

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2011-R-09
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
MAY 16, 2011
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Raul G. Salinas called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Raul G. Salinas led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Raul G. Salinas,	Mayor
Mike Garza,	Council Member, District I
Alejandro Perez Jr.,	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.,	Council Member, District VII
Cynthia Liendo Espinoza,	Council Member, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Carlos Villarreal,	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Rangel.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of May 2, 2011.

Motion to approve the minutes of May 2, 2011.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognitions

- a. Recognizing Officer Mario Soria for his thirty (30) years of service to the Laredo Police Department.

Mayor Salinas and Council recognized Officer Mario Soria for his thirty years of service to the Laredo Police Department and presented him with a certificate of recognition.

- b. Recognizing the winner of the “Name the Pride in Laredo” Theme Contest.

Isabella Mercado, a fourth grader from Amparo Gutierrez Elementary School, won the contest with the theme “Always a reason to celebrate in Laredo.”

- c. Recognizing the United South High School Girls Panthers Softball Team for making history.

Mayor Salinas and Council recognized the United South High School Girls Panthers Softball Team for making history and presented them with a certificate of recognition.

Citizen comments

Maria Harrison, former Parks and Leisure supervisor and mentor for the Drug Education Program with the United States District Attorney for the last seven years, presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a “Mil Gracias Award” to Cm. Juan Narvaez for his support, invaluable assistance and participation with “Kids in the Barrio.”

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment by Mayor Raul G. Salinas of a Council Member to the Civil Service Ad Hoc Committee.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Cm. Narvaez to the Civil Service Ad Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Council Member Mike Garza of Mr. Jorge Montemayor to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Jorge Montemayor to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Mike Garza of Mr. Efrain Sanchez to the Civil Service Commission.

Motion to table this item until the next council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- d. Appointment by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez of Mr. Richard Gonzalez to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Richard Gonzalez to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- e. Appointment by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez of Mr. John Villarreal to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Motion to confirm the appointment of John Villarreal to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Special Fire Grants FY2010-2011 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$3,887,964.00 from the Department of Homeland Security and transfer thirty (30) firefighters/cadets from the General Fund to the Laredo Special Fire Grants Fund. The 2010 SAFER Grant award is for a two (2) year period to hire thirty (30) firefighters. The grant period of performance is from July 14, 2011 to July 13, 2013. The City is not required to provide any financial match. (Approved by Finance Committee)
Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Article VI [Investment Policy] of Chapter 2 [Administration] of the Code of Ordinances in order to:

1. Correct and clarify allowable collateral language under Section 2-259 of Article VI;
2. Correct and insert minor punctuation and typing edits;
3. Deleting Section 2-271 “Glossary of Cash Management/Investment Terms; and
4. Provide for an effective date. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the FY 2011 Airport Construction Fund Budget to recognize additional revenues in the amount of \$77,010.72 resulting from receipt of insurance proceeds and to recognize same amount of expenditures to repair the Airport’s Engineered Materials Arresting System (EMAS) by replacing damaged blocks. The EMAS blocks are designed to safely stop an aircraft traveling off the end of the runway. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the FY 2011-2012 Bond 2008, Canal Street account budget by appropriating \$186,594.85 from the settlement agreement with Suretec Insurance Company to the said revenue and expenditure account. The money will be used for the completion of the work by ALC Construction and construction oversight by Espey Consultants. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2010-2011 full time equivalent positions (FTE) by creating three (3) FTE Clerk III positions funded by the Ambulance Collections Section of the City of Laredo Health Department. This will improve retention of personnel to improve and ensure continuity of EMS medical coding, billing, claims processing and collections.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 21.78 acres, including all of Lots 1-9, Block 2; Lots 1-9 & 22-30, Block 4; Lots 1-3 & 32-37, Block 8; Lots 1-3 & 13-15, Block 7; Lots 6-16, Block 5; Lots 5-14, Block 6; and Lots 6-20, Block 9, and a 10.84 acre tract described by metes and bounds in Exhibit "A", of Santa Rita Subdivision Phase XV, La Isla de Los Jueces, located approximately north and south of Lope de Vega Drive and west of Raul Vasquez Avenue, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of the zone change. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Juan Segovia from Howland Engineering representing RMH Los Jueces LLC stated that they are supporting the proposal of rezoning the area and wanted to talk about several items that were not addressed to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He explained about the areas which could be rezoned and also mentioned that this type of development has been very successful in south Laredo because of the promotion of affordable housing. He stated that there are no restrictions to this development to the area being proposed to be rezoned and many people will be benefited due to new job opportunities.

Motion to close the public hearing, approve staff's recommendation and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Perez
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1
Cm Narvaez

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

11. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning .47 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 3825 Casa Blanca Lake Road, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning & Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

12. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 7, Del Mar Village Subdivision, located at the following address: 205 W. Village Boulevard, from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of the zone change. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider public hearing 12.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Victor Treviño Jr. stated that this address currently houses a diabetes clinic and an adult day care. He went on to say that this was a citywide project providing medical services to underserved areas. He concluded that there was like-kind property located nearby.

Motion to overturn the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, introduce the ordinance and close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

13. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 10, Block 368, Western Division, located at 1819 San Agustin Avenue, from R-O (Residential/Office District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District VIII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Manuel Flores spoke in favor of the rezoning application.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

14. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 7 and east 1/3 of Lot 8, Block 81, Western Division, located at 107 Iturbide Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District VIII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Lupita Ayala, property owner, reported that the property had been rented for over ten years and was now no longer rented. She requested that it be approved for a zone change to B-3 since there were many other businesses in the area.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

15. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Elite Aviation, LLC., for approximately 117 square feet constituting Air Operations Area Office No. 2 located at 5210 Bob Bullock Loop at the Laredo International Airport Passenger Terminal. Lease term is for nine (9) months commencing on July 1, 2011 and ending on April 30, 2012. However, it is agreed by the parties that the lease may be terminated by either party on or not less than thirty (30) days' written notice from the party terminating to the other. Monthly rent shall be \$600.00 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index; providing for an effective date. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

16. Repealing Ordinance No. 2011-O-040 dated April 4, 2011, a Scheduled Airline Operating Agreement and Terminal Building Lease with American Eagle Airlines, Inc., and consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Scheduled Airline Operating Agreement and Terminal Building Lease with American Airlines, Inc., for exclusive and non-exclusive joint use space located at the Laredo International Airport passenger terminal for the purpose of conducting commercial air transportation services. The term of the agreement is for three (3) years effective January 1, 2011 and ending on December 31, 2013. Providing for rental

and landing fee charges and incentives for adding new service to new destinations from the Laredo International Airport. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

17. Ratifying the execution of easement documents for the conveyance to AEP Texas Central Company, a tract of land containing 4,515.02 sq. ft. being out of the 14.7948 acre tract as recorded in Volume 2588, pages 213-219, of Official Public Records of Webb County, Texas; said tract of land being more particularly described by metes and bounds and boundary survey in attached as Exhibit A. Said easement tract is needed for the installation of electrical facilities to serve the Haynes Health and Wellness Center; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

18. Introduction of an ordinance establishing the oversight and role of the Internal Auditor and the Internal Audit Office. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of ordinances 2011-O-057, 2011-O-058, and 2011-O-059.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. 2011-O-057 Amending Article VI of Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances, no smoking in public places, by adding language to Section 15-78(18)—*Tobacco Specialty Retail Shop* means any freestanding retail store or retail store equipped with a heat-ventilation-air conditioning system or contrivance for introducing fresh air or expelling foul air sufficient to keep adjoining businesses from being affected by smoke or its related odors, utilized primarily for the sale of tobacco products and accessories and in which the sale of other products is merely incidental; and

Section 15.79(b)(3)—As follows:

Section 15-79(b)(3) Tobacco specialty retail stores that are freestanding, or are equipped with a heat-ventilation-air conditioning system or contrivance for introducing fresh air or expelling foul air sufficient to keep adjoining businesses from being affected by smoke or its related odors; and

Melissa Cavazos, representing the Webb County Community Coalition, spoke against the ordinance stating that the proposed

change was unnecessary and would weaken the existing ordinance. She also felt that it would result in more businesses allowing smoking in their establishments.

Laura Fernandez, a member of the Webb County Coalition, said that she also wanted to know why the changes were coming about and whom they were going to affect. She concluded that she was concerned that this ordinance change would open up to other things.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-057.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

- 2011-O-058 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign Trade Zone Operator Agreement with Multimodal Logistics, Inc., as Zone Site Operator located at 8501 Killam Industrial Blvd., and located within Killam Industrial Park, Foreign Trade Zone Site No. 3; the designated area will be 9182 square feet; effective May 01, 2011 and ending September 30, 2014. Providing for activation, administration, annual and transaction fees to be paid to the City; providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-058.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2011-O-059 Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to convey two (2) easements to AEP Texas Central Company for the installation of electrical facilities to serve Independence Hills Park. The easements consist of;

Easement A-containing 13,080.54 sq. ft. tract of land being out of a 31.439 acre tract recorded volume 1403, pages 808-813, Official Public Records, Webb County Texas.

Easement B-containing 971.84 sq. ft. tract of land being out of a 11.081 acre tract being part of the Independence Hills Park recorded Volume 202, pages 275-27, Official Public Records, Webb County Texas.

Said tracts of land situated in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, and further described in attached Exhibits A & B; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-059.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. RESOLUTIONS

20. 2011-R-33 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Laredo Fire Department for the purpose of providing an Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) program for clinical education and field work experience.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-33.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. 2011-R-039 Declaring a public use and necessity, namely: the construction of a highway overpass, referred to as the Calton Grade Separation Project, in order to improve public transportation and safety, and to acquire the surface only of the following parcels necessary to advance the Project.

Tract 1. A tract of land containing 0.16 acres (6,862.98 sf) more or less, being out of the remaining portion of the certain 0.5173 acre tract of land conveyed to Agustin Maldonado, Jr. Trustee, recorded in Volume 579, Pages 543-544, Webb County Deed Records, Texas, situated in survey 1238, E. Garza Original Grantee Abstract 425, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Tract 2. A tract of land containing .046 acres (20,092.38 sf) more or less, being out of that certain 11.1784 acre tract of land conveyed to Yellow Freight Systems, Inc., recorded in Volume 545, Pages 62-64, Webb County Deed Records, Texas, situated in survey 1026, J. F. Fuentes, Original Grantee, Abstract 317, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Tract 3. A tract of land containing 0.13 acres (5,854.87 sf) more or less, being out of that certain 1.50 acre tract of land conveyed to Gambit Bingo Partnership Ltd., recorded in Volume 280, Pages 816-819, Webb County Deed Records, Texas, situated in survey 1026, J. F. Fuentes Original

Grantee, Abstract 317, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Tract 4. A tract of land being the replat of Lot 3A, Block 1004, Modern Industrial Park Subdivision, Section II, and containing 1.2269 acres situated at 1820 West Calton Road, recorded in Volume 17, Page 42, Plat records of the County of Webb, Laredo, Texas.

Each of said tracts is further described by survey and metes and bounds in Exhibits 1 to 4, inclusive, attached to this Resolution; and Authorizing staff to negotiate with the owners for the acquisition of said parcels by purchase at their market values established by a State Certified Real Estate Appraiser; and Authorizing the City Attorney to initiate condemnation proceedings to acquire one or more of said parcels if staff is unable to acquire one or more due to inability to agree to a purchase price, conflict of ownership, owner refusal to sell, and/or inability to locate a listed owner.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-039.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. 2011-R-040 Authorizing the City Manager to accept an additional amount of \$6,861.00 from the United States Marshals Services for a total grant amount of \$21,861.00. Funding will be used for overtime expenditures for operations worked by the LPD Officer assigned to the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Apprehension Task Force.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-040.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. 2011-R-042 Authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant in the estimated amount of \$1,305,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) Program. Funding is available under the COPS Hiring Recovery Program created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009. The City of Laredo will utilize this funding to hire fifteen (15) new police officers for a period of three (3) years. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-042.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. 2011-R-044 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$15,000.00 to the State of Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for the purpose of funding the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Block Grant for the period of July 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012. Funding will be used to execute random unannounced minor sting operations to assure retailers are in compliance with Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL). The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Block Grant is 100% funded by the State of Texas.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-044.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. 2011-R-047 Authorizing the City Manager to sign an application for amendment to Certificate of Adjudication no. 23-3997 and further authorizing the City Manager to sign and file necessary application(s) with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on behalf of the City requesting that said certificate, as amended, have the point of diversion, purpose and place of use of said water rights changed as required by the City.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-047.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. MOTIONS

26. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Duncan Parking Technologies for a parking meter pilot project including purchases of materials and services for the installation of thirty (30) single space parking meters at locations within the Central Business District which costs are not to exceed \$1,350.00. Funds are available in the Parking Meter Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration for approval of the Laredo Main Public Library Roof Recovery Project as complete and approval of change order no. 1 a decrease of \$1,908.00 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place and to add three (3) calendar

days to the construction contract time, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$56,390.60 to Empire Roofing Companies, Inc., San Antonio, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$257,402.00. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Consideration for approval of the North Central Park Phase 1C as complete and approval of change order no. 2, a decrease of \$32,189.62 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place and to add thirty-four (34) working days to the construction contract time, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$39,769.83 to Martinez Paving Company, Inc., Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$675,696.64. Funding is available in the 2009 C.O. Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to Puig Engineering, Laredo, Texas, Laredo Division of Civil Engineering Consultants, in association with Blanton & Associates, Inc., Austin, Texas, for an amount of \$328,600.00 for design and preparation of plans and specifications for the West Laredo Corridor - Flecha Lane/Las Cruces Intersection re-alignment contingent upon approval of TxDot. Design time is to be on a fast track basis approximately two hundred seventy (270) calendar days. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund-West Laredo Corridor – Phase II. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to approve amendment no. 3 to the engineering contract with Lockwook, Andrews & Newman (LAN), Inc., Houston, Texas, in association with Crane Engineering, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$46,766.00, to provide additional consulting services for the Flores Street Drainage Improvement and Sanitary Rehabilitation Project for the City of Laredo, Texas. The amendment is for redesign of water/sewer and storm drain due to utility conflicts and includes construction field services for the additional one (1) block of tunnel inspection.

The total contract with this amendment will be \$440,854.00. Funding is available in the 2008 C.O. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Award of construction contract to the lowest bidder, Zertuche Construction, Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$2,310,000.00 for the Federal Inspection Service Facility (FIS) at the Laredo International Airport with a construction contract time of two hundred forty (240) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to award the professional services contract with URS Corporation, Dallas, Texas, for the schematic design phase for the Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting Station at the Laredo International Airport for an amount of \$74,705.49. This contract will provide a preliminary design to determine space requirements, floor plan, exterior schematic and construction cost estimate. The second contract will include the design, specifications and construction phase services. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Delegating the City Manager with the authority to utilize other than the competitive sealed bidding method for the purchase of goods, services and construction services as deemed appropriate and in accordance to provisions of the State of Texas Local Government Code. The Local Government Code allows for the use of other procurement methods including the competitive sealed proposal method for the purchase of goods and services, and for the construction of facilities. Other bid methods that may be used for the construction of a facility include: design-build, construction manager and a job order contract for the minor repair, rehabilitation of minor repairs, rehabilitation, or alteration of a facility. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Consideration to award contract number FY11-058 to the low bidder, Magnadata USA Inc., Toms River, NJ, in the annual amount of \$78,950.00 for the purchase of custom magnetic swipe cards (Gateway Pass) for the Bridge Department. The term of this contract is for a two (2) year period with two (2) renewal options. Funding is available in the Bridge Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Consideration for acceptance and final payment in the amount of \$1,664.71 to URS Corporation for the Water and Wastewater Master Plan. Final project cost is \$750,000.00 funded from the 2007 and 2008 Utility Bonds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a twenty six (26) month contract with Dannenbaum Engineering Company—McAllen, LLC., in the amount of \$2,165,379.84 to perform “Construction Engineering Phase Services” for the new 20 MGD El Pico Water Treatment Plant in Northwest Laredo. Funding is available in the 2009 Utility Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

37. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Plantation Homeowners Association for landscaping improvements along that portion of Del Mar Blvd., abutting Plantation Subdivision and to further authorize the City Manager to sign a temporary construction license (18 months) along that portion of Del Mar Blvd., abutting Plantation Subdivision to allow the Plantation Homeowners Association and its agents and contractors to construct landscaping improvements.

Motion to approve.

- B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza
1. Discussion with possible action on the status of fines and fees services.

Tomas Ochoa, Municipal Court Clerk, reported that that were about five months into the program exchanging data and had sent about \$6 million of outstanding delinquent cases from September of 2007 to February of 2011 to the collection company. He explained that during those five months, they had collected \$87,000.

Mario Treviño with the law firm of Linebarger Goggan Blair & Samson, LLP reported that the reason they had taken so long to begin to collect was because of software issues. He said that the ball was now rolling and they had currently collected \$121,117 for the City of Laredo. He said that with anything that was new, it took a while. He presented a written report to Mayor and Council with charts.

- C. Request by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez
1. Presentation on tourism outreach activities by the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Juan Narvaez.)

Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Blasita Lopez stated that for the purposes of the presentation, they defined their outreach activity for their exhibits, receptions and trade shows. She gave the following presentation:

Outreach Activity

Laredo CVB

October 2010- to present

- Target Audiences
- Niche interest groups
- Conventions/Conference Events
- Leisure travelers
- Business groups
- Bus tours
- Paisano Rest Stop– IH 35 Southbound at MM 15 - Dec.
- TACVB Mid-Winter Education Conference in Lewisville- Jan.
- Austin and Washington, D.C. Legislative Reception Events- Jan & March
- Southwest Showcase Austin – Jan.
- Sister Cities International Annual Conference Best Practices Showcase – March – Arlington, VA
- Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival- Harlingen- Nov.
- 5 de Mayo Reception- Austin- May
- Grupo Senda Breakfast Event- Casa Laredo- March
- Mexican Shoppers for Semana Santa Booth/Survey Event MDN- April

This presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary’s Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

- D. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Status report on the Department of Community Development, Home Program resale guidelines including a report of families assisted for the last two years, with possible action.

Community Director Ronnie Acosta reported that the City of Laredo does administer a down payment assistance program funded through the Home Investment Partnership Program. She said this year, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) did review their resale guidelines. She explained that the Home program required that when an individual is assisted with Home funds, the unit they occupy had to remain affordable for a certain period of time, depending on the amount of investment made in that home. This meant that when the person would sell their home and not use it as his or her primary residence, they had to sell to a subsequent low-income homebuyer. She went on to say that HUD had reviewed their resale guidelines and asked them to redo the hybrid language within, and although they complied, there was still an issue with the resale guidelines. Therefore, they decided to change to recapture guidelines, which meant that the person can pay back whatever was invested and walk away from the home.

She continued saying that other changes to the program were that instead of providing up to \$15,000 of assistance, they made it up to \$14,999 which would reduce the affordability period from ten years to five years. She stated that they proposed changing the program to a five-year forgivable loan with credit given to the family for every year that they resided in the home. She also said that at the end of the five years, they would no longer owe on the loan. She added that in the event that they sold their home either through a voluntary or involuntary transfer, given the time that they had spent in the house, then the payback would be prorated and those funds would be recaptured. She concluded that they modeled their recapture guidelines after HUD but they had revoked the grantees recapture guidelines, so they had resubmitted the guidelines.

2. Discussion with possible action that the City of Laredo refer all matters requiring second legal opinions to the Texas Municipal League, Legal Department instead of private firms.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that private attorneys were named by the Texas Municipal League. He stated that in a very specialized case, TML themselves selected the private firms which was part of the coverage that they had and were already paying for.

- E. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza
 1. Presentation by Girl Scout Troop 9128 inviting the general public to a community baby shower benefiting premature babies born in our area.

Girl Scout Daniela Hale announced the invitation of a baby shower to benefit the March of Dimes and would take place at the Girl Scout House at 701 Stone Avenue on May 21st, 2011 from 3pm-6pm and mentioned at \$15 donation. She asked that they support them in this important cause

2. Discussion with possible action requesting the Traffic Department to conduct a traffic study for Bruni Elementary School during school hours for the safety of the children.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza asked for the Traffic department to conduct a study to see whether or not they needed to convert a street to a one-way during the drop-off and pick-up hours in front of the school and come back with a report within 30 days.

Motion to instruct staff to conduct a traffic study for Bruni Elementary School to see if they needed to convert a street to a one-way during school hours.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action regarding the leasing of the Plaza Theater on a short and long term basis. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez)

Victor Treviño, Jr. gave the following presentation:

PLAZA THEATRE PRESENTATION
“EL MERCADO” DISTRICT DOWNTOWN
LAREDO, TEXAS

What used to be the heart, and soon will be again, “El Mercado” is just opposite of our sister City of Nuevo Laredo. It is bounded by the Pan American highway (I-35) on the East, the Rio Grande on the South and West and Park Street in the North. This area was the original City of Laredo, founded in 1755 by Don Tomas Sanchez.

Located at 1018 Hidalgo Street, the Plaza Theatre was built in 1947, and the 1,586-seat theatre was designed as a movie house and featured first-run American and Mexican films.

It was a place where people gathered, laughed together, and the community was whole.

The building is also the only remaining example of the Art Moderne style in Laredo and is of particular interest for the striking hand painted murals which adorn its interiors.

The Plaza, with its large vertical marquee, visible up and down Hidalgo Street, was operated by United Artist before it closed.

With the hope of restoring this historic symbol of downtown and creating economic development opportunities for persons of low income, the City of

Laredo acquired the theatre in 1999 with Community Development Block Grant funds.

On November 13, 2001, the City Council approved funds to undertake a feasibility study. The firm of Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates was selected to conduct the study.

The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating the Plaza as a venue for the live performing arts (including theatre, music and/or dance) and film. The study concluded that in order to fill the full spectrum of community needs and be operationally viable, the Plaza would need to be a very flexible, multi-purpose venue, able to rent, present, exhibit and host a variety of programming. In order to do so, it was recommended that the theatre should contain more than one venue for performing arts, film and meeting uses, and that consideration should be given to converting the balcony into a second, multi-purpose space.

The study concluded that the total project cost would be \$6.1 million. The cost breakdown is as follows:

General Construction	\$3,296,000
Furnishings	240,000
Special Construction/Purchase	773,000
Design/Engineering	646,350
Testing	86,180
Contingency	430,900
Acquisition of Adjacent Property	700,000
Total	\$6,172,430

Who We Are:

Sons of Laredo

Danny Lopez, Jr. is a local businessman and the General Manager of the famed Danny's Conglomerate of Restaurant, Entertainment, and Consulting businesses, all of which are locally based in Downtown Laredo , Texas.

Victor Treviño, Jr. is a native Laredoan, with a diverse background. He is a tax attorney, real estate broker, commercial pilot , and Ironman Triathlete Coach, by trade. He is a 10th generation direct descendant of Tomas Sanchez (founder of Laredo).

Education & Legacy-To motivate and draw the youth of Laredo to come downtown and have them naturally experience Laredo's history.

Economic Development-To stimulate the type of commercial activity that is conducive for Laredoans to stay in Laredo for their entertainment and cultural needs

Preservation-To preserve the character of the Plaza Theatre is key to the success of not only this project but to the citizens of Laredo.

Creating investment opportunities through the use of EB-5 visa/investment vehicles in Downtown and Laredo at Large.

Providing the facility for Rehearsal space and plays.

Bringing Cine de Oro back to the Plaza.

Working in conjunction with the Web County Heritage Foundation, the Laredo Center For the Arts, and similar groups to cater to traveling Art and Musical exhibits.

A 90-Day Due Diligence Period to Access the Current State of the Theatre.

An Option for a 5-year lease to be worked out with the City once the improvement costs are identified.

Keeping communications open on the possibility of a Private-Public Partnership.

This presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that they had an opportunity to meet with them, and during the interim they would come back after 90 days with a recommendation to Council once they knew what they could accomplish.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to meet with Danny Lopez, Jr. and Victor Treviño, Jr. to formulate an agreement to move forward on the Plaza Theatre project.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

41. Discussion with possible action on the process to be followed and manner of presentation to Council of proposals submitted by lawyer/law firm in response to RFP's for Tax Collection Services for the City of Laredo.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that they reached ten proposals with eight of them being local. He said that they wanted to find out what process Council wanted to follow. He asked whether they wished to look at all the proposals or be able to arrive at a list of three companies that they would interview. He concluded by asking what role they would like staff to take and saying that they wanted direction.

Cm. Valdez replied that he would like to look at all of the proposals at a workshop or special City Council meeting during a short, perhaps ten-minute presentation.

Cm. Garza suggested that they not include firms outside of Laredo.

Motion to review and accept only local proposals and consider them at a workshop on June 1, 2011 at 5:30 pm with the presentation to last no more than ten minutes per group.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

42. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (1)(A) to consult with attorney on pending litigation: City of Laredo v. Homero Mojica, et al., Cause No. 2010CVQ000755-D2, in the 111th District Court, Webb County, Texas; and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (1)(A) to consult with attorney on pending litigation: City of Laredo v. Homero Mojica, et al., Cause No. 2010CVQ000755-D2, in the 111th District Court, Webb County, Texas; and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After Executive Session, Mayor Salinas announced that no formal action was taken.

XV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon
For: 7

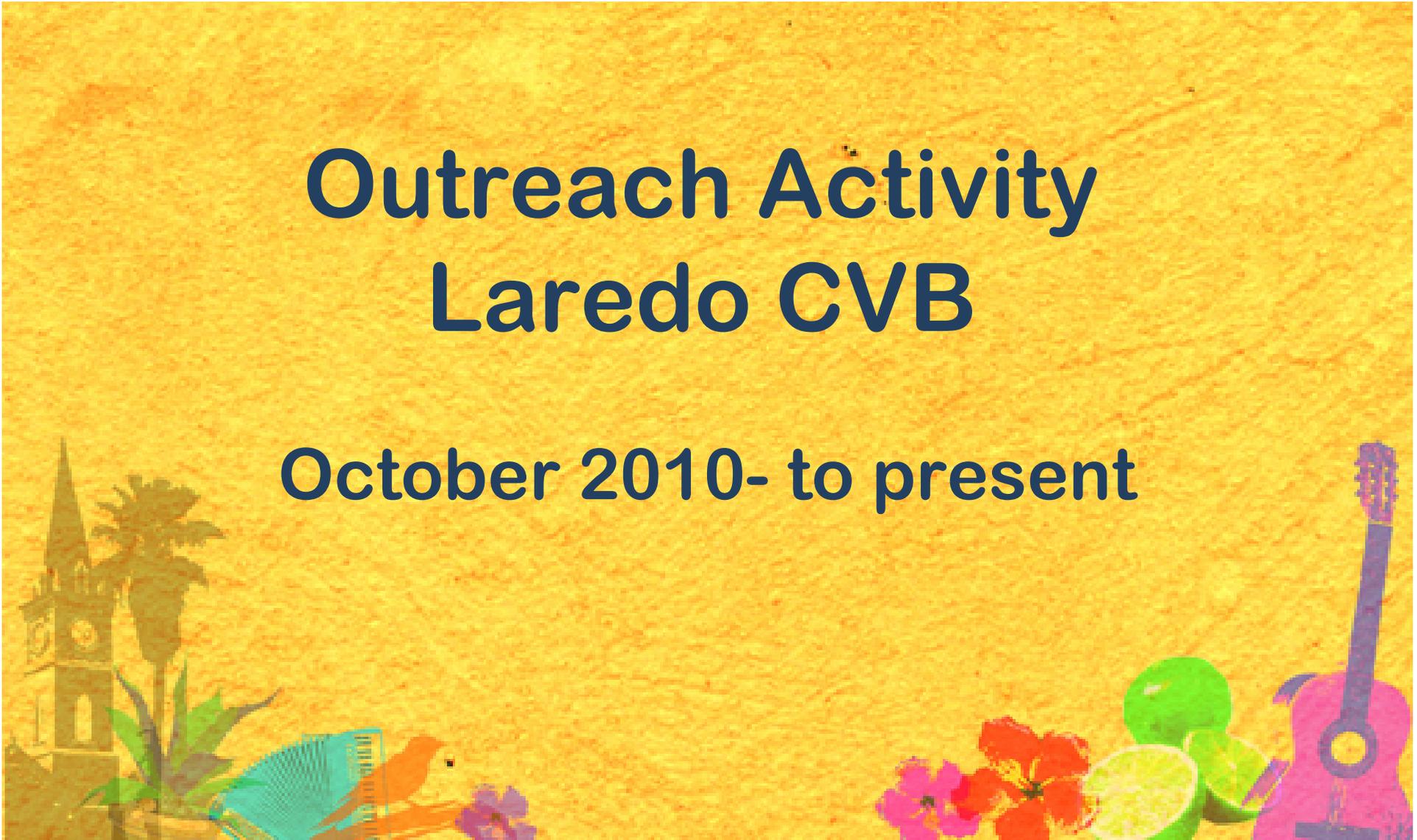
Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. 2011-RT-002 Authorizing the City of Laredo to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Project Grant Agreement no. 51122F7259, in the amount of \$10,000.00 in federal match, and \$2,500.00 in local match to be used for preventive maintenance for the El Lift Department for the period of April 12, 2011 through

Outreach Activity Laredo CVB

October 2010- to present



Target Audiences

- Niche interest groups
- Conventions/Conference Events
- Leisure travelers
- Business groups
- Bus tours



Paisano Rest Stop– IH 35 Southbound at MM 15 - Dec.



TACVB Mid-Winter Education Conference in Lewisville- Jan.



Laredo
TEXAS
Rediscover our flavor

THANK YOU TO OUR MID-WINTER
EDUCATION CONFERENCE SPONSORS
THURSDAY CLOSING LUNCH & OUR HOSTS



LEWISVILLE

Laredo
TEXAS
Rediscover our flavor

www.visit
Laredo
& Val
1-8

Austin and Washington, D.C. Legislative Reception Events- Jan & March



Laredo
TEXAS
Rediscover new flavors

Southwest Showcase Austin – Jan.

OJO ROJO
THE OFFICIAL DRINK OF LAREDO

- 1 - 1 LITER BOTTLE OF RUM
- 1 - 1 LITER BOTTLE OF SOUTHERN COMFORT
- 2 - 46 OZ. CANS OF PINEAPPLE JUICE
- 2 - 46 OZ. CANS OF ORANGE JUICE
- 1/2 - 1 LITER BOTTLE AGAVE SYRUP

STIR & SERVE CHILLED OR ON THE ROCKS

BIENVENIDOS
WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSORED BY

Laredo
Rediscover new flavors



Sister Cities International
Annual Conference Best
Practices Showcase – March –
Arlington, VA



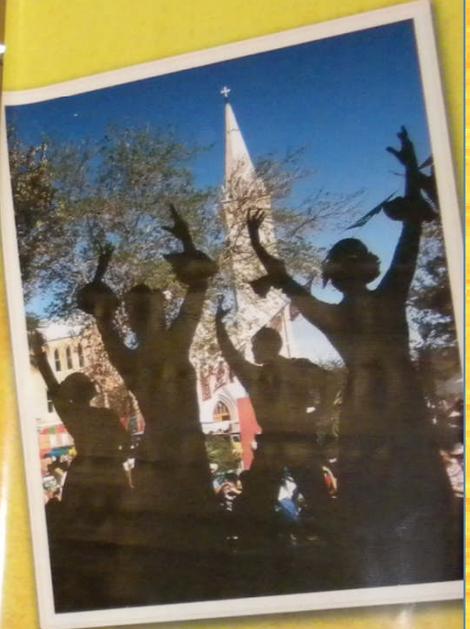


CITY OF LAREDO

Laredo
TEXAS

Laredo
TEXAS

Rediscover our flavor



www.visittlaredo.com
Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau
Laredo, Texas 78040
1-800-361-3360

Rio Grande Valley Birding
Festival- Harlingen- Nov.

11.10.2010

5 de Mayo Reception- Austin- May



Grupo Senda Breakfast Event- Casa Laredo- March



SI ESTAS INTERESADO,
CONTACTANOS

Laredo
¡Lo Tiene Todo!

Oficina de Convenciones y Visitantes
de Laredo, Texas
501 San Agustín, Laredo Texas 78040
956.795.2200

Casa Laredo Monterrey
Edificio CINTERMEX
Local 120, 1er Nivel
Avenida Fundidora 501
Colonia Obrera
Monterrey, Nuevo Leon
CP 64010
81.8309.6555

Desde México **001.800.361.3360**
www.laredolotienetodo.com



Mexican Shoppers for Semana Santa Booth/Survey Event MDN- April



Thank you!



PLAZA THEATRE PRESENTATION “EL MERCADO” DISTRICT DOWNTOWN LAREDO, TEXAS



**1950s-era postcard view of
the Plaza Theater**

(Photo courtesy of the public domain)

What used to be the heart, and soon will be again, “El Mercado” is just opposite of our sister City of Nuevo Laredo. It is bounded by the Pan American highway ([I-35](#)) on the East, the Rio Grande on the South and West and Park Street in the North. This area was the original City of Laredo, founded in [1755](#) by [Don Tomas Sanchez](#).

Located at 1018 Hidalgo Street, the Plaza Theatre was built in 1947, and the 1,586-seat theatre was designed as a movie house and featured first-run American and Mexican films.

Community-1956



1956, Plaza Theatre, Laredo, Texas

Source: <http://www.somosprimos.com/sp2009/spjun09/spjun09.htm>

It was a place where people gathered, laughed together, and the community was whole.

Cultural Treasures



Source: Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates

The building is also the only remaining example of the Art Moderne style in Laredo and is of particular interest for the striking hand painted murals which adorn its interiors.

The Plaza, with its large vertical marquee, visible up and down Hidalgo Street, was operated by United Artist before it closed.

With the hope of restoring this historic symbol of downtown and creating economic development opportunities for persons of low income, the City of Laredo acquired the theatre in 1999 with Community Development Block Grant funds.

Earlier Plans to Renovate

On November 13, 2001, the City Council approved funds to undertake a feasibility study. The firm of Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates was selected to conduct the study.

The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating the Plaza as a venue for the live performing arts (including theatre, music and/or dance) and film. The study concluded that in order to fill the full spectrum of community needs and be operationally viable, the Plaza would need to be a very flexible, multi-purpose venue, able to rent, present, exhibit and host a variety of programming. In order to do so, it was recommended that the theatre should contain more than one venue for performing arts, film and meeting uses, and that consideration should be given to converting the balcony into a second, multi-purpose space.

COST TO RENOVATE



The study concluded that the total project cost would be \$6.1 million. The cost breakdown is as follows:

General Construction	\$3,296,000
Furnishings	240,000
Special Construction/Purchase	773,000
Design/Engineering	646,350
Testing	86,180
Contingency	430,900
Acquisition of Adjacent Property	700,000
Total	\$6,172,430

Who We Are:

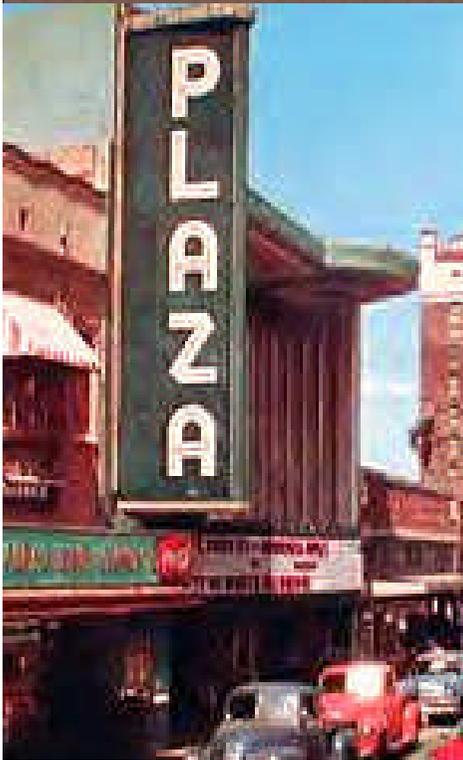
Sons of Laredo

- Danny Lopez, Jr. is a local businessman and the General Manager of the famed Danny's Conglomerate of Restaurant, Entertainment, and Consulting businesses, all of which are locally based in Downtown Laredo , Texas.
- Victor Trevino, Jr. is a native Laredoan, with a diverse background. He is a tax attorney, real estate broker, commercial pilot , and Ironman Triathlete Coach, by trade. He is a 10th generation direct descendant of Tomas Sanchez (founder of Laredo).

Project Guiding Principles

- Education & Legacy-To motivate and draw the youth of Laredo to come downtown and have them naturally experience Laredo's history.
- Economic Development-To stimulate the type of commercial activity that is conducive for Laredoans to stay in Laredo for their entertainment and cultural needs
- Preservation-To preserve the character of the Plaza Theatre is key to the success of not only this project but to the citizens of Laredo.

Plaza Theatre Over the Years



1950, 1984, RECENT

Plans in the Making. . . .



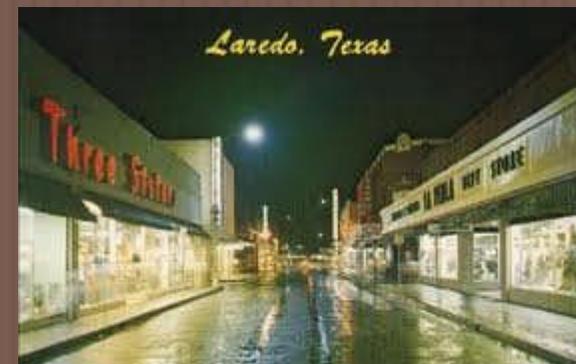
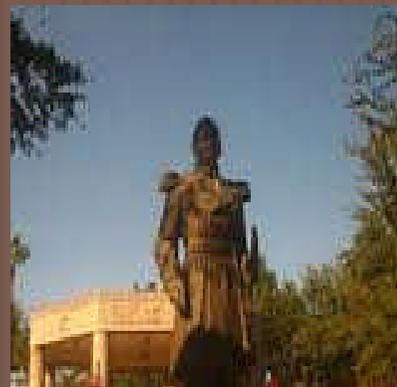
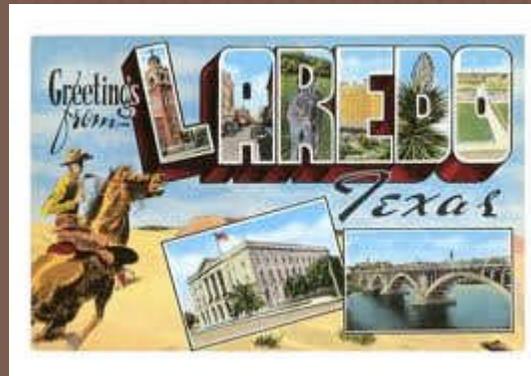
Possible future plans involve:

- Providing the Facilities for Rehearsal Space and plays.
- Bringing Cine de Oro back to the Plaza
- Working in conjunction with the Web County Heritage Foundation, the Laredo Center For the Arts, and similar groups to cater to traveling Art and Musical exhibits.

What We are Requesting From the City

- A 90-Day Due Diligence Period to Access the Current State of the Theatre
- An Option for a 5-year lease to be worked out with the City once the improvement costs are identified
- Keeping communications open on the possibility of a Private-Public Partnership.

Departing Notes....



Lopez + Trevino