

**BOND ELECTION ADVISORY TASK FORCE  
MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING  
November 16, 2017**

**The Bond Election Advisory Task Force convened in a regular meeting on November 16, 2017 in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Nuckols called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Tom Nuckols, Chair	Robert Walker
Bruce Evans, Vice Chair	Yasmiyn Irizarry
Estrella de Leon	Sumit DasGupta
Herbert "Ken" Rigsbee	John McNabb
Jeff Smith	Santiago Rodriguez
Dorsey Twidwell	Rachel Stone (late arrival)

**Staff in Attendance:**

Katy Zamesnik, Financial Services  
Carla Steffen, ACCD

**CALL TO ORDER****1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Schiller Liao with Asian American Resource Center. Worked since 2000 with ARC, 2006 Master Plan with Federal Grant. Built Phase 1 in 2006 Bond, with limited scope. Over 45 organization were involved in Master Plan. In 2013, facility opened. Have monitored how the facility is being used. Have completed a new survey. Received 90% support for Phase 2 and 3 to expand AARC. Need additional classrooms, bigger multi-purpose/assembly room, more parking. Want Task Force to add AARC expansion project to bond.

Jeff Blaylock spoke on drainage funds. Stated we're behind on drainage bonds and need to be funded. Spoke on the flooding to Brentwood neighborhood. Takes just over ½ inch of rain to turn Brentwood into a fast flowing creek. Brentwood is not alone; many others, like Crestview, have experienced flooding. The needs for drainage projects goes beyond the operating budget of the Watershed Protection Department. Looking for somewhere between \$10 and \$14 million.

Martha Cotera, MACC representative, spoke on the long delays in completion of phase 2 of the MACC. Spoke on the history of the MACC, discussing the delays and how the current state of the MACC is overused. Wants Task Force to consider the Asian American and Latino population and the future of our city as a cultural city. Said the Master Plan would be completed soon, and they are looking for \$18 million. Phase 2 will be additional classrooms and meetings spaces, and a theater.

Lanssa Davila, speaking on behalf of the MACC. MACC is the only arts incubator for the Latino community. Provided data on the attendance at the MACC's programs, and spoke on the importance of

these programs to the vulnerable populations. Requested funding for Phase 2 of the MACC as detailed in the Master Plan, which is scheduled to be finalized in spring 2018. Spoke on the overcrowded nature of the MACC, and that there are many organizations and people that could benefit from the MACC programming, but there is no space.

Ted Siff, President of the Shoal Creek Conservancy, spoke on his experience with past bonds and came with a process request. Suggested that the BEATF meeting through the early spring of next year. BEATF/public doesn't have up to date information on the unencumbered balance of past bond programs.

Greg Anderson, Austin Habitat for Humanity, spoke on the groundbreaking of Scenic Point in District 1. Received a commitment letter saying that all funds from the federal government may not be available. NHCD funding from 2013 is spent as well.

Gopal Guthikonpa, echoed Schiller Liao's comments from earlier. 2002 needs were the basis for Phase 1 of the Asian American Resource Center, approved by the voters in 2006. Population of Asian Americans have doubled since then. AARC is the most utilized facility among all the City facilities. Request that the Task Force include funding for the AARC in the 2018 bond.

Wendy Price-Todd, private citizen, urge the Task Force to reconsider the numbers for the Library. There's a lot of deferred maintenance that cannot be included in the operating budget or the capital budget. Branch libraries could use a boost.

George Cofer, Hill Country Conservancy, spoke on behalf thousands of stakeholders that support his organization's mission. Stated that the City could spend as much money as the City puts forward, have been doing it for 17 years. Can leverage funds to stretch the dollars. Voters have approved more than \$200m to protect the hill county since 1992. Polling shows they would support significant funding. Said to put the cutting responsibility on Council. Put forth a large package. Last chance for 6 years.

Walter Moreau, director of Foundation Communities, stated that the 2013 bond funding is completely spent for affordable housing. Can't turn to federal funding for housing, what's left is narrowly restricted for specific programs. The GO Bond programs put forth by the City is really the only option.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes were approved on Task Force Member Evans's motion, seconded by Task Force Member Irizarry, on a 11-0-1 vote, with Members Santiago abstaining and Task Force Member Stone off the dais.

## **3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **a. Discussion and possible action on bond package recommendations from working groups**

The Chair of each working group presented on their recommendations from their working groups.

#### **Open Space and Parkland**

- \$50 million for Open Space
- \$35 million for parkland, with \$15 million held in reserve for strategic tracts

#### **Stormwater**

- \$100 Million

#### **Transportation**

- \$142.5 million

Reinvestment in Facilities and Assets

- \$132 million

Affordable Housing

- \$125 million

**b. Discussion and possible action on a bond package recommendation**

Task Force discussed the overall bond package amount and how to proceed to achieve final recommendations. They discussed having three recommendations for Council to consider.

**c. Discussion and possible action on the Task Force community engagement plan**

Staff presented the final town hall schedule as well as an overview of the town hall exercise planned for each meeting. Staff answered questions from the Task Force.

**d. Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates of the Task Force and Working Groups**

The Task Force made plans to meet in January as well as to meet twice more as working groups in December. Canceled December meeting and added two dates in January (Jan 4 and Jan 19)

**e. Briefing and discussion on mapping overlay of bond funding scenarios.**

Staff discussed the memorandum that was distributed to the Task Force from city staff related to the mapping requests. Staff also presented an example of what could be done to provide the mapped information as requested by the Task Force. They answered questions from the Task Force and received feedback. Staff committed to coming back to the Task Force in January.

**4. FUTURE AGENDAS**

**5. ADJOURN**

**Chair Nuckols adjourned the meeting at 2:27 PM without objection**

**The minutes from November 16, 2017 were approved on Task Force Member Rigsbee's motion, seconded by Task Force Member Irizarry, on an 11-0-1 vote, with Member Bentley off the dais.**