



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: February 22, 2022

In Control: Economic and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Brenda Hicks-Sorensen

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: District 3

SUBJECT:

The Economic and Workforce Development Committee will receive an update on development and infrastructure on the Brooks campus from Leo Gomez, President and CEO of Brooks.

SUMMARY:

The Economic and Workforce Development Committee will receive an update on development and infrastructure on the Brooks campus from Leo Gomez, President and CEO of Brooks.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Brooks is a 1,308-acre mixed-use community in San Antonio City Council District 3. It is owned and managed by the Brooks Development Authority and governed by an 11-member Board of Directors that is appointed by the San Antonio Mayor and City Council. Brooks is a public-private partnership that was created in 2001 by the United States Congress, the State of Texas, and the City of San Antonio to redevelop the former Brooks Air Force Base.

Today, the Brooks campus has more than 50 businesses, 3,200 jobs, 2,300 residents, and 2,900 students. In preparation for the more than 5,000 jobs, 3,300 residents, and 5,000 students being added to Brooks in the coming years, investment in infrastructure at Brooks is vital. With \$818 million in development, to date, and \$310 million in development underway, Brooks continues to be successful in these efforts.

Brooks received \$24.1 million from the 2017 - 2022 City of San Antonio Bond Program, which funded three road projects. These roads will increase connectivity for more than 20 businesses on the campus. For example, Cuisine Solutions, the largest investment at Brooks at \$200 million, celebrated its grand opening in May 2021 and has already added nearly 500 jobs. Moreover, Brooks' largest employer, today, is Mission Trail Baptist Hospital with more than 600 employees. The hospital recently opened the region's first maternity unit, which has welcomed nearly 300 babies in its first few months. These two marquee employers are examples of the rapid growth on the Brooks campus and showcase the need to be proactive in addressing infrastructure deficiencies.

Reconstructing major roads and building new roads is imperative to support the region's growing population. Brooks has ranked the reconstruction of Sidney Brooks, the main east-to-west corridor of the campus, as its top infrastructure priority. The proposed 2022 – 2027 City of San Antonio Bond program includes \$15 million for the project, which will address Sidney Brooks (East) from City-Base Landing to South New Braunfels Avenue. This portion of the road is the most critical phase of the project, as it will be the point of ingress for the redevelopment of Heritage Oaks which will add 40 single-family, for-rent residential units to the Brooks campus.

Publicly funded projects would not be possible without support and advocacy from the City of San Antonio. Case in point is the 2022 U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant, a competitive grant program that will fund surface transportation infrastructure with significant local or regional impact. The City and its partner agencies recently agreed to support the reconstruction of Sidney Brooks (West) from South New Braunfels Avenue to South Presa Street as the San Antonio regional submission to the RAISE Grant. Sidney Brooks (West) will leverage \$15 million in investment in Sidney Brooks (East) pending voter approval of the 2022 – 2027 Bond Program. Brooks will continue to work with the City and its partners to address the nearly \$100 million in infrastructure needs on the campus, while also supporting the needs of the entire Brooks region.

ISSUE:

The Brooks Vision is a world-class region, honoring our rich and vibrant history, encompassing transformative investments which contribute to San Antonio, Texas' overall success. The Brooks Mission is to promote and develop a dynamic, sustainable, and inclusive community by serving as a catalyst for transformative economic development and regional prosperity.

Brooks, a 1,308-acre campus, is a part of the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. The Brooks Regional Center is 7,500 acres, to include the Brooks campus, and was the first plan to be formally adopted by the San Antonio City Council in 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

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RECOMMENDATION:

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