

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, July 18 , 2000

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday, July 18, 2000, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Jew Don Boney, Jr., Rob Todd, Mark A. Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, John E. Castillo, Annise D. Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez and Carroll G. Robinson; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Counsel, City Attorney's Office, Mr. Richard Cantu, Director, Citizens Assistance Citizens Assistance; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Council Member Chris Bell absent on personal business.

At 1:55 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Boney convened the public session, and stated they had a few presentations before they began hearing from the public and the first presentation would be from Council Member Robinson. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated he had the great pleasure of making two presentations, one to a fine member of the Houston Fire Department, that he was glad and appreciative it was happening at this time because there had been so much underestimation, and did not want to say bad things said about the Fire Department and people underestimating their abilities and the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the department, but today Captain Gary M. Vincent was present and invited Captain Vincent and several members of his family to the podium, and had a presentation to Captain Vincent that was such a rarity, that Captain Vincent was receiving the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Certification, that he was selected for entrance into the program after a national competition and was being recognized as a career achiever, that Captain Vincent became the seventh graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program in the entire history of the Houston Fire Department, and presented Captain Vincent with an acknowledgment of his success. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Captain Vincent stated he wanted to thank all the men and women of the Houston Fire Department whom it had been a great privilege to serve with over the years, that he was very fortunate as were the citizens of the City of Houston to have such an outstanding group of people to work with, that they provided high quality of service to the citizens every single day and he was very honored to be a member of the Houston Fire Department, and thanked the Mayor and City Council for all their support over his 20 year career that they provided to the Houston Fire Department and the membership of the Houston Fire Department, and also thanked the members of Local 341 for their support in the many years that they spent working together on the fire ground and looked forward to continuing to serve the members of the Houston Fire Department and the citizens of Houston. Mayor Brown, Council Members Todd, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated that whenever they went down the street and there were no leaks or potholes and everything was working right, that when they flushed it went, and they never thought about who was doing all that hard work, that there were people in the City that were dedicated to the simple notion that they really did love the City of Houston and wanted to make it the best place possible, that there was

an association of Public Works and annually they selected three individuals on a statewide basis who best represented the finest in Public Works professionals and this year Thomas J. Rolen otherwise known as Tom Rolen to people who called him all the time or cross the phone lines whenever they hear from any constituents, was selected by his peers from across the State as one of the leaders in Public Works and invited members of Mr. Rolen's staff to the podium and presented a plaque to Mr. Rolen that recognized him as one of the top three Public Works leaders of the year for noteworthy achievement in the Public Works and significant contribution to the profession and was awarded by the Texas Chapter of American Public Works Association. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Rolen stated that the gesture that Council Member Robinson did was extremely appropriate, that he often told everybody he worked with that he was just their mouthpiece, that they did the work, that in the 25 years with the City he had come to learn who did the work and that was the folks in the field, that he really appreciated the opportunity to work for the City and the opportunities they had given him and it had really been a real pleasure and joy and thanked all the members of his staff present and asked Ms. Longley on his staff to introduce visiting guests and members of the APWA who were present. Council Members Todd, Ellis and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Boney stated they had one more presentation from Council Member Castillo and he wanted Mayor Brown to be present because he wanted him to help acknowledge some people for the presentation. Council Members Boney, Keller, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Castillo and Mayor Brown read a proclamation for Mr. Mario Alberto Rodriguez, who would soon leave for the Olympic Training Center where he would represent the community, State and Nation in the proud tradition of the Olympic Games, that stated that Lee P. Brown, Mayor of the City of Houston, proclaimed Tuesday July 18, 2000 as Mario Alberto Rodriguez Day. Council Members Boney, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Ms. Susan Bandy, representative of the Houston 2012 Association, presented Mr. Rodriguez with a special jacket and some pins to take with him to Sydney, and Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone for the honor and stated that he had been working really hard and realized it was hard to do something like this without the support of family, friends, coaches and community and looked forward to continue to work hard in Australia and to support his community back home. Mr. Rodriguez presented his coach with a flag he received from the USFA during the national championships in Austin a few weeks ago. Council Members Goldberg, Keller and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Castillo stated that he would like to acknowledge two people in Council Chambers who were very important to the City during the Census 2000 Project, Mr. Steven Tischer and Sara Salvide from the U.S. Census Monitoring Board, who were congressional appointees from Washington, D.C. and were visiting Council and invited them to the podium. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent.

Ms. Salvide stated that she would like to give their thanks on behalf of their chairman, Jay Kenneth Blackwell, Secretary of State for Ohio, for the tremendous work that the City of Houston did for Census 2000, that as they had traveled across the

Country and had used Houston as the example of the leadership that was necessary and the community effort that was necessary to make sure that all of the residents of Houston be counted, that they especially liked to thank Council Member Castillo who took the lead with it, in addition to Mayor Brown's staff person, Ms. Carol Alvarado and all of the community activists and leaders who participated in the effort, that truly Houston had been in the forefront and they had used a lot of examples that Houston did, in particular she highlighted the fact that Council Member Vasquez had one of the largest community walks in the City and all of the efforts were efforts that they highlighted across the Country as best practices, and thanked Mayor Brown and Council for all of their efforts on behalf of Census 2000. Mr. Fisher stated that Council Member Boney and Quan were very helpful to the effort, and on a personal note, from the day that he got to Houston in February 1999, the people of Houston opened up their hearts and minds and participated, and as Sara had said provided a model for the rest of the Country, that he saw Council Member Robinson everywhere he went all around the Nation, that he wanted to get people counted. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Castillo stated he had been advised that Houston had a final count on the voluntary return rate of 63%, which was one of the highest in the Country and allowed for the limited resources of the Census Bureau to then be used for the hard to count residents and it really helped to get a complete and total count.

Mayor Brown also expressed his thanks to all involved, the local people and Council Members and stated that they all worked very hard, that it made a difference and meant money for the City, and thanked the visitors, that the Census Monitoring Board was a bipartisan group which was appointed by the U.S. Congress and the President and their function was to monitor the Census activity around the Nation, so they certainly appreciated their efforts of coordinating the Census 2000 Campaign.

Council Member Galloway thanked Mayor Brown for his assistance in the major crisis in the northeast area on picking up of the garbage, that the garbage had not been picked up since June 26, that with his assistance and help the garbage had been picked up and the neighborhood was quite happy about it.

At 2:22 p.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council and Council Member Tatro lead everyone in prayer and pledge of allegiance. Council Members Todd and Keller absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd and Keller absent.

Council Members Robinson and Vasquez moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Todd and Keller absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the list of speakers.

Mr. Don Hooper, 3737 Blue Bonnet, Houston, Texas 77025 (713-664-9288) appeared and stated that he was present to speak about Items 30 and 31 on the agenda, that they had to do with the extension of the development agreement for Stella Link Redevelopment, that they had met with the Stella Link Redevelopment and Braeswood

Place Homeowners Association were in agreement with what they were proposing to amend and change and that was basically amendments to parking requirements, that they were putting in more parking next to Mark Twain Elementary and he just wanted to come before Council and answer any questions that they may have with regards to the matter. Council Members Galloway and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that it had been a long time in coming, about ten years, and he was very happy and satisfied with the way the various groups had interacted on it, that there was really a coming together and the latest proposal to increase the size of the parking lot and allow for additional parking for Mark Twain Elementary was a wonderful move and was very much in favor of it, and thanked Mr. Hooper and the other members of the group for all of the hard work and dedication, and Mayor Brown stated they appreciated their efforts, that the community was a better place because of what they were doing. Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mrs. Deborah Elaine Allen, 7809 W. Bellfort No. 227, Houston, Texas 77071 had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone, had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mr. John Gable, 12211 Fondren, No. 305, Houston, Texas 77035 (713-729-5721) appeared and stated that he was present on behalf of Listen to the Cries of the Children, that as he went into the different juvenile houses they were overcrowded, that they had crimes for adults, that if there were no juveniles in jail there would be no crimes for adults, that they needed a lot of help and support from Council to try and help some of the kids with fifth and sixth grade education locked up at 14 years old, that they get calls all the time for help, that they had been in different districts, that they just did not have enough help to try to help the juveniles from going the wrong way, that if they looked at the jail system it was overpopulated with juveniles, that all he asked for was help. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Gable for what he was doing and stated that he could assured that they were going to do everything they could to be of assistance because their cause was the same cause, that to the extent they could keep young people out of trouble the whole society benefited, not only the child, but the entire society, that they did have a number of youth programs that Council had approved, that he would make sure to get Mr. Gable a list of all the programs that the City had and sponsored, that there might be a way to refer a child to one of the programs, that there were many programs designed to reach the children, that even beyond that all of the had to do their share, each individual had to assume the role of making it possible to have all of the children grow up and stay out of trouble, get a good education and reach their full potential, that he could guarantee that he would do his part, that he had a group of kids that were called the Lee Brown Kids who he took to different places and had just taken them to meet the ringmaster at the circus that was in town, that it was historic because for the first time in the history of the circus there was an African American ringmaster, that the message was sent to the kids that the ringmaster was what he was because he stayed out of trouble

and went to school and the message to the kids was that they could do the same thing, that his goal was to make the City the most child friendly city in America. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Council Member Quan asked Mr. Gable if he had any specific suggestions on other ways that they could be more support, that the feeling of all Council Members was that they wanted to focus in on children and preventive measures so they did not experience the same problems that Mr. Gable had experience before, and Mr. Gable stated that there were a lot of people just giving up, that if he could get support of the Council Members in their districts then maybe they could get something done, that they wanted to start some gang awareness so the children could stay away from it, that he would not give up, and Council Member Keller stated that in his work with Lamar High School their anti-gang division had made a great difference in the last seven years. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Ms. Kathy Gabriel, 4906 Kashmere, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-798-5992) appeared and stated that he was present on behalf of her niece, nephew and brother, that they should do unto others as they would have others do unto them, that God created humans not races, that a child was God's way of saying the world must go on, that they needed positive role models for their children, that leaving children in a hot truck with keys in the ignition was like saying they did not care about the kids, why make innocent kids suffer, that it took nine months to bring children into the world, but one second for something to happen to them, that to arrest her brother was one thing, but to treat him like a violent criminal was another, that her brother moved his family to Kingwood with all intentions of doing the right thing, that her brother was human, that he was a man raising seven kids, running his own business and being involved in church, that she used to baby-sit Amanda and she had an inquisitive mind, that there must have been a guardian angel watching over Amanda and Josh, that normally they were busy bodies, that the news media was always showing the negative things happening to Blacks in the community, that they needed more positive roles shown to their children, all children, that let's be logical, if they as parents had left their children in a car unattended they would have been arrested. Council Member Galloway absent.

Mayor Brown asked Ms. Gabriel if she was aware that the Police Department was looking at that incident, that there was an Internal Affairs investigation and was sure once they completed the investigation they would get in touch with her and let her know the outcome. Council Member Galloway absent.

Mr. Rufus Brown, 906 Marcolin, Houston, Texas 77088 (281-260-9403) appeared and stated that he was present because he had been trying to get the Council Members to take a look at the proposed arena site, that he had started back in November with it and was present at Council about the proposed blocking of Crawford Street, that Crawford Street ran north and south as far as Fresno, Texas, and to the north around FM 1960, that Crawford Street was similar to Main Street, that it was one of the main streets that ran north and south, that if not longer than Main Street it was similar to Main Street which turned into a highway, that it had been used several years by people back and forth from the Medical Center, the VA and different places, that he and his mother had used the road as an alternative to Highway 288 for years and years, that it was the old 288, that it was a highway, that it had three different names, Elysian and Hardy on the north and on the south, it was Almeda as far as Fresno, and past Fresno and could go to

Freeport, that he was having a hard time understanding every time the site popped up it was supposed to block Crawford Street, that he had a problem with that, that he was present to let them know they would be making a terrible mistake by blocking Crawford Street, that Crawford Street was an alternative to Highway 59 and 45, that he used it the other day because 59 was closed, that he used it basically everyday going to church on Elysian Street, that every Sunday he used it, that they were planning a campaign to get out and let people know that the street was proposed to be closed by the arena site, that he was also going to be talking to the County and the Harris County Sports Authority, that he went to their meeting last month, that he had talked to the police and firefighters on Crawford Street that was proposed to be sold or closed to make room for the stadium, that they were not happy that the station was going to be closed, that he did not know how big voice or opinion or why they had it, but he had been told by maybe 5 or 6 firefighters in the facility that they did not understand why they were trying to move all the fire stations away from downtown when there was already no protection downtown as it was. Council Member Galloway absent.

Mayor Brown stated that as he may know the negotiations between the Sports Authority and the Rockets Association were ongoing and to his knowledge they had not picked a permanent site for the arena yet and as best the City Council did not have anything to act upon at this point in time and once the site was picked he could be assured that they traffic specialists that worked for the City would take a look at it and make sure what was best for traffic movement as well, so it was more than just picking the site, the traffic specialists would look at the traffic flow. Council Members Galloway and Castillo absent.

Mr./Coach R. J. Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 (202FA34511) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway and Castillo absent.

Ms. Olivia Reiner, 49 Briar Hollow, Houston, Texas 77027 (713-829-0899) appeared and thanked them for the last time she was present and asked for help with the Metro lift for the physically challenged that they were out there campaigning on behalf of Listen to the Cries of the Children, that the Listen to the Cries of the Children campaign had been going on since 1993, and stated she had passed out a package for each Council Member, that they had not yet gotten it out into the community which was their vision, that their vision was to turn the hearts of the fathers back to their children and the children's hearts back to their fathers, that was their vision and hope, but they needed help from Mayor Brown and if he could help them just to get it in the newspaper and let the media know about the campaign, it would be such a great effort, that it was already endorsed by Mayor Brown and the Council Members but they wanted it to be brought out into the media, that it was very urgent the children were out there crying for help and they needed their help, that it had already gone to Washington, D.C. and the Congressional Record and had been out there for about 7 years so they definitely needed help, that she felt that the City of Houston was going to be number one, because Mayor Brown's vision was for their children to be number one, that there were some that had fallen between the cracks that they could not reach by themselves and they definitely needed help, that not only the children were crying out, but the elderly and physically challenged were crying out. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Castillo absent.



Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Reiner for being present again and stated that he was going to ask the youth coordinator, Mr. Donald Hollingsworth to sit down with her and see what assistance they could provide. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Castillo absent.

Ms. Regina Garcia, 2425 University Blvd, Houston, Texas 77005 (713-522-9306) appeared and stated that she was the chairperson of the Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee, and thanked Council for all the hard work and all the phone calls they had been fielding and answering the questions the community had about the program, that the program was in construction so there were a lot of unanswered questions that people had and sometimes they just had to balance them out, that the program was actually approved by City Council in 1993 and funded by the Federal Government in 1994, that they did not expect that it would take so long to implement the program, but it had and they had been slowly pledging through, that what they had was an absolutely wonderful system, a good basic system, that with anything of that scale there was some things that would have to be worked out, there were a little bit of details that were going to have to be smoothed out, signaling problems and such, that there was nobody in the Country who had ever committed to such a huge project for bicycling and thanked Mayor Brown for supporting it, that when she went to a conference in Santa Barbara, California, where all the engineers from all over the Country and world were present, and she told them all they were doing in Houston they thought she had her facts mixed up, that she would get to see those people in about a month to tell them that yes in fact they were doing it and were doing it okay, but they were doing it Texas style, they were doing everything all at once, that most cities would just do about 20 miles at a time, that she knew that Council Member Vasquez had brought up some important safety issues and wanted him to know that they were working to address them, that when the Bicycle Advisory Committee looked at some national records there was nobody in the City of Houston, outside of members of the Houston Police Department, that were licensed to teach bicycle safety, so about 6 of them out of the committee pulled some money out of their back pocket and brought some people down from other parts of the Nation that were more experts in it and they spent four weekends learning and were now certified to teach bicycle safety, and had even taken that one step further and had been certified through the Texas Department of Transportation to teach bicycle safety to school teachers, so that the school teachers could go on and implement it in their programs, that there were a lot of cities around the State that were starting to implement it into their school system, that they had after school programs which she thought was absolutely wonderful, but she would really like to see a day when every kid in Houston got some bicycle safety training, that it was important, that Council Member Sanchez had facilitated a meeting between her and Ms. Delibrio and they got to go and teach every bus driver in Houston how to deal with cyclists on the road. Council Members Galloway, Castillo and Quan absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated he appreciated the effort she was doing with bicycle safety and thought it was a good first step, but thought there were a whole host of issues that needed to continue being discussed, that he visited with her personally about issues in his district regarding student safety and bicycle lanes, but it was happening all across the City in terms of bicycle lanes reducing the number of lanes on heavy traffic and high volume streets, that it was becoming more of a congestion problem and he hoped that the Bicycle Coalition and Bicycle Committee were more responsive to some of the issues and concerns being expressed by citizens and Council Members as well, because he knew that he had expressed in his visit with her that he thought there was a

stubbornness on the part of the Bicycle Coalition and Bicycle Committee in terms of not being responsive to issues such as student safety where the bicycle lanes were put, so he hoped that this was a good first step and hoped they would continue the discussion but there were a number of issues and they needed to get together on it, that he knew that when the plan was fully implemented at that point at time it was his understanding that there were no guidelines for adjustments that could be made, and if they were not cooperative in this time period, at least with his office and he as a Council Member, then they were going to make adjustments that they felt were in the best interest of the City and in the best interest of the citizens of his district, and he hoped that they would start that cooperation now and not wait until the end of implementation program where there were no rules or guidelines for what could be done.

Ms. Garcia thanked Council Member Vasquez for addressing that, that she was down at Public Works that morning speaking with some of the engineers and they had come up with a hit list for certain areas that they were going to start looking at first, that it was a big problem because of the EPA, that they had already extended the deadline so many times that they could not stop in the middle of what they were doing and start redesigning some of the bikeways, that she knew that some of the things were not working as smoothly as they would like for them to, that she was very eager to talk and was very excited about the fact that the City of Houston could have a bikeway that was a showpiece for the rest of the Nation and knew that if they worked together and talked about their differences and the problems and worked through all those issues, they would have something that the rest of the generations would really enjoy together, and Council Member Vasquez stated he supported that type of vision for a bike program, but at the same time he could not blindly support that, especially when there were issues of student safety as they had talked about, that he hoped it was a good first step and hoped that if there were guidelines that were developed by Public Works that they would come before the appropriate Council committee so they could be involved in it because they received a lot of complaints on a weekly basis on the matter, and Mayor Brown stated they were addressing it and would keep him up to date.

Council Member Todd stated they had not really heard a lot about the program until recently on Alabama when the bike paths went in over there and asked Ms. Garcia if she had a chance to take a look at the bike paths on Alabama, and Ms. Garcia stated she used that one a lot, that she rode both her car and bicycle on West Alabama, that one of the reasons that they chose West Alabama, and of course it had to be approved by the Texas Department of Transportation and they held them to some very strict standards, was because it had a lower traffic count, that was why they were not put on Richmond or Westheimer, that she did not know about the traffic count on San Felipe, but to have an east west loop there that was the one that was established, it also linked several universities together, and that was decided what was important for cyclists because a lot of university students cycled, that she knew it did affect the major traffic intersections, that if people would have known ahead of time so they could have changed their routes around, that she knew it was a tough decision but was also important to take a few roadways in Houston and establish them as a good roadway for bicycling or a good roadway for walking, that maybe if people would have seen signs up before they actually went in and stripped the roadway, they might have found an alternate way, that when they got the money from the Federal Government there was not a lot allotted to going and rebuilding a roadway because then it would not be a bicycle project, it would be a car and transportation project and it had to be dedicated to bicycling, that the plan they had was



the best plan they could do with the money they had, that they would have improvements in the future, that there would be changes because Houston was changing everyday, and Council Member Todd stated that he recognized they were learning lessons as they went along, but the bike path program had the potential to be very similar to the speed hump program in the sense that it was well intention, yet they had people who supported it and people who did not, that they ought to take a look at it and make a decision on whether the scope should be narrowed a little bit so they could go ahead and budget for separate lanes or continue on their present scope. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Boney, Ellis and Quan absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he got many calls and was irritated with the amount of time that he had to spend with calls for West Alabama and it seemed to him there was an inordinate amount of lanes that were in unison with bus lanes, that many of the constituents that called him were afraid to get in the lane and therefore stayed out of it, that he had gone on record with Bill Balleza on Briarforest, that some of the traffic counts that TXDOT made such as with Briarforest were made 10 years ago, that the bayous were used in a lot of districts, that the bayou was taken off and put on Briarforest, that he hoped that since she had mentioned a hit list that Briarforest would be on it, and Ms. Garcia stated that the bayou in that area was on the original plan and the Council Member previous to him had worked to have it removed off of the plan and that was why it was put on Briarforest, that streets were chosen because they were less expensive, that they were all addressing the safety issues, that in other cities across the world and certainly across the Nation buses and bicycles interacted a lot, but in Houston they had been spoiled and had the road to themselves, that there had to be some way to reach out to the public and let them know to share the road. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Boney, Council Members Galloway, Todd and Ellis absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Council Member Sanchez stated that cycling was not just a recreational activity, that it was a mode of transportation and there were a lot of people in the City that commuted to and from work on a bicycle, that cyclists had as much right to the road as a bus or automobile, that they needed to start thinking about multi-mode of transportation systems and get out of vehicles. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Boney, Council Member Galloway absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Council Member Parker stated that she was not interested in reducing the scope of the plan, that it was a long time in the making, and actually a much longer time coming to fruition, that she did support some modifications to reflect current conditions, but should be based only on what was a matter of public safety and not a matter of convenience for drivers, that bikes had the right to the streets just as much as cars did, and they either make accommodations by creating bike lanes or drivers were going to have to make accommodations to driving behind a bicycle without trying to whip around it, that they either make the lanes or share the lanes, that she was glad that Ms. Garcia had mentioned proper notice, because that was one of the things that would help, that before they added the lanes that they put signs up and notify folks in the area in whatever way was appropriate so that drivers coming through would not be surprised and asked if Ms. Garcia had further ideas along those lines, and Ms. Garcia stated she could not think of any at the top of her head, but knew that if they sat down at the table they could outline several inexpensive simple things. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Council Member Quan stated he had also gotten a lot of e-mails as had everybody regarding the bike lanes, that while he appreciated Council Members Sanchez and Parker's comments, he was always curious to whether it was a chicken or egg situation, that if they had lanes would more people use them, would there be greater utilization of the facilities that they had, and asked if they had any studies of comparable cities in the region or area that had implemented it and that had seen significant ridership increases, and Ms. Garcia stated she did not have the figures at her fingertips, but could certainly get them for him. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Council Member Castillo moved to suspend the rules to postpone further questions of Ms. Regina Garcia to the end of the speakers list, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Parker absent. MOTION 2000-0910 ADOPTED.

Mr. Roger Cook Jr., 1455 Cool Spring Dr., Houston, Texas 77088 (281-973-5916) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Ms. Gladys Yvonne Carter, 5034 Pershing, Houston, Texas 77033 (no phone) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mr. Trent Winters, 7967 W. Airport, Houston, Texas 77071 (713-729-1153) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mr. D. L. Johnson, 722 J East 40th, Houston, Texas 77022 (713-742-9782) appeared and stated that he was present because of a very bad water problem that his family had experienced in a previous rental dwelling, that the dwelling was rented to them with a latent defect and the City of Houston had seen fit for more than two years to make his family stand responsible for the landlords latent defect that they proved in small claims court, that since the year 2000 they as an African American family had their water services interrupted four times and the last time was back in March 2000, that they had in writing that the services were to be interrupted on March 16, 2000, but they came on Friday, March 10, 2000 and when they returned from a funeral there were no water services, that they contacted the public utility and explained that they had in black and white a shutoff notice for the 16th of March and it was the 10th of March, that no where in the system was there a shutoff notice called for, shown or demonstrated in any way, shape or form, that it was about 3:30 p.m. on the 10th of March, that it was not in the system so they were told that the water services would be restored by no later than 5:30 p.m., that at 5:30 p.m. there was a notice clipped to the door that said that it was a billing problem and the services could not be restored until the following Monday when billing reopened, that they had been paying their part of their bill, that as part of the latent defect the bill got to be more than \$1,500 of which all the pertinent communication they forwarded to the landlord who seemed to spurn it, that basically the history of their account with the City of Houston was in black and white, that his reason for being present was when they did not pay the portion of the landlords bill because of the extortionary tactics being exacted against them, then they go without, that it was not fair but that it where it stood. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Council Member Castillo asked Mr. Johnson if he paid his water bill, but the landlord did not pay the City, and Mr. Johnson stated that it was rented to him with corrosive pipes and was an old dwelling and so it was not their responsibility for the defects, that he understood they were accountable for commode leaks, but it was determined it was not a commode leak, that if they did not pay the landlords portion of the bill their water was cut off, and Council Member Castillo asked the Legal Department who had the ultimate responsibility. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Johnson if it was correct that he was on a payment plan to payoff the water bill for a previous location, and Mr. Johnson stated yes he was on a payment plan, but no they never stopped paying, that it was not able to be set up on the computer as the rest of the bill was, that they were paying, but when they did not pay their water was cut off, that it had been cutoff four times because they did not pay what the landlord owed. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mr. Bibler stated that he had listened to the issue very attentively and still did not know enough about it to comment, that he found the people at the Water Department to be very reasonable and if there was anyway they could assist they would, but did not think he could offer much at this time. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mayor Brown stated he had checked with the Water Department and was told that it was correct that Mr. Johnson had stopped paying on the payment plan and that unless he continued to pay what was owned the City their water would be cut off, and Mayor Brown asked Mr. Johnson to meet with Mr. Wes Johnson, Public Works and Engineering, and he would explain what was needed to be done. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Ms. Linda Heileman, 1600 Palomino Ln., Kingwood, Texas 77339 (713-684-5551) appeared and stated that she had questions that she would like to have answered if at all possible by next week, relating to the incident they were already aware of that affected her family, (1) that Internal Affairs was HPD investigating themselves so what independent groups audited their findings to make sure they were not too lenient or too harsh, (2) was it true that if an officer was removed from the police force an appeal could be made to a judge who alone could put them back on the force, (3) what type of judge had that authority, (4) could the appeal process be tracked, (5) that House Bill 3112, and she had made copies if they wanted them, stated that it was a felony to abandon a child, was any officer every charged with a crime from an IAD investigation or did an individual press charges, if it was the individual to please tell her where it was that she would go and what was it that she would do, that last week she listened to issues about trash pickup and please come ride in a limo, that those issues were important to those people yet when a concerned parent informed Council of an ugly matter that needed to be dealt with and then move on a bell was rang, should trash issues take a higher priority before issues dealing with the lives of two small children, that it was time for the citizens of Houston to stop being so complacent and get out and vote at the next election and change the faces on Council that would listen to the concerns of a parent of a working family. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent.

Mayor Brown stated that Ms. Heileman asked a lot of questions and he was going to ask Assistant Police Chief Stewart, who was present in Chambers, to get with her and answers her questions for her. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Todd stated that if she felt that she was the victim of a crime or had knowledge of a crime she was free to go down to the DA's office and they had an intake division down there that would take her complaint, and encouraged her to work with the Internal Affairs Division to see if they would produce a satisfactory resolution for her, that if she felt they were not being responsive to her, for her to call him and let him know, that he wanted to make certain that her concerns and complaints were heard. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Sanchez absent.

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated [www.galvan.org](http://www.galvan.org), that he wanted to begin the campaign for no taxpayer funded arena, that the new arena deal being talked about was a bad deal for taxpayers, that he planned on voting against any taxpayer funded arena, let the team owners pay for it 100% or let the public sector build it, that it was shameful and deplorable that the Arts of Freedom Festival, an arts festival for those with disabilities was canceled this year, that it was shameful and deplorable that children were dying because of negligence of the City of Houston Fire Department, that it was also shameful that the City of Houston was once again harassing him for the condition of his home at 1611 Holman, that it was in that condition because of criminals like James Honey, and if they wanted a fight he would give them a fight, because if they thought he was going to let them try to run him off of his house they were all in for a big war. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Sanchez absent.

The City Secretary stated that Council had passed a motion to have further questions of Ms. Regina Garcia at the end of the speakers list.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to be real clear about the message, that while he knew that some Council Members interpreted the issue as a right to the road issue, or as a form of transportation or as an issue of accommodating cyclists, that the citizens complaints he had received did not question the right to the road or bicycling as a form of transportation, they questioned safety and congestion, and they questioned the stubbornness on the part of HBAC to modify the plan to increase safety, so he hoped that HBAC did not blind themselves to the issues of safety and congestion and engage in a more collaborate mode to solving some of the problems, that the complaints that were coming in were not about right to the road, that quite frankly he got tired of receiving the threatening legal letters from members of HBAC about his trying to increase child and student safety in his district by modifying the plan, so he wanted to be real clear about what those issues were, and Ms. Garcia stated that she wanted Council Member Vasquez to be clear that there was a Bicycle Advocacy Organization that was separate from the Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee, that the Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee did not participate in any type of adversarial work, that they had established that all they would do was work with the City of Houston and work for bettering bicycle safety, that he would never see a letter that was signed by the Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee that was critical of any one person or project, that they made their recommendations, but hoped he understood that there were two separate groups, that the Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee was now working with the engineers of the Public Works Department, and Council Member Vasquez encouraged her to work with the Council Offices as well because the Bicycle Advocacy Group was ruining the reputation of the bike system and bike pathway of the City. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Ellis and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted everybody on Council to know that the administration asked him to put the fun filled issue on the TTI (Transportation Technology and Infrastructure) Agenda for August so Council Members could have a full blown discussion with the folks from the Public Works Department, TXDOT and the Bicycle Advocacy Group, that he would only echo the point that he thought they all had the same concerns, that they all wanted to make sure they had safety and would accommodate everybody on the road and not add to the congestion, so for them to work as cooperatively as possible. Council Members Galloway, Boney and Ellis absent.

At 3:30 p.m. upon motion by Council Members Robinson and Tatro the City Council recessed until Wednesday, July 19, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Ellis and Sanchez absent.

City Council reconvened in the City Council Chamber at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 19, 2000, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Jew Don Boney, Jr., Rob Todd, Mark A. Ellis, Bert Keller Gabriel Vasquez, John E. Castillo, Annise D. Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez and Carroll G. Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Richard Lewis, Administrative Officer Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Counsel, City Attorney's Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director and Ms. Karen Kelley , Agenda Office, present. Council Member Chris Bell absent on personal business.

At 8:31 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:10 a.m. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order. Council Member Robinson absent.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **Consent Agenda (Items 1 through 40) were considered as follows:**

#### **PROPERTY** - NUMBERS 6 and 7

6. RECOMMENDATION from Acting Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Ray L. Ferguson, on behalf of Raymond and Pamela Ferguson 1995 Trust, {Raymond Lee Ferguson, Jr. and Pamela Ann Brown Ferguson, Trustees}, for three canopy encroachments into the Bagby Street, Franklin Street, and Washington Avenue street rights of way and three planter encroachments into the Bagby Street right of way, all adjacent to Lot 10 and Tracts 1A, 2A, 9 and 11A, Block 45B, North Side Buffalo Bayou, Parcels ENYO-05A, ENYO-05B, ENYO-05C and ENYO-05D - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Sanchez absent. MOTION 2000-0911 ADOPTED.

Council Member Robinson moved to suspend the rules to take Items 41, 42 and 43 out of order, and was seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Sanchez absent. MOTION 2000-0912 ADOPTED.

Council Member Boney stated that this item was presented to the Charter and Ordinance Committee which he chaired on Monday and many Council Members attended and most offices were represented; that Mayor Lanier and others from the Mayor's Advisory Board were present and there was a sense of urgency to pass today so that it could be opened in time for the Super Bowl; that diversity was a key part and all was met and he would urge that this be passed without delay; and moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mayor Bob Lanier at this time, and was seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Sanchez absent. MOTION 2000-0913 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown asked that the City Secretary call Item 41 before Mayor Lanier spoke. Council Member Sanchez absent.

#### **CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL MATTERS – NUMBERS 41 through 43**

41. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,022,588.00 out of Convention and Entertainment Commercial Paper Series B, Fund 604 and approving and authorizing an Interim Funding Agreement between the City and the **HOUSTON CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL CORPORATION** related to the construction of the Convention Center Hotel - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented.

Mayor Brown stated that rules had been suspended to hear from Mayor Lanier at this time and invited him to the podium. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Mayor Lanier reviewed information of what he gave to the committee Monday which was that the hotel could and should be built through a nonprofit and a nonprofit was formed and started in operation around March 2000 and a feasibility study indicated every likelihood of success; that in addition with the driving forces behind the nonprofit rather than the private corporation was that the city derived a lot of benefits from the contentions that the owner of the hotel did not necessarily benefit him and it brought purchasing power to the city and the second major thing it did was give the Convention Center a hotel next to it with rooms that a regular business hotel could not do and there was about a \$25,000,000 a year operating advantage because a nonprofit would save about six and a quarter million a year not having subject to an ad valorem tax because basically it was a city building and saved about seven and a half million a year and rebates generated by the hotel itself amounted to another \$10,000,000 or \$11,000,000 a year so they had about a \$25,000,000 a year advantage that the private sector would not have and that margin was not feasible by the private sector; and they had the best developer and architectural firm in the nation; and he believed without mistakes and unnecessary delays they could be complete by the Super Bowl in 2004.

Council Member Keller stated that he wanted to clarify that this was now a more efficient deal and he wanted to point out that this was not new money being given to Gilbane but instead they were assigning money previously approved by Council to the corporation; that Mayor Lanier had done an excellent job in making it more efficient with



Michael Stevens, Karen Barr and Peter Doyle and was impressed with Hines and would bet that this project would come in on time and under budget. Council Members Goldberg, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Castillo stated that in the architect contract there was still a lot of items needing assignment and in the end there were concessions needed for servicing the hotel and he would commend to the board to consider putting an MWBE Committee together like the Sports Authority did so when it was over it would be all inclusive; and Mayor Brown stated that he thought that was a good suggestion and they were trying to do that. Council Members Todd, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown and Council Members expressed appreciation to Mayor Lanier for his work on the project. Council Members Todd, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

A vote was called on Item 41. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Todd, Sanchez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2000-651 ADOPTED.

42. ORDINANCE appropriating \$7,820,000.00 out of Convention and Entertainment Commercial Paper Series B, Fund 604; consenting to the execution and delivery of an agreement between the **HOUSTON CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL CORPORATION** and **HINES INTERESTS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP** for Development Management Services related to the construction of the Convention Center Hotel and authorizing the transfer of the \$7,820,000.00 to the Houston Convention Center Hotel Corporation for the agreement - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Todd, Sanchez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2000-652 ADOPTED.

43. ORDINANCE appropriating \$14,860,000.00 out of Convention and Entertainment Commercial Paper Series B, Fund 604; consenting to the execution and delivery of an agreement between the **HOUSTON CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL CORPORATION** and **M. ARTHUR GENSLER & ASSOCIATES, INC** for Design and Consulting Services related to the construction of the Convention Center Hotel and authorizing the transfer of the \$14,860,000.00 to the Houston Convention Center Hotel Corporation for the agreement - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Todd, Sanchez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2000-653 ADOPTED.

#### **PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS** - NUMBERS 8 through 17

##### **LOW BIDS**

8. ORDINANCE appropriating \$144,715.20 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund for Switchgear Replacement for the Public Works & Engineering Department, CIP S-1000-M6 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Sanchez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2000-654 ADOPTED.

- 8a. **DESIGN ELECTRIC** for Switchgear Replacement for Department of Public Works & Engineering \$137,824.00 and contingencies for an amount not to exceed \$144,715.20 – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Castillo. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Sanchez and Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0914 ADOPTED.

#### OTHER

10. Omitted
14. **UNITED AIR CONDITIONING SUPPLY** for HVAC Repair Parts, Part II for Various Departments \$135,200.00 - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Castillo. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Sanchez and Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0915 ADOPTED.
16. **WARREN ELECTRIC COMPANY** - \$69,028.00 and **GRAINGER INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY** \$40,110.00 for Electric Motors Supply Contract for Various Departments - General and Enterprise Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Castillo. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Sanchez and Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0916 ADOPTED.

#### RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 18 through 43

23. ORDINANCE finding and determining that public convenience and necessity no longer require the continued use of a 10-foot wide utility easement containing 7,382 square feet (0.1696 acre) of land, more or less; being out of Lots 1389 through 1397, Lots 1400 through 1402 and Reserve G, Block 47, Home Owned Estates, Houston, Harris County, Texas; vacating and abandoning said tract of land to CHCA East Houston, L.P., abutting owner, in consideration of the owner's dedication of a 10-foot wide easement for utility purposes containing 1,631 square feet of land, more or less, and payment of \$4,025.00 and other consideration to the City - **DISTRICT E – TODD** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-655 ADOPTED.
24. Omitted
25. ORDINANCE finding and determining that public convenience and necessity no longer require the continued use of a portion of a 30-foot wide sanitary sewer easement containing 1,720 square feet (0.0395 acre) of land out of the north portion of Unrestricted Reserve "A" of Terrace at West University, in the A. C. Reynolds Survey, A-661, Harris County, Texas; vacating and abandoning said tract of land to Metro National Corporation, the abutting owner, in consideration of owner's payment of \$21,500.00 and other consideration to the City - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-656 ADOPTED.

26. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the grant of an easement for Telecommunications Facilities to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company containing 2,739 square feet, more or less (Parcel S98-098), out of the A. H. Osborne Survey, A-610, Harris County, Texas, in consideration of the payment of \$9,600.00 and other good and valuable consideration to the City - **DISTRICT A – TATRO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-657 ADOPTED.
34. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **WELLS FARGO BANK (TEXAS), N.A.** for a Purchasing Card Program for Various Departments – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-658 ADOPTED.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,000.00 out of the Tax and Revenue Certificate of Obligation Series 2000A Fund for the payment of Appraisal Fees, for and in connection with the Street Improvements for Reinvestment Zone Number One Project, located at 5365 McCullough Circle; Parcel Number AYO-067; CIP N-1033-03-1 - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-659 ADOPTED.

**Items removed from the Consent Agenda were considered as follows:**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **GREATER HARRIS COUNTY 911 EMERGENCY NETWORK BOARD OF MANAGERS**, for a term to expire September 30, 2002:
  - Position 1 - **MR. RUSSELL S. RAU**
  - Position 2 - **MR. KENT L. GEE**- was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Castillo.

Council Member Quan stated that two people were being re-nominated and he checked on their attendance records and was not satisfied with their attendance and would like to make sure they had a commitment to serve; and moved to postpone Item one for one week, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. MOTION 2000-0917 ADOPTED.

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY**, for terms to expire March 10, 2002:
  - Position One – **MR. KENNETH E. BOLTON**
  - Position Two – **MR. MICHAEL Y. CHOU**
  - Position Three – **MS. KATHLEEN DESILVA**
  - Position Four – **MS. OLGA LYDIA MOYA**
  - Position Five – **MR. IRA B. SCOTT, JR.**

- was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Parker.

Council Member Todd stated that this was a re-appointment and he was not aware of resumes being circulated to Council and the new Council Members did not originally vote on the appointment; that he understood these appointees were not inclined to support a vote on a rail plan and he thought it was important for Council to consider what their position was on that, on the right to a public vote on a rail plan, and because of no resumes and because of them not making a clear opinion to Council on their position on voting he would move to postpone Item 2 for one week, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro.

Mayor Brown stated that it was not required that a resume be submitted because they were re-appointees.

A roll call vote was called on the motion to postpone Item 2 one week.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Brown voting no.	Council Member Vasquez voting aye.
Council Member Tatro voting aye.	Council Member Castillo voting no.
Council Member Galloway voting no.	Council Member Parker voting no.
Council Member Goldberg voting aye.	Council Member Quan voting no.
Council Member Boney voting no.	Council Member Sanchez voting aye.
Council Member Todd voting aye.	Council Member Bell absent on personal business
Council Member Ellis voting aye.	Council Member Robinson voting no.
Council Member Keller voting aye.	MOTION 2000-0918 FAILED.

Item 2 was again before Council. Council Member Boney stated that there was a legal opinion that it would be illegal to post an unnecessary election by the METRO board and the issue of debating rail again at the table with regard to the reappointment of board members was failed judgement and he would request that even if Council Members were opposed to rail to create new ways of demonstrating their opposition as opposed to tying up the process.

Council Member Parker stated that she did not think discussions today should be about rail but about the procedure of Council and traditionally if nominations, in particularly re-nominations, were received timely Council Members had the opportunity to express personally and privately to the Mayor concerns so those concerns could be addressed; that it was not their policy, these were not taggable, and it was not policy to delay appointments at the Council table because they had a two week notice; that the fact this was being brought up at the table had nothing to do with the quality and caliber of the appointees, but it was one more chance for Council Members to get their shots in on rail; and on another note her friend and fellow Rice alumni, Kathleen DeSilva, was one of those wishing re-appointment and not only was she an outstanding attorney and a very effective member of the METRO board, but also one of the more effective as she was the only severely handicapped quadriplegic dealing with the transit issues and her presence had an inordinate impact with her being dependent on METRO; that she was outstanding and she thanked the Mayor for placing her on the board.

Council Member Tatro stated that Item one was also appointees and postponed and there were new Council Members who were probably not even aware this was coming back except for seeing it on the Agenda and he thought it was unfortunate to delay the first item and not the second.

Council Member Keller stated that he thought it was ironic that Item one was voted unanimously and now rules were being used to not delay Item two and he thought there should be a regional mobility plan and if downtown needed to go first then that should be it, but he believed the big picture, the whole plan, should be developed and not piece by piece; and that was why he would be voting no.

Mayor Brown stated that he would point out that METRO did have a multibillion dollar plan and rail was not the issue with the members, but even if it was they were talking about a \$300,000 expenditure over a multibillion dollar regional plan which included I-10 and the Toll Road.

Council Member Galloway stated that she was one of the new Council Members and met all those being re-appointed when they received their orientation as new Council Members and she needed no resumes she had dealt with them; and concurred with Council Member Parker that if they needed information they could have requested resumes and this was not a rail issue.

Council Member Robinson stated that on Item one Council Member Quan raised an objective because of a legitimate concern, but on Item two he heard no one raise attendance or any other substantive basis; that METRO was not the responsible entity for a regional wide mobility plan that was the HGAC whose board he and Council Member Keller sat on and they had a plan, but when some did not like the plan they kept asking for another plan because they were not really interested in the plan, but in killing the project and the project was not going to be killed; and he voted for the delay on Item one because of Council Member Quan's substantive issues and on Item two he voted against the delay because he read the Chronicle, listened to the radio and knew the appointments were coming and sent a staff member to the briefing; and on the issue of rail, stop all the misinformation and if you were against it say it and not punish those serving and doing a good job.

Council Member Sanchez stated that he was not an opponent of rail, but he was curious as to why citizens in Austin could vote on rail and citizens in Houston could not be trusted to have a voice in the direction their public transportation system was taking; and upon questions, Mr. Hall stated that he had not dealt with Austin's problems but would be happy to research.

Council Member Todd stated that Mr. Hall was on Council and on November 30, 1982 he made a motion urging the MTA to hold an election to approve the issuance of bonds financed by sales tax revenues; and Mr. Hall stated that the issue of holding an election in Houston turned precisely on what he just mentioned, it would be required to hold an election if in fact METRO was going to issue debt as was proposed in the motion he just cited, but there was a distinct difference here as METRO proposed to not issue debt for the Main Street rail line. Council Member Todd stated that he wanted to be on record as saying his legal opinion was they needed to hold an election.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he voted for the delay because he had concerns with some of the nominees, however, his concerns were not about rail and if this Agenda item was going to be perceived as a referendum on rail by Council Members he would support the item.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Parker moved to call the question, and was seconded by Council Member Boney. All voting aye,. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0919 ADOPTED.

A roll call vote was called on Item 2.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Brown voting aye.	Council Member Vasquez voting aye.
Council Member Tatro voting no.	Council Member Castillo voting aye.
Council Member Galloway voting aye.	Council Member Parker voting aye.
Council Member Goldberg voting aye.	Council Member Quan voting aye.
Council Member Boney voting aye.	Council Member Sanchez voting aye.
Council Member Todd voting no.	Council Member Bell absent on personal business.
Council Member Ellis voting no.	Council Member Robinson voting aye.
Council Member Keller voting no.	MOTION 2000-0920 ADOPTED.

3. RECOMMENDATION from Director Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance for approval to set Affirmative Action Goal for participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in DOT/FAA funded contracts from October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001, in compliance with DBE Ordinance 99-893 and DOT/FAA mandated requirements – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0921 ADOPTED.
4. ORDINANCE appropriating \$12,321.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, \$3,000.00 out of Storm Sewer Consolidated Construction Fund, and \$36,616.15 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drainage and Paving for West MacGregor Estates, Section III (GFS N-1040-01-3) under a construction contract with **KINSEL INDUSTRIES, INC** (Approved by Ordinance No. 99-1241) - **DISTRICT D – BONEY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-660 ADOPTED.
- 4a. RECOMMENDATION from Acting Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$51,937.15 on contract with **KINSEL INDUSTRIES, INC** for Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drainage and Paving for West MacGregor Estates, Section III, GFS N-1040-01-3 - **DISTRICT D – BONEY** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Castillo.



Council Member Quan stated that he was concerned they were \$51,000.00 over on the item, but research was done and he wanted to caution the department to work more closely with the contractor and check plans before they went out.

A vote was called on Item 41. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Tatro absent. MOTION 2000-0922 ADOPTED.

### **DAMAGES**

5. RECOMMENDATION from City Attorney for settlement of lawsuit styled **JOSEPH GONZALES, et al** vs. City of Houston, et al; in the 61st Judicial District Court, Consolidated with No. 98-17867; Pauline Herrera, et al. vs. the City of Houston, et al; in the 125th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas, No. 98-15938 - \$81,500.00 - Property & Casualty Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Tatro absent. MOTION 2000-0923 ADOPTED.

### **PROPERTY**

7. RECOMMENDATION from Acting Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Jim Box of Jim Box-Consultant, Inc, on behalf of Weingarten Realty, Investors (Drew Alexander, president), for abandonment and sale of Elliott Street, from Monroe Avenue to Wesley Avenue, in exchange for the conveyance to the City of a 60-foot wide water line easement, located within the W. A. Kirby Subdivision, Parcels SYO-071 and KYO-108 - **STAFF APPRAISERS - DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Tatro absent. MOTION 2000-0924 ADOPTED.

Council Member Sanchez stated that he had questions on Item 5; that it was his understanding the city was negligent and the court eluded to the policy of the Houston Fire Department in terms of responding to an emergency; and it was his understanding that the policy by the Houston Fire Department varied from the policy of the Houston Police Department in terms of responding to emergencies; and upon questions, Mr. Hall stated that he would need someone familiar with that particular policy; that he understood the firefighter did not adhere to the policy. Council Member Sanchez stated that he raised the question because he needed to know if there had been policy changes to avoid the situation in the future; and moved to suspend the rules to hear from Chief Britt, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sanchez, Chief Britt stated that the policy in effect at the time of the incident was the same policy which had been there for a number of years and there was a committee that made a determination .....Council Member Sanchez stated that he only wanted to know if the policy had changed; and

Chief Britt stated that the policy had changed under Chief Tyra and was different than at the time of the accident; that each case was determined on a case by case basis and if there was any injury to citizens a determination would be made at that point and from his understanding the Police Department had the same policy in that they also could rule an accident could be preventable. Council Member Sanchez stated that what he was being told was inconsistent with what was being told in the Agenda briefing so there seemed to be discrepancies. Council Member Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he believed the question which came up in briefing was basically did fire apparatus need to stop or yield at intersections as opposed to police cars which did not necessarily have to do that in emergency situations; and upon questions, Chief Britt stated that the policy of the Houston Fire Department was if they were running against a red light they would yield the intersection before going through; that he understood in this case he had not yielded. Council Member Robinson absent. Council Member Boney absent.

Mayor Brown stated that they were finding as they had the accidents and settlements and lawsuits that there was a need to go back and look at the policy, particularly in relationship to the action and what they were seeing now was changes in policy and changes in discipline in relation to the accidents with each one being looked at individually and they had the same concern in Public Works and Police; and if he wanted more information he would make sure he received it; and asked Chief Britt to see that he received his information. Council Member Boney absent.

## **PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS**

### **OTHER**

9. **SNAP-TITE HOSE, INC** for Hose, Fire Booster and Attack for Fire Department - \$711,006.66 General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Boney and Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0926 ADOPTED.
10. Omitted
11. **Fe3, INCORPORATED/FINI ENTERPRISES, INC** - \$871,623.00, **GULBRANDSEN TECHNOLOGIES** - \$1,232,066.00, **GENERAL CHEMICAL CORPORATION** - \$1,145,986.40 for Inorganic Metal Salt Coagulants Part II for Department of Public Works & Engineering Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Tatro, and was tagged by Council Member Quan. Council Member Bell absent on personal business.
12. **STASCO, INC** for Automotive, Lamps and Vehicle Safety Part II for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$45,910.65 - Enterprise and Fleet Management Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Tatro, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0927 ADOPTED.

13. **H & H INDUSTRIES, INC** for Traffic Signal Lamps for Department of Public Works & Engineering \$738,209.40 - METRO Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Vasquez, and was tagged by Council Members Quan, Todd and Ellis. Council Member Bell absent on personal business.
15. **BUCKEYE CLEANING CENTER** - \$15,068.85, **UNISOURCE WORLDWIDE** - \$25,761.84, **OLS MAINTENANCE SUPPLY, INC** - \$51,577.75, **HILLYARD, INC** - \$72,311.30 and **JANITOR'S WAREHOUSE, INC** - \$76,099.00 for Floor Maintenance Equipment and Accessories Contract for Various Departments - \$240,818.74 - General and Enterprise Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0928 ADOPTED.
17. **KLH MEDICAL, INC dba TOTALMED** - \$55,765.72, **PROVET** - \$36,181.28, **HENRY SCHEIN, INC** - \$15,085.23 for Medical, Veterinary Supplies Part II for Various Departments - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0929 ADOPTED.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES** - NUMBERS 18 through 43

18. RESOLUTION designating certain properties in the city of Houston as Historic Landmarks (S. H. Kress & Co. Building, The Union National Bank Building, The Commercial National Bank Building and The Scanlan Building) - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Bell absent on personal business.
19. RESOLUTION approving the action of the City of Houston **HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE CORPORATION** for the Houston Baptist University Project - **DISTRICT F – ELLIS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. RESOLUTION 2000-33 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE authorizing issuance of City of Houston, Texas, Water and Sewer System Junior Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2000B, prescribing the terms and conditions thereof; providing for the payment thereof; making other provisions regarding such bonds and matters incident thereto; awarding the sale of the bonds; authorizing the defeasance, final payment, and discharge of certain Commercial Paper Notes; authorizing the execution and delivery of an Escrow Agreement to provide for the payment of such Commercial Paper Notes; authorizing the purchase of and subscription for certain escrowed securities; authorizing Bond Insurance, Reserve Fund surety Bond, Escrow Verification and Engagement of an Escrow Agent, a Co-Bond Counsel Agreement; and a special Disclosure Co-Counsel Agreement; authorizing execution and delivery of a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; and declaring an emergency – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-661 ADOPTED.

21. ORDINANCE relating to the issuance and sale of City of Houston, Texas, Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2000; including authorizing the Finance Working Group to proceed with the sale of such bonds, approving and authorizing distribution of the Preliminary Official Statement related to such bonds, approving matters incidental to the issuance and sale and making various findings and provisions related thereto – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-662 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE amending **CHAPTER 18 (ETHICS AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability – was presented, and was tagged by Council Members Galloway, Ellis and Goldberg.

Council Member Parker stated that she would like to enter an amendment to Item 22, Chapter 18 of the Ethics Ordinance; that she had presented it in writing and it was dealing with contributions; that a lot of what was done in the Ethics Committee had to do with trying to lessen the impact of large money contributions in campaigns, the discussion was on influence of donations by contractors; that to her to reform campaigns you needed to follow the money and her amendment was simple where an individual gave \$5,000 it was reduced to \$1,000 and where a PAC could give \$10,000 for election it was reduced to \$5,000; that Legal did research on big cities and another big city was Los Angeles and their limits were \$500 for a Council candidate and \$1,000 for a Mayoral candidate and Chicago had limitations with contractors limiting them to \$1,500; and the motion did not require a second because it was in writing but she hoped to have an interesting discussion; and presented her motion in writing.

“To amend Sec. 18-38. (a) to lower the maximum contribution by individuals from ~~\$5,000.00~~ to \$1,000.00 and to lower the maximum contribution by political action committees from ~~\$10,000.00~~ to \$5,000.00 as indicated as follows:

Sec. 18-38. Limitation on total contribution by individual and political action committee.

No person shall make contributions to a candidate which in the aggregate exceeds ~~\$5,000.00~~ \$1,000.00 per election. No political action committee shall make contributions to a candidate which in the aggregate exceeds ~~\$10,000.00~~ \$5,000.00 per election.”

Mayor Brown stated that the matter could not be submitted because the main item was tagged and there was no item before them at this time, but it could be brought up next week.

Council Members Goldberg, Ellis and Galloway removed their tag of Item 22 to allow Council Member Parker to present her motion.

Mayor Brown stated that Item 22 was again before Council and they had an amendment to the item. Council Members Tatro and Galloway stated that they tagged Council Member Parker’s amendment.

Council Members Goldberg and Ellis tagged Item 22.

Council Member Keller stated that in this they were limiting influence peddling that can or had gone on at city levels and that was a part of this amendment and not just the campaign finance reform and his focus on this was to limit the playing field would be to limit the amount people doing business with the City of Houston contributed.

Council Member Robinson stated that he would like to ask a procedural favor and next week when voting he would like to vote on each main amendment individually; that three pieces were being amended and he would like to vote on each of the three main items separate and distinct; that he would also not prefer extending it by 30 days and he would put an amendment up then; and he heard people say influence peddling or big money was the problem and he hoped someone on the committee did a couple of basic things such as an analysis of district versus At-Large, Controller and Mayor or were they just generic statements, he would hate the terms big money and influence peddling to be thrown around and they perpetuated against themselves like when Council Member Sanchez stated previously that METRO was running commercials saying Houston had the dirtiest air and they had an ozone problem versus the world's dirtiest air and he did not want to hear big money and influence peddling and no one had even looked at the reports and he hoped to hear some of that during the discussions next weeks. Mayor Brown stated that to achieve his objective he needed to move to divide the question when they voted.

Upon questions by Council Member Todd, Mr. Hall stated that the issuance of campaign finance had been a question of first amendment debate, but he was not aware of any provision that would apply restrictions as to how it was applied here. Council Member Todd stated that Council Member Parker's amendments spoke to individuals and PAC and not to personal expenditures. Council Member Parker stated that was a separate section of Chapter 18 and that was where most constitutional issues did lie. Council Member Todd stated that what he was wondering, given the way her amendment was structured if a rich person could run for office and use their own money then would that not give them an advantage; that he would like that researched to see if it was favoring the wealthy over the middle class; and Mr. Hall stated that Ms. Portwood and Ms. Gross were present and heard his comments and they would visit with him.

Council Member Vasquez stated that Council Member Todd did raise an interesting question about the role of the middle class versus someone with the means to fund their own campaign and he would ask Legal to provide information next week on the possibility of limiting individual campaign contributions to their own campaign as well; and Mr. Hall stated that there had been a good deal of law on that question and they were certainly willing to do research to give him a status on that.

Council Member Parker stated that she had been working with Council Member Keller and she knew they would be meeting in the next week; that she spoke with other Council Members who were interested in having different limits for Mayoral and Controller races and she would be happy to visit with them.

27. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston, the **EAST DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** and **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER FIFTEEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (EAST DOWNTOWN ZONE)** in connection with the City's Reinvestment Zone Number Fifteen over the East Downtown Area - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was

presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-663 ADOPTED.

28. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and the **OLD SIXTH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION** for Enhanced Enterprise Economic Development Corridor Program; containing provisions relating to the subject - \$20,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Goldberg. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. **(Note: Council Member Goldberg released his tag later in the meeting.)**
29. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston and **MIRACLE OF HOPE, INC** a Community Housing Development Organization, to provide \$50,000.00 from the Low Income Housing Fund (Fund 872) for operating expenses to assist in developing affordable housing in the Fourth Ward Area - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented.

Council Member Quan stated that he was disturbed because when they started the TIRZ the idea was if it was petitioned there would be a component for low income housing and would like further review; and tagged Item 29. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. **(Note: Council Member Quan released his tag later in the meeting.)**

30. ORDINANCE confirming and renewing the terms and provisions of Ordinance 99-1350 pertaining to the Stella Link Campus Park; amending Section Six (6) of Ordinance 99-1350 to extend the termination date thereof - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** - was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. **(Note: Council Member Vasquez released his tag later in the meeting.)**
31. ORDINANCE approving the second amendment to Development and Exchange Agreement with the **STELLA LINK REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC** to Reconfigure the Off-Street Parking for a portion of the Stella Link Campus Park and to extend certain time limits - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. **(Note: Council Member Vasquez released his tag later in the meeting.)**
32. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing grazing license agreement between **MICHAEL BLACKMON, as licensee**, and the City of Houston, Texas, for 5.05 acres out of the N. B. Walters Survey, A-873, Harris County, Texas - Revenue - **DISTRICT D – BONEY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-664 ADOPTED.

Council Member Quan stated that he was concerned that the rate of rent being collected for the land was unusually low and he would appreciate being briefed; and Mayor Brown stated that it was just a fee for grazing and a market study was done; and someone would show him that study. Council Member Todd absent.



33. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **SUNBELT SYSTEMS, INC d/b/a AMERICA FIRST SERVICES** for Vending Machine Concession Services for the Department of Public Works and Engineering and Planning and Development Department 3 Years with two one-year options – Revenue – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-665 ADOPTED.
35. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Foreign Currency Exchange and Business Services Concession Agreement at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston and William P. Hobby Airport between the City of Houston and **LENLYN LIMITED D/B/A ICE CURRENCY SERVICES USA** - Revenue - **DISTRICTS B - GALLOWAY and E – TODD** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-666 ADOPTED.
36. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance Number 97-899 to increase the maximum contract amount; approving and authorizing second amendment to contract between the City and **PHARMCHEM LABORATORIES, INC** for Alcohol and Controlled Substance Testing Services - \$400,000.00 Central Services Revolving Fund – was presented.

Council Member Castillo stated that he had asked for information and he did receive it from Mr. Vara and would like to share it; that during the drug testing program the City of Houston experienced an average of 3.67% positive, but in 1999 it was down to 1.36%; that it was a great reduction and a great program as it reduced drug abuse in the work place; and Mayor Brown stated that he agreed the program served as a preventive measure for people who felt they would be tested they were less likely to use drugs if they were to be tested; and he was also tested so it did include everyone. Council Members Boney and Todd absent.

A vote was called on Item 36. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-667 ADOPTED.

38. ORDINANCE appropriating the additional sum of \$110,000.00 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund for Professional Consulting Services contract between the City and **HONESTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC** (Contract No. 050398), approved by Ordinance No. 99-507 for Parks & Recreation Department, GFS F-0363-50-3 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-668 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the Restated and Amended contract between the City of Houston and **GARY MONTGOMERY & ASSOCIATES, INC** for Professional Engineering Services to Develop a Ground Water Master Plan, GFS S-0100-06-2 – was presented, and was tagged by Council Members Quan, Tatro,

Keller, Sanchez and Parker. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent.

40. ORDINANCE appropriating \$4,677,748.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund and \$442,152.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, \$407,000.00 out of Storm Sewer Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **TEXAS-STERLING CONSTRUCTION, INC** on low bid of \$4,880,005.25 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **DAE & ASSOCIATES, LTD, D/B/A GEOTECH ENGINEERING AND TESTING, A TEXAS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP** in the amount of \$110,000.00 for construction of Telephone Road Reconstruction from Lawndale to Gulf Freeway, GFS N-0611A-40-3, providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund, the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and the Storm Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Todd absent. ORDINANCE 2000-669 ADOPTED.

**Non-Consent Agenda was considered as follows:**

**PROPERTY**

44. RECOMMENDATION from Acting Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to APPOINT two independent Real Estate Appraisers to establish the lease values of the ±2.2738 acres of land and improvements located at 27A-B Artesian Place and ±2.200 acres of land and improvements located at 440 Bagby - **APPRAISERS - DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** – was presented.

Council Member Vasquez moved to postpone Item 44 one week, and was seconded by Council Member Boney. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0930 ADOPTED.

**MATTERS HELD** - NUMBERS 45 through 52

45. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Director Department of Aviation for 7th Annual Familiarization Visit, ACI African Region - \$22,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – (This was Item 5 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS KELLER, TATRO, QUAN and TODD) – was presented.

Council Member Sanchez moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Hoyt Brown, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. MOTION 2000-0931 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Sanchez, Mr. Brown stated that this was the 7th Annual African ACI Program they have had; that one key ingredient in the program was the international air service development program, to build a relationship with regions of the world they had not been as successful to develop commerce and

ultimately air services and through this they had now seen 63 different executives who usually were members of the government and by being government representatives they came closer to developing a rapport that would get an open sky so they could build air service; that their marketing program in regions had taken different approaches and with one of the trade missions to China they had now signed four agreements with the Chinese airports. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Sanchez moved to postpone Item 45 one week, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Boney stated that a one week delay was tantamount to killing the project; that he had no problem with reviewing it in committee or staff to see if it should be expanded to other continents and so fourth, but he thought it was worthy and worthwhile. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Sanchez stated that if this was the 7th Annual Program and the Administration knew there was a date coming up it should have been brought up earlier to allow for a tag or delay; and Council Member Boney stated that it had been tagged. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Mayor Brown stated that it was not a crisis, it was put on and a tag week was calculated and it was tagged and now brought up again. Council Members Vasquez and Castillo absent.

After further discussion Council Member Sanchez stated that he would withdraw his motion for delay as Council Member Boney brought up a valid point, but his concerns were that Houston did not have a policy or program that would invite and attract other regions of the world on an annual basis to Houston and also he had questioned the program about three years ago and the policy by Aviation was for public safety and had nothing to do with economic development and he wondered if the focus had shifted in the last three years and if so could a written policy be provided; and he did support international markets and routes to other airports and he would like to see if a policy could be developed to include other regions of the world; and released his motion to delay and requested that someone from Aviation visit with him on the issue. Council Member Robinson absent.

A vote was called on Item 45. Council Member Sanchez voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0932 ADOPTED.

Council Member Quan stated that he would remove his tag on Item 29 and would like to hear from Rev. Blocker. Mayor Brown stated that the item would be taken at the end of the Agenda.

Council Member Parker moved to suspend the rules to take Item 29 out of order, and was seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0933 ADOPTED.

29. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston and **MIRACLE OF HOPE, INC** a Community Housing Development

Organization, to provide \$50,000.00 from the Low Income Housing Fund (Fund 872) for operating expenses to assist in developing affordable housing in the Fourth Ward Area - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was again before Council.

Council Member Quan moved to hear from Rev. Blocker at this time, and was seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0934 ADOPTED.

Rev. Blocker stated that Miracle of Hope was a nonprofit CDC in the Fourth Ward and working toward the revitalization of the Fourth Ward in affordable housing and they had under option 33 lots to develop 33 homes and had obtained a \$10,000 loan to take down the option and had a builder, Ironwood Homes, they were getting ready for the ground breaking on July 31 and it was their desire for the grant to help assist them in getting qualified buyers and allowing them to continue as they were operating on a shoestring.

Council Member Quan stated that he appreciated his efforts and supported the redevelopment in the Fourth Ward, but his concern was the funding source; and upon questions, Rev. Blocker stated that their application went in on January of last year and they had been waiting a year for assistance and it was somewhat of an urgency at this point. Council Member Sanchez stated that he would like to continue his tag and felt that next week they should be able to get this done. Council Members Todd, Ellis and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Mayor Brown, Mr. Steve Lewis, Legal Department, stated that the money was derived from the one-third set aside required from the petition TIRZs, last year Council passed Ordinance 99-488 designating the money flowing from the one-third set aside to go into a special account called the low income housing fund, Fund 872, and pursuant to the statute the funds were to be used specifically for low income housing and it did not have to be used in the TIRZ as it could be used anywhere in the city. Council Members Goldberg, Ellis and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he understood Council voted on this before he was on Council and he would remove his tag, but he would like to review it. Council Members Goldberg, Ellis and Robinson absent.

Council Member Boney stated that the structure of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Financing was a creation of state law and it was state law that did not require the one-third set aside to be used in the particular TIRZ and all they were doing here was using some of the pot of low income housing to produce low income housing and where it was produced was based on Council and the Administration jointly. Council Members Goldberg, Ellis, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

After further discussion by Council a vote was called on Item 29. Council Member Tatro voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Ellis and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2000-670 ADOPTED.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he would remove his tag on Item 28. Mayor Brown stated that the item would be taken at the end of the Agenda Council Member Robinson absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he would remove his tags on Items 30 and 31. Mayor Brown stated that the item would be taken at the end of the Agenda. Council Member Robinson absent.

46. MOTION by Council Member Vasquez/Seconded by Council Member Quan to adopt recommendation from Director Building Services Department for approval of final contract amount of \$1,553,870.93 and acceptance of work on contract with **TIMES CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Modernization of the Municipal Courts Building Phase II, GFS D-0044-04-3 - 10.20% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ – (This was Item 7 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS TODD, KELLER and ELLIS)** – was presented.

Council Member Keller stated that he did not feel this was constructive to try and delay, but it was productive to point out the flaws and he would like to use it as a precursory to a motion he would make on Item 49; that in reviewing the change orders and without meeting with the architect he just had an opinion as to how it could have been avoided through other construction management methods and that was why he was using it as a way to improve the formula in Building Services; that to have modified court room benches for \$8,700 and Item 49 had it in the original contract; to connect to the VAV boxes was a design flaw; he thought an engineering flaw was the connection to the water heater and waste lines which he thought was obvious and one he did not like and why they needed to change the system was that HVAC control wiring was severed by the owning Department of Personnel while removing communication wiring in the path of new construction resulted in \$6,600 which caused them to have new mixing boxes and he thought if someone was on the site and managing the job things like that did not happen; modification to the guard railing as a change order when ADA had known going into the thing was \$1,500 and he wanted to point that out because in his opinion the damage was done, but it was important to note the formula was being improved.

A vote was called on Item 46. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0935 ADOPTED.

47. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Tatro to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **HOUSTON SOFA MANUFACTURING** for Sofas for Fire Department - Replacement - \$59,250.00 - General and Fire Department Revolving Fund – **(This was Item 9 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GOLDBERG)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0936 ADOPTED.
48. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **GTE COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION** for Telecommunications Equipment Maintenance Services at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston, William P. Hobby Airport and Ellington Field - 3 Years with two one-year options -

\$7,475,606.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS B - GALLOWAY and E - TODD – (This was Item 15 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GOLDBERG)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2000-671 ADOPTED.

49. ORDINANCE appropriating \$223,900.00 out of General Improvement Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing third amendment to contract between the City of Houston and **DANSBY & MILLER AIA, ARCHITECTS**, for professional architectural services relating to Municipal Courts Expansion/Modernization Data Center Upgrade, CIP D-0044-02-2; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the General Improvement Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT H - VASQUEZ – (This was Item 19 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER KELLER)** – was presented.

Council Member Keller moved to refer Item 49 back to the Building Services Department to review the possibility of doing the work in-house for a fraction of the cost, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. MOTION 2000-0937 ADOPTED.

50. ORDINANCE appropriating \$4,077,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C (AMT) and \$12,000.00 out of Airports Improvement Fund, CIP A-0425, A-0131, awarding construction contract to **SWINERTON & WALBERG CO.** on low bid of \$3,837,084.00 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **GROUND TECHNOLOGY, INC** in the amount of \$38,000.00 for Terminal B Tenant Space Alterations at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (IAH), Project 533C - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY - (This was Item 22 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ELLIS and TATRO)** – was presented.

Council Member Tatro stated that Items 50 and 51 were both Aviation contracts and considered under ROCIP and Item 50 was to be enrolled in ROCIP and Item 51 was not and he believed they would be losing money in Item 50 and as previously he passed out information on the item including the Administration's analysis; that F & A's analysis on Item 50 was they included no Administrative cost and no lost reserve and in their own projections their probable case would lose \$5,000 and that did not include \$34,000 in safety personnel which would be a part of the contract; that in their worse case scenario the city would lose \$31,000; that under their best case, which included no loss reserve fund, they would gain \$15,000 but again they had the \$34,000 in safety personnel cost; and he believed what they must do and what F & A failed to do was to use a standard case; and moved to refer Item 50 back to the Administration, and was seconded by Council Member Todd. Council Members Castillo and Robinson absent.

Council Member Boney stated that he would guess Council was going to have to endure this for the life of the contract; that he opposed the motion to refer back, and moved to suspend the rules to hear from Ms. Mosley, and was seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Galloway, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. MOTION 2000-0938 ADOPTED.



Upon questions by Council Member Boney, Ms. Mosley stated that as she had told Council before when asked to review Council Member Tatro's issues you could not allocate cost related to losses and cost related to the Administrator's fees, which were a percentage of savings in which the losses were a part; that they relied on the Administrator that the Council approved the contract to apply the judgment they had having had many years in the industry as to the potential for losses and that was a computation you could not put into a financial analysis judgment call. Council Member Castillo absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Robinson, Ms. Mosley stated that the enrollment started with the first contract approved the appropriation which she thought was in May. Council Member Castillo absent.

A roll call vote was called on the motion to send Item 50 back to the Administration.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Brown voting no.	Council Member Vasquez voting no.
Council Member Tatro voting aye.	Council Member Castillo absent.
Council Member Galloway voting no.	Council Member Parker voting no.
Council Member Goldberg voting no.	Council Member Quan voting no.
Council Member Boney voting no.	Council Member Sanchez voting aye.
Council Member Todd voting aye.	Council Member Bell absent on personal business
Council Member Ellis voting aye.	Council Member Robinson voting no.
Council Member Keller voting aye.	MOTION 2000-0939 FAILED.

50. ORDINANCE appropriating \$4,077,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C (AMT) and \$12,000.00 out of Airports Improvement Fund, CIP A-0425, A-0131, awarding construction contract to **SWINERTON & WALBERG CO.** on low bid of \$3,837,084.00 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **GROUND TECHNOLOGY, INC** in the amount of \$38,000.00 for Terminal B Tenant Space Alterations at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (IAH), Project 533C - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY - (This was Item 22 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ELLIS and TATRO)** – was again before Council. Council Members Todd, Tatro, Sanchez and Ellis voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-672 ADOPTED.

51. ORDINANCE appropriating \$14,630,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C (AMT), CIP A-0091 and \$145,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C (AMT) A-0131, awarding construction contract to **SWINERTON & WALBERG CO.** on low bid of \$13,551,226.00 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **LAW ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC** in the amount of \$140,000.00 for Terminal B/C Utility Distribution Upgrades at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (IAH), Project 424C - **DISTRICT B – GALLOWAY – (This was Item 23 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL**

**MEMBER TATRO**) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-673 ADOPTED.

52. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,105,200.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **AUSTIN FILTER SYSTEMS, INC** on low bid of \$1,842,450.00 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **LAW ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC** in the amount of \$60,000.00 for Buffalo Bayou Trail north of Buffalo Bayou, GFS N-0420-28-3 (N-0420-28); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - CASTILLO** – **(This was Item 24 on Agenda of July 12, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TATRO)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-674 ADOPTED.

**Items which were tagged and the tag released earlier in the meeting were considered as follows:**

28. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and the **OLD SIXTH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION** for Enhanced Enterprise Economic Development Corridor Program; containing provisions relating to the subject - \$20,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** was again presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-675 ADOPTED.
30. ORDINANCE confirming and renewing the terms and provisions of Ordinance 99-1350 pertaining to the Stella Link Campus Park; amending Section Six (6) of Ordinance 99-1350 to extend the termination date thereof - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** - was again presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-676 ADOPTED.
31. ORDINANCE approving the second amendment to Development and Exchange Agreement with the **STELLA LINK REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC** to Reconfigure the Off-Street Parking for a portion of the Stella Link Campus Park and to extend certain time limits - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** – was again presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Member Castillo absent. ORDINANCE 2000-677 ADOPTED.

#### **MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to ask Public Works to look into a situation on South Braeswood near Stella Link, one of the lanes seemed to be blocked for some reason and it was not apparent why, no work was getting done and it was causing cut through traffic to go through the neighborhood. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to announce that the Houston Bar Association was putting on a musical production number next Friday and Saturday and it benefited the Bar Association which did a lot of work for illiteracy and other good causes in the line of low income families; that tickets were available in his office and he would encourage all to attend. Council Members Boney and Castillo absent.

Upon questions by Mayor Brown, Council Member Goldberg stated that he would be singing and dancing. Mayor Brown stated that Public Works Would take care of his problem on South Braeswood. Council Members Boney and Castillo absent.

Council Member Todd stated that at the Regulatory Affairs Committee they had been moving forward on a number of extremely important issues and they were blessed to have some people from F & A who worked very hard on a weekly basis; that Kathly Mosley and Jacqui Croy dealt with those issues along with their regular issues in F & A, but the committee had been working on taxi issues, cable and wrecker issues and they were doing a fantastic job but they were having a problem with the workload being placed on them and he would like a look done in F & A to bring help to them. Council Members Boney and Castillo absent.

Council Member Todd stated that on the wrecker issue he wanted to thank Council Member Ellis for his hard work, it was a very thorny legal and regulatory issue, it was a very competitive industry and stakes were high; that he did not think the solution would be new laws entirely but enforcement too; and he felt they were only about a month away from bringing forth serious improvements. Mayor Brown stated that they would see what needed to be done regarding the F & A matter. Council Members Goldberg Boney and Castillo absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to thank those in Spring Branch in the Super Neighborhood Program; that he went out for a combined Spring Branch East, Central and West Neighborhood meeting on transportation and they engaged in an informative discussion relative to the I-10 expansion and what the city could do; and thanked all those who organized the meeting. Council Members Goldberg, Todd and Ellis absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that to follow Council Member Todd's commentary a big issue would be coming to Council Members which came out of the Transportation Committee and by early next week Council Members would receive copies of documents relative to the Local Government Corporation for the Northeast Water Plant so they would have an opportunity to review them; that Council Member Castillo raised a very important point relative to the Hotel Corporation and that was something they would have to be very aware of as they moved forward on the local government corporation because this was a project significantly larger than the hotel, football, basketball or football arena combined and they needed to be sure that it was a process all inclusive and people needed to be held accountable when they were put on the board of the Local Government Corporations; that he thought when all was said and done, long after all who were on Council had served and gone on to other things, what they did with the Northeast Water Plant project and their overall efforts in being leaders and partners in the regional water effort would stand them and everyone in this county and region in good stead and he was proud of the efforts they were making. Council Members Goldberg, Todd and Ellis absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to follow-up on an issue he previously discussed regarding a video by the Houston Police Department and he had met with Assistant Chief Wong and would be meeting with Chief Bradford today and they were progressing on the video and hoped to have a completed project in the near future; that tomorrow night they would be having their first community discussion to discuss what their potential problems were in Southwest Houston where a number of the shootings occurred so they could build dialog and a better understanding. Council Members Goldberg, Todd and Ellis absent.

Council Member Quan stated that yesterday Steve Gables and people from Listen to the Cries of the Children campaign were present and they pointed out to him a resolution Council Members signed on May 11 that they would take time each day at noon to at least take ten seconds to think about the cries of the children and society and he wanted to remind Council Members that each did sign the resolution to stop violence and turn the hearts of fathers to children and children to their fathers and he would ask that they try to abide by it. Council Members Goldberg, Todd and Ellis absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he read a lot in the paper about the arena deal and the progress and while there was no completion on the negotiation some groups had taken the initiative to stake out their positions early and get media attention and he hoped they would work with their Council and the Administration and Rockets in a collaborative manner rather than a defensive or derogative manner to get a win/win for the city; and he looked forward to the arena deal being done and getting the information; and Mayor Brown stated that he could be assured all Council Members would be briefed when there was an agreement. Council Members Goldberg and Todd absent.

Council Member Keller stated that a follow-up to a couple of weeks ago regarding the blood donor drive they had it now scheduled and the blood donor coach would be coming to the City Hall Annex August 27 right behind the Annex and any and all interest could contact his office at 713-247-2007 or Linda Williams with the Employee Wellness Center and they were hopeful all who could give blood would do so; and he hoped the Administration could help him get the information out to all employees. Council Members Goldberg and Todd absent.

Council Member Sanchez stated that earlier this morning on Item 5 Council approved payment of \$81,500.00 on a claim a family made where there was loss of property and life in an accident involving the Houston Fire Department and he did not think anyone had an issue with settlement, but that the accident took place on May 6, 1996 which was more than four years ago and when he asked if the Fire Department had changed the policy Council received mixed results, but when he finally received a copy it was the same policy then that was in effect today and one would think the Legal Department would give the Fire Department a jingle and say perhaps the policy should be changed so they would not be in that position again and perhaps also look at the Police Department's policy; and upon questions, Mr. Hall stated that he would find out what communication had taken place as he did not know, but he was in error as the lawsuit was not settled solely on the basis of policy and whoever said that did not represent it correctly and he would be happy to explain it in private to him; that they

typically did not discuss settlement considerations made before the public body. Council Members Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Sanchez asked if it would not be of interest to the City of Houston to encourage the department to change their policy if that was a part of the decision; and Mayor Brown stated that it was not the role of the Legal Department and on each incident when it came to his attention he communicated with the department director and asked them to examine their policy so it would not happen again. Council Member Sanchez asked if he had done that; and Mayor Brown stated that was correct. Council Member Sanchez stated that he wanted to know when; and Mayor Brown stated that he did not know. Council Member Sanchez asked if it was a telephone call or official memo; and Mayor Brown stated that it was usually in writing. Council Member Sanchez stated that he would like him to provide it to him; and Mayor Brown stated that he would check and see. Council Member Sanchez stated when would he get a copy; and Mayor Brown stated that he would check and see. Council Member Sanchez asked if it would be a week, two weeks, two years; and Mayor Brown asked what part of I'll check and see did he not understand; that he would check and see. Mr. Hall stated that he thought it was important and would explain to him that he understood what he was saying and he was hesitant to explain to him completely; that what he suggested was they recommend a change in policy solely for the purpose of limiting the city's liability and that was not all they considered when setting policies for the city; that the safe and prudent operation of emergency vehicles was a consideration and they did not approach policies of the city from the sole perspective of limiting liability, but to encourage responsive behavior. Council Member Sanchez stated that it seemed to him it would be responsible to encourage safety of everyone involved and institute fiscal responsibility and he was wondering if the Administration had made a movement toward that; that the Mayor assured him he had and that he would provide him with a memo he sent the Fire Department and he would anticipate that memo; and Mayor Brown stated that what he said was that he would check and see. Council Member Sanchez stated he had said he sent one and would provide a copy. Council Members Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Parker stated that unfortunately over the last couple of weeks she had occasion to note the passing of various community leaders and this week she wanted to note the death of Gary Van Ooteghem who was for many years one of the real pillars of Houston's Gay Community; that he came to Houston in 1975 and was active in the ACLU and involved in social activities and published a couple of gay newspapers and produced several plays; that he was involved in educational activities and founded the HATCH Teen Scholarship Program, but his real impact was in the political arena, he was recruited to move to Houston in 1975 to be Controller of the Treasury and Assistant Treasurer for Harris County and not long after he was hired he responded to something by going to Commissioner's Court and revealing he was gay and when showing up for work the next day was escorted out by two deputy sheriffs and was fired; that a lot had changed since then and it was interesting at his memorial service a county judge was present; that he was always an independent thinker and activist and his passing was a loss to the City of Houston. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Castillo stated that in light of Council Member Parker's motion regarding limitation to campaign contribution she had mentioned two cities and his office

checked with two cities and they both had term limits but it was two four year terms and Los Angeles paid their Council Members \$117,912.00 and he would be willing to do the trade off for campaign limits. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Members Castillo stated that the Rockets Arena deal was raised and they were beginning to hear voices of discontent in the community and he would like to do what he could to bring some consensus early on so they could present the item to the voters; that he thought it would be fruitful if they could get someone that was in on the negotiations to brief Council on the items they had reached agreement even though there may not be a deal signed, sealed and delivered; and Mayor Brown stated that would be pursued. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 12:03 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Ellis, seconded by Council Member Castillo. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Bell absent on personal business. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Todd, Keller, Vasquez and Quan absent. MOTION ADOPTED. COUNCIL ADJOURNED.

DETAILED INFORMATION ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY.

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

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Anna Russell, City Secretary