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TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

2008 MAY 23 PM 1:14
CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

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Meeting Date: May 12, 2008 **Start Time:** 2:10 p.m. **Adjournment:** 4:24 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Linda Koop (Chair), Sheffie Kadane (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen, Vonciel Jones Hill, Angela Hunt, Ron Natinsky

Committee Members Absent:

Pauline Medrano, Official City business
Caroline Davis, Official City business

Other Council Members Present:

David Neumann
Dwaine Caraway

City Executive Staff Present:

Mary Suhm, City Manager
Ramon Miguez, Assistant City Manager
Jill Jordan, Assistant City Manger
David Cook, Chief Financial Officer

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for April 28, 2008

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the April 28, 2008 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Natinsky Seconded by: Kadane Passed unanimously

2. City of Dallas Ozone Season Program

Presenter: David Miller, Program Manager, Environmental and Health Services

Mr. Miller briefed the Committee on the results of the 2007 ozone season and presented the City's Ozone Plan for the 2008 season that runs from May 1st to October 31st. He also provided an overview of the national 8-hour ozone standard

and our region's historical trends toward meeting the current requirement of 85 ppb.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Mr. Allen asked how difficult it will be to achieve the reduction to 85 ppb and ultimately to 75 ppb of ozone; and if other major cities are having the same issues. Mr. Miller stated that it is extremely difficult and referred to the graph on page 4 to show the slow progression of the reduction to 95 ppb. This is largely due to fact seventy percent of our ozone problem is coming from mobile sources. Mr. Miller also stated that all other major cities are having the same issues. Ms. Koop stated that only California has had some success due to their very aggressive regulations.

Mr. Kadane noted that progress is being made toward reduced ozone. He asked when compliance was required and what would happen if we don't attain the standard. Mr. Miller stated that compliance is required by June, 2010 and that the result of not meeting the standard could range from the loss of federal highway funding to limits on economic development in the region.

Mr. Natinsky asked if the City's Ozone Plan activities were limited only to the ozone season or are implemented year round. Mr. Miller stated that each department handles this differently. Mr. Natinsky suggested that this should be mandatory year round.

Ms. Hill thanked Ms. Koop for her leadership in the area of air quality improvement and asked if the City was actively sharing our information and programs with others in the region.

Ms. Koop indicated that the City has been a leader with the Low Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, and Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Program (LIRAP) and the Texas Emission Reduction Plan. She stressed that the region needs to meet its air quality attainment goals so that it is not bumped up from a "moderate" to a "serious" classification.

No action was taken on this item.

3. TxDOT Freeway Maintenance

Presenters: Kelly High, Interim Director, Street Services
John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation

Mr. High briefed the Committee on TxDOT's current levels of mowing and litter pick-up in their rights-of-way, City Streets Department right-of-way maintenance programs, and options available to the City to supplement TxDOT's efforts. Mr. Brunk discussed the state-required "Sunset Review" for TxDOT and explained how the City could provide input into that process.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Mr. Natinsky stated that the appearance of our roadways is one way that citizens use to measure how well we are maintaining the City. He suggested that we ask TxDOT to give the City the funds that would be spent on highway maintenance and allow the City to assume those responsibilities.

Ms. Hunt was interested in taking on full adoption of maintenance responsibility in TxDOT corridors. She stated that the City should not share maintenance with TxDOT along the same highways; the City should focus on the most visible areas and let TxDOT maintain the others. Ms. Hill also preferred full adoption and suggested that we ask TxDOT to give the City the funds that they use on maintaining Dallas-area roadways.

Ms. Koop indicated that the City should consider putting comments on record with the Sunset Commission concerning TxDOT maintenance. Ms. Suhm said that she would like to have some follow-up discussion with Ms. Koop about the Sunset Commission. Ms. Koop asked Councilmembers to identify TxDOT corridors that they feel are a high priority for increased maintenance and to pass those lists along to Mr. Miguez.

No action was taken on this item.

4. FY 08-09 Clean, Healthy Environment Key Focus Area Preliminary Ranking of Bids

Presenter: Zaida Basora, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation

Ms. Basora presented the preliminary ranking of the sixty-seven bids reviewed by the Clean, Healthy environment Key Focus Area (KFA) Team. The objectives of this KFA are to produce a cleaner city, improve air quality, reduce water consumption, increase recycling, and reduce homelessness.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Hunt and Ms. Hill indicated their support for the Project Reconnect/Offender Reentry Program as well as funding for additional Code Enforcement Officers.

Mr. Natinsky requested that staff provide a comparison of this year's numbers by line item, to last year's numbers.

No action was taken on this item.

5. **forwardDallas! Code Amendments: Form District Zoning – New Zoning Districts to Encourage Transit Oriented Development**

Presenters: Theresa O'Donnell, Director, Development Services
Peer Chacko, Assistant Director, Development Services

Ms. O'Donnell gave an overview of some new Form-based zoning districts that are intended to create opportunities for developers to build the community's vision for walkable mixed use development in strategic areas such as the CBD and adjacent neighborhoods, DART station areas, and along the Trinity Corridor.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Hunt stressed the importance of providing for adequate green space and sidewalks. She suggested that we require more preservation of trees based on caliber and that a parking reduction of greater than two percent be allowed for increased pedestrian amenities.

Mr. Kadane asked about how height restrictions are determined. Ms. O'Donnell explained that this is determined by pre-determined height maps.

No action was taken on this item.



Linda L. Koop, Chair
Transportation and Environment Committee