

**TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD**

The Transportation and Environment Committee (TEC) meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at www.dallascityhall.com. Recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the TEC Staff Coordinator at 214-670-4545.

Meeting Date: June 14, 2010 **Start Time:** 2:03 p.m. **Adjournment:** 4:01 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Linda L. Koop (Chair), Sheffie Kadane (Vice-Chair), Jerry Allen, Tennell Atkins, Carolyn R. Davis, Delia Jasso, Pauline Medrano and Vonciel Jones Hill

Committee Members Absent:

Ron Natinsky absent on City Business

Other Council Members Present:

Ann Margolin

City Executive Staff Present:

A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, Assistant City Manager

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for May 24, 2010

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 24, 2010 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Kadane Seconded by: Medrano Passed unanimously

2. DART Board Nominee Interviews (Place 2)

The Committee interviewed Richard Carrizales and Cesar Vaca as nominees for appointment to the DART Board for Place 2.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to forward the DART Board Nominees for Place 2 to full Council for consideration.

Made by: Kadane Seconded by: Allen Six votes in support of Mr. Carrizales and two votes in support of Mr. Vaca.

Ms. Koop asked Ms. Deborah Watkins, City Secretary, to explain how in the past the DART nominees were moved forward to Council for consideration.

Ms. Watkins stated that in the past the Committee made a decision whether to move one, two or all candidates forward to Council for a vote and then she would prepare a ballot at Ms. Koop's request.

Ms. Koop stated that both candidates would move forward to Council for consideration and requested that Ms. Watkins prepare the ballots. Ms. Koop asked the Committee Members if they were in agreement. All Committee Members were in agreement that both candidates would move forward to Council for vote.

3. Dallas Vertiport Update

Presenters: A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager, and Dan Weber, Director, Aviation

Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Weber updated the Committee on the immediate needs and long range plans for the Dallas Vertiport. The Committee was asked to endorse a construction contract for replacement and rehabilitation of the helipad lighting system that will be considered by the full Council on June 23, 2010.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Mr. Atkins requested that Mr. Weber brief the Committee at a future meeting on the marketing program for Dallas Executive Airport in preparation for the Super Bowl.

Mr. Atkins asked about the operational budget for the vertiport and if the City received reimbursement for any of the expenses. Mr. Weber stated that the operational budget was \$209,000 per year and that no revenue was generated from the vertiport.

Mr. Atkins asked who currently uses the vertiport and how many daily landings and departures are made there. Mr. Weber stated that there are about 500 departures and landings a year at the vertiport and that it is utilized by the Dallas Police Department, Sky Helicopter, and for other training purposes.

Ms. Medrano asked what happens after the Super Bowl. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the City wants to develop a long-term development strategy based on the results and success of the Super Bowl event. He indicated that there have been some changes in insurance requirements that could reduce those costs and open up other opportunities for use of the vertiport.

Ms. Margolin asked if the City discovered there was no way to have fuel at the vertiport after it was built and if the demand never materialized due to the lack of fuel. Mr. Gonzalez stated that it was discovered over a period of time that there were issues with the insurance companies related to providing fuel, and that the demand was not there for a variety of reasons, such as economic recession, bad economics, and insurance difficulties.

Ms. Koop asked if there is instrumentation required for someone to land at the vertiport. Mr. Weber stated there are no navigational aides aside from the lights which are in need of repair. He added that a part-time person from the Dallas Executive Airport is at

the vertiport to have a management presence and process inspections, which is currently covered in the budget.

Ms. Koop asked if vertiports around the country charge landing fees. Mr. Weber stated that there are a few vertiports with a high traffic volume charging fees, however, most do not.

Ms. Hill asked if the lighting example shown on slide 11 showing an "H" at the center of the vertiport could be changed to a "D" to reference Dallas. Mr. Weber stated that the photo shown is an example of a standard lighting package with the "H" referencing a "helipad."

Ms. Hill stated that she agreed with staff that if the vertiport were not in operation during the Super Bowl it would be an embarrassment for the City.

Mr. Allen asked if the vertiport could be completed in stages. Mr. Weber stated that the recommended \$130,000 contract would only make the existing lights operational; additional funding and approval would be requested later to bring the vertiport up to full current FAA standards.

Ms. Medrano asked how many vertiports are within eight to ten miles of downtown Dallas. Mr. Gonzalez stated that this is the only vertiport in the region.

Ms. Jasso asked about the liability of having planes land during the Super Bowl. Mr. Gonzalez stated that there is no additional liability as it relates to fuel, which will not be permanently located at the site. Mr. Gonzalez also stated that the City is self insured.

Motion was made to forward a recommendation in support of the lighting contract to the full Council for consideration on June 23, 2010.

Made by: Atkins

Seconded by: Allen

Passed unanimously

4. **Neighborhood Markets**

Presenter: Jack Ireland, Executive General Manager, City Manager's Office

Mr. Ireland provided an updated briefing for the Committee on "neighborhood markets" and staff's recommendations for allowable product types and a permit process.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Hill thanked the staff and Ms. Jasso on their work related to neighborhood markets and for hosting the neighborhood meetings in District 5. However, she indicated that she would not be in support of the proposal because the concept detracts from her vision for the district and reinforces the fact that District 5 cannot attract a grocery store.

Mr. Kadane asked for clarification on the fee requirements. Mr. Ireland stated that there would be a fee for the organizer, but no fee for the vendors unless they sell potentially hazardous foods.

Mr. Kadane asked why 50 percent of the product has to be food, vegetables, or farm-grown items. Mr. Ireland stated that the focus was to create a "farmers" market, not a "flea" market.

Ms. Margolin asked how the decision was made to establish the hours of operation from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Mr. Ireland stated that the decision was made because some operators wanted mornings while others wanted to be open into the evening; he also took into consideration that with the time change in the fall, it would start getting dark earlier. Ms. Jasso added that the Dallas Morning News did an article on the hours of operation for markets around the area and most of the markets are morning markets. Ms. Margolin asked why there was concern about the markets operating in the evening. Ms. Jasso stated that it was primarily an issue of there being adequate lighting.

Mr. Allen stated that he is in support of the proposal for neighborhood markets.

Ms. Medrano stated that San Antonio has a rotating farmers market that works well, allowing customers to know on particular days where and what items are being sold. She asked if there was a marketing plan for neighborhood markets once everyone has been scheduled.

Mr. Ireland stated that each neighborhood market would do their own promotion, however, it would be possible to put information on the City's website with a schedule and market locations. Ms. Jasso said that a master calendar would be available once the organizers are in place.

Ms. Davis stated that she still has concerns about the fees; however, she is pleased that the organizers will be in control. Ms. Davis asked where the majority of the neighborhood markets are located. Mr. Ireland stated that markets are located at White Rock on Buckner Boulevard, Celebration Market on Lovers Lane, Mockingbird Station on Mockingbird Lane, Bolsa on Davis Street, Milestone Culinary Arts Center on McKinney Avenue and North Havens Garden.

Ms. Koop thanked Ms. Jasso for her work on the neighborhood markets proposal.

Motion was made to recommend the staff-presented plan for neighborhood markets to the full Council for consideration in August 2010.

Made by: Jasso

Seconded by: Medrano

Passes – 6 in favor
1 opposed (Ms. Hill)

Linda L. Koop, Chair
Transportation and Environment Committee