

**BOND ELECTION ADVISORY TASK FORCE
MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
September 15, 2017**

The Bond Election Advisory Task Force convened in a regular meeting on September 15, 2017 in Austin, Texas.

Staff called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM

Board Members in Attendance:

Bruce Evans, Vice Chair	Dorsey Twidwell
Estrella de Leon	Robert Walker
Herbert "Ken" Rigsbee	Yasmiyn Irizarry
Santiago Rodriguez	Rachel Stone
Jeff Smith	Sumit DasGupta

Staff in Attendance:

Katy Zamesnik, Financial Services
Carla Steffen, ACCD

CALL TO ORDER**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Charles Cloutman, Meals on Wheels, spoke on the GO Home Repair Program, and urged the Task Force to support at least \$50M for land acquisition for affordable housing. He answered questions from the Task Force around the funding request and the uses of it.

David King provided his input on priorities on bond packages. He stated that equity should be a big factor, and urged the task force to use equity as a priority for recommending bond amounts. He spoke on the fact that bond funding might allow families to buy affordable housing so they can remain in the neighborhoods they are currently in. He also spoke on the need to preserve the historic and cultural assets that the City has. Finally, mitigating and cleaning up pollution in the east Austin neighborhoods should be key, and the Task Force should be using data to show where bond money has been spent and the taxes that have been spent to pay those bonds and where the dollars came from.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes were approved on Task Force Member Smith's motion, seconded by Task Force Member Santiago, on a 8-0-1 vote, with Chair Nuckols and Members McNabb, Bentley, and DeLeon off the dais and Member DasGupta abstaining

3. NEW BUSINESS – BRIEFINGS

Brion Oaks, the City's Equity Office, provided an update on the equity assessment tool as was introduced at the Task Force's July meeting. Spoke on how the City received an award for being the most livable city for families, yet minority children in the city are 5-7 times more likely to live in poverty.

Introduced the Equity Analysis Worksheet to allow the Task Force to evaluate individual projects and their impact on equity. He spoke on the development of the tool and walked through the elements contained within.

Mr. Oaks discussed the 6 steps for building racial equity, as developed by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE). He noted that we don't always close the feedback loop with our community engagement, which he thinks is important. He also discussed the Strategic Priority Outcome Areas, and how they ask the departments to align their work with these six priorities. These priorities are embedded in the worksheet.

Ginger Yachinich presented on the worksheet, including the elements of the worksheet, such as alignment, history, data, community engagement, advancing equity, unintended outcomes, and impact. Ms. Yachinich walked through the questions on the worksheet, and how everything is calculated for a final score. Mr. Oaks noted that technical assistance is available to both the Task Force and departments. They then answered questions from the Task Force, and participated in a discussion on what equity means and how it can be applied to the citizens of Austin.

The Task Force asked for the Equity Office to come back to the Task Force regarding the community engagement efforts as described in the plan.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

a. Discussion and possible action on a community engagement plan

b. Reports and possible action on items from working groups

Each Working Group gave an update on the work from their respective groups. Highlights include:

- The need for open space is urgent- there is a decreasing availability of land, and the rising cost of land will make it prohibitively expensive in the future.
- The impact of the hurricanes on manpower and materials has yet to be calculated, and therefore the cost of the projects may change
- Stormwater WG will be drilling into the information thus far provided to them
- Transportation Infrastructure WG has asked the PW and Transportation Departments to provide information on what effect a cut of \$5M and a gain of \$5M would have on their bond program
- For every dollar the City spends on affordable housing, they are able to leverage \$7 from outside investment

c. Discussion and possible action on development of guidelines, prioritization metrics, or other criteria for evaluation and ranking bond projects, and for development of a framework of Task Force recommendations.

Chair Nuckols stated he wants to provide Council with three options for the bond- no tax increase, one cent, or two cent increase. The Task Force asked for the departments to provide levels of funding at the three different levels within the categories.

Chair Nuckols requested that members review the prioritization methodology sent out by Member DasGupta and provide comments back to staff.

5. FUTURE AGENDAS

- Mapping overlay of the projects/programs currently in staff's recommended starting point
- Discussion of Certificates of Obligations

- Member DasGupta's ranking prioritization
- Discussion of funding levels
- Departments who have gone through the equity tool present on the results of/ work with bond team on the tools.

6. ADJOURN

Staff adjourned the meeting at 4:02 PM without objection

The minutes from September 15, 2017 were approved on Task Force Member Smith's motion, seconded by Task Force Member Das Gupta, on a 11-0- vote, with Members Santiago and Bentley off the dais.