

Item 7: (46772) Living Wage

Policy Discussion presented by CM Greg Casar

**Agenda Item #7:**

Discuss and consider taking action and the City's living wage policies non-construction sub-contractors and construction contractors and sub-contractors

**Vote**

Motion by Casar, seconded by Pool, Troxclair abstains. The recommendation passes on vote of 2-0-0 with Vice Chair Houston not present.

**Sponsors/Department:** CM Casar, verbal policy recommendation

**Summary of Discussion**

Item presented by CM Casar regarding raising the living minimum wages for City contractors and subcontractors across all categories (ie. professional services, construction, etc.). Item was not accompanied with written language for consideration, but was presented as a policy discussion. Initial policy recommendation for review was to raise the living wage for stated categories, and was verbally amended after public testimony to reflect the recommendation that the City Manager bring forward policy directions that the contracts include the city's living wage requirement and that the fiscal impact be evaluated as part of the budget process.

Chair Troxclair expressed concern regarding voting on an item without language to review. She expressed concern with having minimal information regarding the item and questioned if there had been a fiscal review to examine the impact such changes would have on contracting and the budget.

Houston had to exit the meeting for obligation in the district, but indicated that she held concerns regarding the financial and operational aspects of this item. She expressed wanting to meet with city staff on this item and would be interested in the public testimony.

Casar stated that the Transition Task Force determined no resolution is necessary to make a recommendation and that documents can trail the Committee's vote. Resolution or Ordinance language can be presented to full Council at later date.

**Public Comments**

**Support:**

David King

Bob Batlan, Living Wage Task Group Member, represents Interfaith

Jeremy Hendricks, Labor International Network

Javier Bautista, Construction Worker

Marilou Fructuoso, Member of Workers Defense Project

Chris Willett, Equal Justice Center

Emily Timm, Director of Policy with Workers Defense Project

**No preference indicated:**

Phil Thoden, Austin Association of Contractors

**Recommendation:**

Casar moved to ask the City Manager to bring forward policy directions that the contracts include the city's living wage requirement and that the fiscal impact be evaluated as part of the budget process.