ready to Work Programs and partnerships such as those with the Alamo College District. She noted that the North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce had taken the lead on many items in the past and that staff should meet with all Chambers to see what items they were championing. Councilmember Rocha Garcia stated that she wanted to make certain that UTSA championed items that needed to be supported especially in the area of cyber security.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia stated that City priorities should include Veteran issues to include homelessness and home repair programs. She supported economic development in the areas of film and arts development and asked for additional information on the topic. Councilmember Rocha Garcia stated that school safety and support for school safety at the school districts was a priority.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia added that City priorities should include child homelessness issues, broadband digital divide issues, and electric vehicle issues which could be the next level of red-lining.

Councilmember Perry requested additional information on restrictions on design build delivery and construction methods and how it could be addressed at the State level. Assistant City Manager

Coyle stated that staff would meet with Public Works Department for feedback and guidance. Councilmember Perry noted that additional attention was needed in the package that addressed energy utility reform and energy grid issues. CPS Energy Vice President of Government Relations, Regulatory Affairs & Public Policy, Kathy Garcia stated that the utility was addressing energy market design and reform, natural gas supply availability and customer financial assistance program development.

Commissioner Barnard asked if CPS Energy still sold energy to smaller co-op entities. Garcia confirmed that CPS Energy still had wholesale energy contracts with surrounding communities.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia stated that advancing cyber security in the area of energy was needed and stated that supply chain and cyber security should be addressed in the package.

Councilmember Perry stated that there were two solar eclipses in the coming year and expressed concern if the City was able to support these events and that coordination should be started immediately to address this issue. He asked staff to address the State for support and Coyle stated that staff would continue to address.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia agreed with Councilmember Perry and stressed the importance of addressing issues and partnerships associated with solar eclipse issues.

Chair Pelaez stated that cities of all sizes were addressing the same issues that the City of San Antonio had included in their package which confirmed to a consensus of issues impacting the State of Texas. He reiterated that the package submitted by staff was comprehensive and asked that staff continue to work with partners to meet the City's needs.

Assistant City Manager Coyle stated that staff would take the next two weeks to address the direction provided by the Committee and provide updates to the Committee. Basurto stated that staff would continue to work with partners and noted that legislature was passed last year to address school safety concerns and issues.

No action was required for Item 2.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Councilmember Manny Pelaez, Co-Chairman

County Commissioner Justin Rodrigues, Co-Chairman

Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk