



COUNCIL JUDICIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011

The City of Austin Council Judicial Committee convened on Tuesday, August 9, 2011, in the Boards and Commissions Room of City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas. Present were Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Council Member Mike Martinez and Council Member Bill Spelman.

1. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 11:05 a.m.
2. Minute consideration:  
A motion was made by Council Member Spelman, seconded by the Mayor, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2011 meeting without objection. The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.
3. Citizen Comments: None.
4. Briefing and discussion concerning the new Municipal Court/NE Substation:  
Public Works Director Howard Lazarus advised there was nothing new to report since the last Judicial Committee meeting in April. He advised that there have been some discussion regarding funding for the building since it is dramatically underfunded needing about \$15-\$20 million more for court and \$30-\$40 million more for a shared building. Also, the city continues work on its Strategic Facilities Plan and Needs Assessment but he has not seen the report.
5. Briefing, discussion and possible recommendation concerning the city's red light camera program:  
Court Clerk Rebecca Stark summarized the current program and provided statistics as to the current number of crashes at the intersections with cameras, the number of cases filed and paid, and fiscal year financial summaries beginning with the implementation of the program in 2008. Discussion was held on the declining numbers of crashes and citations at certain intersections and potential changes or additional to current camera locations. A motion was made by Council Member Spelman, seconded by the Mayor, to recommend to direct the City Manager to conduct an evaluation of the program including location changes as necessary and the possible need for additional cameras based on the cost. Discussion followed regarding the overall effectiveness and value of the program even if general funds are needed to support it. Said discussion resulted in an amendment to the motion to include a review of potential contract limitations and to explore amendments to the contract if needed. All members supported continuation of the program. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with all members voting AYE.

6. Discussion and possible recommendation concerning Municipal Court's unmet budget needs related to staffing:

Court Clerk Rebecca Stark advised that the court would appreciate the members' consideration of court's unmet staffing needs if funding is available in the city budget for fiscal year 2012. Court was under the impression that two supervisors and possibly an IT person were being favorably considered but was recently information that no FTEs were included in court's proposed budget.

7. Adjournment:

There being no further business or objection, the meeting was adjourned by the Mayor at 11:42 a.m.

Prepared by:



Rebecca Stark  
Clerk of the Municipal Court

**APPROVED:**

Approved by all members present at the Council Judicial Committee meeting held on November 2, 2011.  
Rebecca Stark