

# Quality of Life Council Committee

## Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

**Meeting Date:** 1-11-2010

**Convened:** 2:01 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 3:47 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair  
Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice-chair  
Sheffie Kadane  
Steve Salazar  
Carolyn R. Davis  
David Neumann  
Angela Hunt

### **Briefing Presenters:**

-Gary Godsey, United Way CEO  
-Jennifer Sampson, United Way COO  
-Susan Hoff, United Way SVP of  
Community Impact  
-Phil Ritter, United Way Past Chair  
-Ron Smith, Assistant Director of  
Sanitation Services

### **Non-members:**

Linda Koop  
Ann Margolin  
Jerry R. Allen

### **Staff Present:**

Forest Turner, Katina Johnson, and Mary  
Nix

### **Special Guests:**

United Way Staff

## AGENDA:

### 1. **Approval of December 14, 2009 minutes**

**Presenter(s):**

**Information Only:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Motion to approve the December 14, 2009 minutes.

Motion made by: Sheffie Kadane

Item passed unanimously: \_\_X\_\_

Item failed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by: Steve Salazar

Item passed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. **United 2020 Community Goals**

**Presenter(s):** Gary Godsey, Jennifer Sampson, Susan Hoff, & Phil Ritter

**Information Only:** \_\_X\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

United Way is transforming their role, strategy, resources, partners and operations. Their mission is to "Improve lives in our communities" by focusing on education, income and health. Their call to action is to give, advocate, and volunteer. The process being followed is: in quarters one through three of 2009 collaborative teams drafted goals, strategies and metrics. In the fourth quarter of 2009 the Blue Ribbon Commission revised and endorsed goals and strategies. In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009 and first quarter of 2010 the Executive Committee and Board revised and accepted goals, strategies and metrics. In quarter two of 2009 through quarter

# Quality of Life Council Committee

## Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

two of 2010 United Way will realign funds allocation process and resource development plans to support the strategic plan.

United 2020 goals and strategies which include education, health and income were created for increasing post secondary education success rates by 20 percent, moving 250,000 more families out of poverty and keeping them out, and improving health and quality of life across Dallas, Collin, Rockwall and Southern Denton counties.

The first call to action is to align legislative and public policy priorities and the second is to leverage United 2020 metrics when setting outcome goals in education, income, health, and funding programs.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

### 3. McCommas Bluff Landfill

**Presenter(s):** Ron Smith

**Information Only:**  X

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

The landfill is a valuable city asset that meets a basic need for citizens, the safe and efficient disposal of solid waste. It is a large, on-going and developing site, well-planned and operated to last for many decades – possibly as long as Dallas needs disposal space.

50 years ago the City used many small landfills owned by others, usually with short-term agreements. 30 years ago the City recognized the need for long range planning to ensure waste disposal capacity for residents. Today, the McCommas Bluff Landfill is nearing 30 years of operation and is a premiere landfill in the state and nation. The planning phase began in 1973 when acquisition of land purchases and preparation of first designs started, from 1974 through 1980 the State issued a Solid Waste Operations Permit and the Corps issued a Levee Construction Permit. In 1980 the landfill was built, levee construction, construction of roads, drainage features and the weigh station were completed and opened for waste acceptance. From 1980 to present the landfill accepts up to 2 million tons of waste annually.

Landfills require long-range planning which usually requires three to ten years; it is also an engineered facility that is one large Public Works project that spans decades of design, construction and operations. Landfills must also adhere to strict federal, state and local solid waste rules and protocols, while also conducting rigorous environmental monitoring tasks to maintain compliance.

The primary purpose of the landfill is to serve the disposal of needs of Dallas residents, which generate about 600,000 tons of waste annually. The landfill is expected to serve that need for around 120 years. The secondary purpose is to serve any other disposal needs of a business venture. Approximately 1.1 million tons come from commercial haulers. The City balances

# Quality of Life Council Committee

## Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

commercial usage with residential needs and the landfill revenues contribute to Dallas' financial stability.

Attempts to recycle concrete, brush, old tires, glass, plastic and metals into asphalt and clean soil are for beneficial reuse. The landfill gas is also used as a renewable energy. On December 1994 the City signed a 30 year lease with EcoGas. By mid 1996, gas wells were installed and a flare was utilized, then in June 1998 a gas plant was constructed to process the gas. Today, five million cubic feet of landfill gas is collected daily. The gas plant cleans the gas and sells to the market, which in turn Dallas receives royalty on sales of \$1.2 million annually.

Landfill revenues include: Dallas area disposal rates of \$15 and up, and McCommas' gate rate of \$21 a ton. Prior to the franchise system the city utilized individual vehicle and container permits which proved to be labor intensive and time consuming. Then on January 2007, a transition to a franchise system for all solid waste haulers was put into place. \$2.5 million in annual fees were collected in FY09 compared to \$1.6 million with the permit system. Improvement of landfill biotechnology will continue to optimize landfill capacity and gas production.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

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Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano, Chair  
Quality of Life Committee