

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, June 4, 2002.

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, 2002, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Gordon Quan, Shelly Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Counsel, City Attorney's Office; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director, Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 2:05 p.m. Council Member Alvarado stated that at the Houston's Women in Law Enforcement Training Conference held on April 29th at the Brentwood Baptist Church, Sergeant Kirby Weber was recognized as officer of the year and although Sergeant Weber had received a proclamation from the City, she felt that it was a special enough occasion to bring sergeant Weber to City Council to make a brief presentation, that Sergeant Weber, in 1991, entered the police academy and was assigned to Central Patrol and served the Eastside, Northwest, Juvenile and North Division, in 1998 she was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the jail division, after completing her rotation through the jail, transferred back to the North Division where she currently serves as a gang task force supervisor, that she was credited for ridding the Airline and Parker area of traffic problems with criminal activity and had developed a video taping program monitoring gang activity and graffiti, that Sergeant Weber was a graduate of the U of H, with a Bachelors in Business Administration and was enrolled in the Sam Houston State University Masters of Criminal Justice Program, and stated that it gave her great honor to extend a special recognition and congratulations to Sergeant Kirby Weber. Council Member Galloway, Goldberg, Vasquez, Parker, Quan, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Sergeant Webber stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Alvarado for honoring her once more, and Council Member Alvarado stated that for those who were not familiar with the organization every year they honored the women police officers and she was picked as the top one and they certainly were very proud of her, and Mayor Brown stated congratulations, and that they appreciated her service. Council Member Galloway, Goldberg, Vasquez, Parker, Quan, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown recognized Council Member Keller for a presentation. Council Member Galloway, Goldberg, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he was going to assist Council Member Vasquez in recognizing the Kids On The Bayou who were hosting the 2002 Bayou City Youth Convocation from June 4 through June 6, that Kids On The Bayou was an educational program for students and teachers that was also a part of the Bayou Preservation Association which was formed in 1966, that the organization's mission was to protect and restore the richness and diversity of our water ways through activism, advocacy, collaboration and education, that BPA educates students about the importance of the bayou's through bayou related field trips, curricula and after school bayou club, that he was sure that Council Member Vasquez would agree that they looked at Buffalo Bayou as the spinal cord to both of their districts, that Council Member Vasquez congratulates Kids On The Bayou 2002, Bayou City Convocation, the theme was "Is Houston Really the Bayou City", that Bayou Preservation Association, to protect and restore the richness and diversity of our waterways through activism, advocacy, collaboration and education, June 4, 2002. Council Member Galloway, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller invited Ms. Cassandra Flores to the podium. Council Member Galloway, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Ms. Flores stated that she represented Kids On The Bayou and the Bayou Preservation Association, that they had come to ask an important question, was Houston the bayou city, that they thought it was because without the bayous, Houston would not be here, that throughout the years, Houston bayous had benefited the economy and had provided transportation, trade and recreation, that this question was very important because they had noticed that their bayous had been mistreated and many had been neglected, for example, many of the rivers and bayous had been boxed in by concrete, that with concrete surrounding the bayous, the water had less room to expand during rainy seasons, that this caused a flood, that concrete was not a suitable habitat for animals to live in or for the bayou, so today they proposed that the Houston City Council help them to protect the bayous for the future generations, that here was the list of things they proposed City Council should do, that they should allow them to have natural expansion areas to prevent flooding problems, nature preserve areas to allow more wildlife to live along the bayous, regulate the disposal of households, create nature park areas for people to enjoy, promote public awareness of bayous and their importance, make surrounding communities aware of the opportunities of recreation the bayous provided, promote bayou cleanups to keep areas free of garbage, do not build structures, buildings or houses so close to bayous so structures would not flood or tax money would not have to be spent for buy outs, that she hoped they would take their ideas seriously so they may one day turn into action and make a difference. Council Member Galloway, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated they would take their suggestions very seriously. Council Member Galloway, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

At 2:15 p.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council and Council Member Alvarado invited Father Bill Davis, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, to lead everyone in prayer and Council Member Alvarado led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Galloway, Vasquez, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Council Members Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Members Sekula-Rodriguez and Tatro moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado moved to suspend the rules to hear Father John Lasseigne, Ms. Nathalie Paravicini and Ms. Nadis Stein after Mr. Bob Fleming out of order, seconded by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Parker, Quan and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0616 ADOPTED.

Council Member Tatro moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Larry Bernshausen out of order at this time, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Parker, Quan and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0617 ADOPTED.

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

Mr. Larry Bernshausen, 855 Queen Anne's No. 38, Houston, Texas 77024 (713-722-7797) appeared and stated that his son was recently beaten and assaulted and his car and wallet stolen, that they were in the process of working through the investigation, they were told that the possible assailants were in jail and they would be going down to identify them from a line up, but they were called later and told they were released and they should go down on Memorial Day to pick them out of a review of pictures, that they went to 1200 Travis on Memorial Day at 11:00 a.m. as asked, that as a result of that meeting, a couple of issues came to his attention, that

after the meeting, he went home and drafted a letter and stated that he wanted to read them the letter, that he thought it was the most succinct way to make his point, that after wanting to make a complaint and not given the opportunity to do it, he asked for the immediate supervisor of the sergeant with whom he was speaking and they gave them the name of Lieutenant Watt, that when he got back to the house he called his office immediately, being Memorial Day, nobody was there, so he left a voice mail message and began to write the letter, that it was addressed to Lieutenant Watt, Robbery Division and copied on the list were Officer Nguyen, Sergeant Ridling, Captain Brown and Chief Bradford and then Bruce Tatro, whom he believed was his Council Member, but in fact it was Council Member Keller, and Mayor Brown asked if he was making a complaint against an officer or a number of officers or was it a complaint in general, and Mr. Bernshausen stated he was making a complaint against the robbery division as a group, that he was told there was no complaint procedure by which he could fill out a form and leave a document in their hands, that as the facts had been presented to him, it may turn out that his complaint was a little out of order, but based on the facts that were given to him his complaint was against the fact that there was no complaint process, that he was making a two fold complaint, one was against Officer Tien Nguyen and the complaint he had was a lie by commission, the other was against the robbery division for failure to provide a formal complaint procedure, that a couple of weeks ago his youngest son was assaulted and robbed of his wallet, money, credit cards, identification, car, car keys, and the contents there in, that it was his understanding that later the same evening, the assailants returned again, brandishing weapons, issuing additional threats and HPD was called immediately for each episode, that the string of events that followed those attacks was far too complicated to address in the letter, they were even tangled by overlapping of and differences in HPD departmental authorities, constraint procedures and so on, differences in personality and a host of factors, to some extent the background, however, was beside the point, that the information offered here was only to give them the well spring from which this complaint had occurred, that out of it came a very important issue, for him, for HPD, for the citizens and for the justice system, that Officer Tien Nguyen lied to Sergeant Ridling about him in telling Sergeant Ridling that he called him names in a telephone conversation, that this he did not do, that upon hearing the accusation, he was dumb struck, he could think of no reason that Officer Nguyen would do such a thing, was it his way of attempting to bond with a fellow officer, was it a sympathy ploy, a tactic born out of habit, an identity enhancing ego need to promote himself in the eyes of his supervisor, he had no idea, but whatever the cause, the practice must not be allowed to continue, if it happened to him then quite likely it was happening to other people as well, possibly even to fellow officers, especially if there was no department procedure that permitted the opportunity to file a formal complaint in a responsible manner, that it should be noted that upon his specific request, Sergeant Ridling refused to provide him a departmental form for the purpose of filing a written complaint, that according to the sergeant, no such complaint form existed, that as he questioned the possibility that HPD protocol would fail to provide such a form, Sergeant Ridling discussed his need for such a form as unnecessary, that at this point, taken together, Officer Nguyen's lie by commission and Sergeant Riddling's unwillingness to provide him a departmental complaint had systemic implications and how pervasive this problem might be remained to be seen, that for that reason, he had copied several other individuals in the chain of command with the hope that at some point this issue could be filed in a written way and addressed, that was last Monday, he sent certified mail, did not receive a call from a soul, but as soon as his name appeared on the list to speak, his mailbox and phone had been busy as all get out, that he guessed there was a message in there too. Council Members Quan and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he was going to ask one of their assistant chiefs, who was present in the Council Chambers to meet with him, that unless they had changed things, there was a procedure to complain about anything they wanted to, whether it was an individual officer or a unit of the Police Department or the Police Department, that he would meet with him once the City Council Members completed their questions, and would provide him with the opportunity

to file his complaint, that it would be looked into and someone would get back to him. Council Member Quan absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, Mr. Bernshausen stated that his son was beaten rather severely, that there were three people involved, that he tore muscles and ligaments, that he was a young man, 20 years old, who was not going to go down without a fight, he guessed, that the police officers came out, took pictures, and then the path of progress was very slow, that the district attorney had not contacted him and that had been some two or three weeks, and Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that whatever her office could do to help walk him through this and make sure that justice was served to the best of the city's ability, they would do that, to please keep her posted and would encourage him to follow up with the Council Members as well, and Mayor Brown stated that the Chief would meet with him right now and help him work through the concern that he had brought to their attention. Council Member Quan absent.

Mr. Perry Busby, 2826 Francis, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-942-0089) appeared and stated that he was President of Intellect Technology, a software development and consulting firm that also provided technical support services to commercial and residential users, that he was present to offer his support for the Sim Houston Project, that the question as to whether or not to pass the technology initiative was not as casual as some would like to believe, that neither was it as complex and full of techno mumbo jumbo as to not be of interest to the general public, that the question facing Council was would they stand at the forefront of where technology was moving or would they continue to fund an antiquated technology because that path was the path of less resistance, that it had been said that this technology was an attempt to dummy down the City's computer technology, that he begged to differ, that first, Council should not gauge its technology fiscal management success on how much the desk top computers were able to do, but rather how to extend the longevity of its current technology plan, that to continue to spend money on the latest and greatest computer systems because they offered more stuff was like buying a new television set each time the networks introduced their fall and spring programming changes, that technology was shifting from the personal computing era, to the personal information era, that the creativity did not lay nor would if ever lay in the computer system, but it did lay with the individual and they must use technology that allowed the individual to exercise their creativity regardless of their location to the workplace, that this was not a ratchet down approach, it was a sophisticated stimulant and upgrade to how they worked, that he believed it would be a severe and short sighted approach to upgrade the City's technology infrastructure if the city was not at the forefront of this change of technology, and a failure to be among the first implementers sends a message that Houston, the home of NASA Space Center, and one of the world's leading medical research centers, did not understand the current technology trend and was not willing to change from the status quo, that in closing, he asked them to prayerfully and understandably consider approving the Sim Houston Project. Council Member Quan absent.

Council Member Tatro moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Brenda Flores after Mr. Danny Perry, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Quan absent. MOTION 2002-0618 ADOPTED

Ms. Rosemary Washington, 3202 Trulley Avenue, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-651-8050) appeared and stated that she served as the Executive Director for Reward Third Ward, Inc., which was a nonprofit organization located in the Third Ward Community, that she was present on behalf of the board of directors and the staff of Reward to encourage and to support the Consolidated Plan for the year 2002, that Reward Third Ward's primary or public purpose was to provide home ownership opportunities for the low and moderate income individuals and families, and they had been established since 1995, that in their efforts to provide those home ownership opportunities, they had been faced with many challenges, as she was sure most of them knew,

that the physical infrastructure, the cost of the land, to name just a few, the crime, the encroachment of urban development in the area, had faced them all with obstacles that they could not have overcome had it not been for the help of CDBG and home funds, that on February 6, 2002, Reward Third Ward hosted an open house and neighborhood tour where they invited their Council Members, and all of the City Council Members of the City of Houston, that they were blessed to have Council Member Edwards and Council Member Alvarado and other city staff members, to come out and view the area and look at some of the challenges they faced and discussed with them how they could overcome that with the help of the City, that on behalf of the board of directors, she would like to say again that they did support the Consolidated Plan, that they wanted to thank Council Members Edwards and Alvarado and all of them and hoped that in the future they would consider and remember that Reward Third Ward was over there and were striving to make a difference in affordable housing. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Quan absent.

Ms. Tina Moore, 12401 South Post Oak Road, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-551-8650) appeared and stated that she was the Executive Director of the Pyramid Community Development Corporation, that they were in District D and under the leadership of Council Member Edwards, that the Pyramid CDC had two major undertakings, the Power Center and what was known as Corinthian Point, that the Power Center was a renovated former Kmart building and included a JP Morgan Chase Bank Branch, a Houston Community College, Memorial Hermann Clinic, the Women, Infant and Children Nutritional Program and a pharmacy and an optical center, that they also included the Imani School which was a private school for children Pre K through Eighth Grade, that they also operated the Power Suites, the Kingdom Builders Career Initiative and the Power Conference Center, that Corinthian Point would include 452 single-family homes, a Houston Independent School District elementary school, a wellness center, a YMCA, the family life center, housing for the elderly, a 20 acre community park, two catfish ponds, a prayer center and a commercial park, that families started moving into Corinthian Point in June 2000 and over 200 families were currently residing there with the entire community scheduled for completion in 2006, that thanks to the help of the South Post Oak Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone, the builders priced 80 percent of the homes under the maximum sales price for the City of Houston Home Buyer Assistance Programs, also at least one-third of the families earned 80 percent of the Houston area median income or less, that the Pyramid CDC supports the City of Houston 2002 consolidated annual plan, that they specifically support the funding priorities outlined in not only this plan, but the 1995 and the 2000 Consolidated Plans, that those priorities designed to benefit the low and moderate income populations of Houston are, number one, housing and supportive services, number two, public improvements and infrastructure, and number three, economic development, that they applaud the City of Houston Department of Housing and Community Development for implementation of the citizens' participation plan, which was outlined on page 113 of the draft annual plan, that they encourage all citizens to get involved with the planning process as early as possible. Council Members Wiseman, Vasquez, Alvarado and Quan absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Moore for the work she had done and would like to meet with her about the issue. Council Members Wiseman, Vasquez, Alvarado and Quan absent.

Ms. Kathleen Ownby, 3929 Tennyson, Houston, Texas 77005 (713-247-2909) appeared and stated that she was present in support of Item 19 on the agenda tomorrow, the 2002 Consolidated Plan, that SPARK was a line item again in the budget, of the community development budget, that they were requesting \$800,000 and had ten schools that those funds would be going to, that in all they had 158 schools in the program now, that they were working in seven school districts, and the \$800,000 would make up about half of their budget for next year, that the other half would come from schools, money that the schools raised, school district

money, corporations, foundations and county money and none of the community development money would go toward administrative costs. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Mayor Brown stated that they appreciated what she was doing and to say hello to Ms. Tinsley for them. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Ms. Ruby Mosley, 862 S. Victory Dr., Houston, Texas 77088 (281-447-6095) appeared and stated that she too was present concerning Item 19, but then they were also saying to them that they urged the City Council to seriously give Item 19 their utmost support, that they even invited them to come out Acres Homes, that there were other areas of the City of Houston that needed funds, but it was a struggle to maintain their communities as residential communities because many of their elderly people, especially, were at the point where they could not take care of the maintenance part of their homes, that those funds would help to go toward repairs, that all of the problems that they were enduring out there did not occur during the flood, that there were some that were ongoing that were never able to be touched and as they looked at the Consolidated Plan there were those of them that were not paid, they served on their committee and gave of their time because they were concerned about where they lived, that they were concerned about their fellow men, their communities, their seniors out there who we were blessed to be privileged to enjoy the things that they prayed for, and since they were all the elected officials, their eyes, their decision makers, their planners and they expected them as they were elected to look out for them in all aspects, that they were asking for them to please give Item 19 their deepest consideration, that they prayed that their hearts would be continually guided upon the constituents of the community in which they were elected to serve, that she wanted them to know that the Acres Homes Citizen Council, as well as the super neighborhood, stood ready to carry them on a tour, that there were 16 civic clubs out there that made up that community and all of the other organizational plans that were out there, but if they had any doubt about the problems that they were occurring out in the community, they could show them better than they could tell them, that they looked forward to receiving their call and they would extend them an invitation at their time, and even take off of work to go with them to show them. Council Members Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Berry stated that he wanted to thank Ms. Mosley for the work she did in Acres Homes. Council Members Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that she wanted to commend Ms. Mosley for staying on the battlefield. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Quan absent.

Mayor Brown stated that they appreciated her leadership. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Quan absent.

Ms. Elena R. Vergara, 1612 Fannin St., No. 1102, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-923-0600) appeared and stated that she was the president of Community Family Centers and they had been working with different City officials and different department offices, that they needed to have a line item in the Consolidated Plan to build an early childhood education center in Magnolia, the East End, and she had a lot of information, that she had a letter that she wanted to read, just very briefly why they were asking, that they wanted the City Council to know that this project was very much needed in the East End and they really would ask them to amend the Consolidated Plan, that they wanted to point out that their special project for the construction of an early childhood educational center was an exemplary use of CDBG funds, in fact it was the ultimate use of CDBG funds, that it called for redevelopment, that they would be redeveloping a piece of City property that was almost a City block in Magnolia that was total blight, that she did not have enough pictures, but had a picture of what they intended, that it was a sketch of what

they intended to build, their early childhood education center, that she wanted to pass out pictures showing the blight that had been there for ten or twelve years, that they were redeveloping City property, adult education, that they needed early childhood education as an impact on the economy on the East End, that they offered adult education, English as a second language, GED and everything for job development for their citizens, but they needed the early childhood center, that Community Family Centers employed over 60 people, that they already were a major employer on the East End and with the new facilities they could employ between 12 and 20 more persons on the East End, that they offered comprehensive social services, and part of their handout, they were going to see their history and mission, that they were going to see just a printout of the services that they offered to how many people in 2001, that they were part of the Enhanced Enterprise Community, and it was located within these boundaries, and of course one of the purposes was to implement programs that benefit children and youth, creating linkages and partnerships among social service agencies and public, private partnerships, that it was an early childhood initiative, and they were part of the access to early childhood education, that the Greater Houston Partnership was currently undertaking right now with the Greater Houston Collaborative for children, that they were part of all of this, that they had already raised money toward this endeavor, that they were redeveloping City property, and were providing over a million dollars. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she was very familiar with Ms. Vergara's proposal and had been out to her current facility, that they had done a great job and were in the heart of her district, that she had worked very hard to raise money and to gather community support, that she wanted to thank the administration because their office had been working with her and thought that Ms. Vergara was trying to raise a little bit more support, perhaps in the Consolidated Plan, that there was someone here that was going to discuss it with her. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that she wanted to echo Council Member Alvarado praise of Ms. Vergara's accomplishments and hard work in her district, which did affect the whole community and the entire City. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Mayor Brown stated that they appreciated Ms. Vergara's good work and leadership, that Ms. Daisy Steiner was present and would meet with her right now and follow up on her presentation. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Mayor Brown recognized Council Member Wiseman for a point of personal privilege, and Council Member Wiseman stated that starting today she was going to be hosting children from District E at City Hall from the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., that the children were taking part in a District E paid program, that she wanted to thank the Mayor for allowing them to do it.

Mayor Brown stated that it was an excellent idea and appreciated what Council Member Wiseman was doing. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Council Member Vasquez moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Anna Villarin after Ms. Amanda Timm. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Quan and Berry absent. MOTION 2002-0619 ADOPTED.

Ms. Amanda Timm, 2640 Fountainview, Ste. 220, Houston, Texas 77057 (713-334-5700) appeared and stated that she was a program officer with the local initiative support corporation and was present on behalf of their program director, Gloria Sanderson, who could not be present, that it was a nonprofit intermediary and their mission was to support the work of community based development organizations, also known as community development corporations or CDC's, some of whom they had heard here today, that LISC provided CDC's

with loans, grants, technical assistance, training and other organizational development assistance, that their goal was to work with CDC's so they may be more successful as they developed affordable housing, complete commercial revitalization projects and address the numerous needs of their communities, that tomorrow the City Council would vote on several agenda items that LISC supported, that there were two agenda items, Number 20 and 21, concerning contracts that LISC had with the Housing and Community Development Department, that one was funded by CDBG dollars and the other with Home Funds, that those agenda items provided funds for CDC and CHODO training and predevelopment technical assistance for affordable housing projects, that the increased funding would allow them to build on the work that LISC had already begun with the funds they currently administer, that the funds thus far had allowed them to provide training, through their community development college, to nearly 60 nonprofits and supported the cost of affordable housing projects in their early phases that were projected to yield over 500 units of affordable housing, that as they saw firsthand the importance of using those dollars to address community needs LISC supported the use of these types of funds towards the purpose of developing affordable housing, including the funds designated for affordable housing in the City of Houston Consolidated Plan which was Item 19 tomorrow, that without these funds and without the hard work of community development corporations, Houston's distressed communities would be further challenged to revitalize and the affordable housing shortage in this city would most likely be worsened. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Ms. Anna Villarin, 3906 Hain, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-694-8548) appeared and stated that they had two little problems, that they had been going to Moody Park and there was a big group of ladies, between 30 or 40 ladies in the morning, they had been exercising and their class was canceled, that was the reason she was present, that another reason that they were present was because they did not have enough bilingual personnel in the park and right now they had the summer program and the parents could not communicate with the personnel at the park. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated they had actually been working with this group of ladies and it was actually a bigger group, they were actually 40 to 50 and one of their initial complaints was that the treadmill was broken and there were some parts needed, that they were able to get a commitment from the Parks Department to get that done, that in addition were able to get a new treadmill that should be delivered in July as well, that because the summer activities had started, basically the parks emphasis was on the children as opposed to the hours, and so they had actually gone out and worked with the YMCA and created an option for them to potentially go to the YMCA, but there was a transportation issue so they were not able to attend, that, basically, was what it had come down to, that they needed one extra hour of overtime per day at Moody Park in order for the ladies to be accommodated, and while Mr. Wilson had been very flexible and accommodating, he was not willing to cross that line so they needed some additional support and that was why he had asked them to come to Council today to make their plea before the Mayor and City Council to see if they would find it in the budget and find it in their hearts to see if they could accommodate these ladies. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, Ms. Villarin stated that the class was one hour per day, five days per week, and it was canceled, and Council Member Vasquez stated that they were asking one hour a day, five days a week in order to accommodate, and Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez asked if they had any idea how much we're asking for money-wise, and Mayor Brown stated \$450 and stated that Mr. Brian Hill, Parks and Recreation, was present in the Council Chambers and would meet with Ms. Villarin to see what they could do to help solve the problem. Council Members Quan and Berry absent.

Mr. Michael Chernoff, 18902 Relay Road, Humble, Texas 77346 appeared and stated that

he was the Sim Houston project manager for the City of Houston, and the Information Technology Department of the library, that he had been with the City approximately eight years and had the privilege of working on so many City projects from Y2K, management, Xerox, Network Printing Solutions, Sysco Network Solutions, ITECH and others, that when he first heard about Sim Houston, he was unconvinced about it and what it had to offer, but after personally testing and using it himself and seen its impact, he could certainly say with confidence and with conviction that their Sim Houston initiative may be one of the most profound and important City projects of all of them, and asked if any of the Council Member's had visited their local library in the last ten months from the time Sim Houston was first initiated, had they spoken to the librarians, the library staff, their public, the customers themselves utilizing this software, that if their answer was no, he would tell them he had and he had profound proof of Sim Houston success, that he had compiled a testimonial book and made sure every Council Member's office received one, that it was a very small sample of approximately 50 letters, e-mails, memos from librarians, library staff members and customers about not just how great Sim Houston was, but how it had affected people's lives and how productive Houstonians had become using the software, that each and every branch in their library system was represented in the book, that their constituents, from African American, Asian, Hispanic, Indian and White communities from the north side, the south side, the west side, the east side, all over this great City of theirs offered positive testimonials that he was proud of, that he wanted to give them some insight into the book, that Sim Houston had been a boom to the Children's Room, that many children in the City of Houston did not have access to a computer at home to type papers for school, that Sim Houston allowed them to type papers, add footnotes, draft cover letters and construct spreadsheets for science fair projects, that before Sim Houston they had to turn the kids away when they wanted to type a report, that now they could set them up with a Sim Houston account and they very quite easily created their reports, that from Sandy Farmer, Manager, Central Children's Room, Sim Houston had helped to bridge the economic divide, that they served many customers who were not fortunate enough to have a computer at home, that basically he would love it if the Council Members were able to go through the book and take a look at the e-mails and letters that came from staff members and librarians who were using the software, their customers and their constituents, that they could see how much it had affected the City and the great impact it had was basically the message he would like to give City Council . Council Members Vasquez, Quan and Berry absent.

Mr. Dennis Keim, 5651 Laurel Creek, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-202-9428) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Vasquez, Quan and Berry absent.

Mr. Ray Davis, 5450 NW Central, Houston, Texas 77092 (281-797-1975) appeared and stated that he was the president and founder of Internet Access Technologies, that they were the company that was behind the Sim Houston Project which was on the agenda for tomorrow, that he would normally not use this platform to do a sales presentation, that it was not the time nor the place, however certain comments made by one of their colleagues had forced him to make a personal response, that he was speaking about Council Member Tatro's constant barrage of attacks concerning Sim Houston, specifically his charge was that they had stolen programming and stolen software from other companies to power their flag ship product, that this was a charge that was completely baseless as were his other charges, that like Council Member Tatro's other charges, they hurt him deeply, but forget about him, they were a company, a Houston company of over 100 employees and individuals, who all worked hard and believed in their mission and believed in Sim Houston, that Council Member Tatro basically was calling those 100 Houstonians liars, cheats and thieves, that he did that with no proof, no shred of evidence, why would he do it, where do they go to repair their damaged reputation, to whom do they turn to wipe off the mud that Council Member Tatro had slung on their project, that he had today handed out independent reports from Cytrex vendors in Houston, and engineers, which

had reputed and disputed Council Member Tatro's claims, what else could he do, that he respected the job of the Council, they should ask tough questions, that he had enough faith in their product, by the way over 30,000 individuals in the City of Houston had used the project so far, to take any question or answer any concern that they had, he simply asked that these questions be raised in an ethical environment instead of the cesspool of unfounded innuendo, that in short their contract would save the City money, that they would save this money without cutting salaries, without laying off employees and without reducing services, that while they would spend \$9.5 million over the course of the next six years with IAT, they would cut as much as \$36 million out of the budget of this City, that if they did not believe it as Council Member Tatro did not, cut that in half, cut that to 10 percent, this was something that should drive their decision tomorrow on issue Number 44 and pass it based on those minute savings alone, that in addition they had the ability to provide the service to every citizen in this community, they would bridge the digital divide that threatened this country and every community which would become stronger, that every Houstonian, all Houstonians would have access to this technology. Council Members Wiseman and Quan absent.

Council Member Tatro stated that he was not sure what attacks Mr. Davis was referring to, but if he would like to list them he would be happy to address them, but the attack or the allegation he referred that he made was not an allegation that he made, it was an e-mail from a person that all the Council Members received, that he thought the e-mail probably was transferred to multiple places, he just happened to be the one that called Cytrex to check up because it was made from a person who represented himself as a previous employee of Mr. Davis's company and who made the statement that he was told by another employee working in the software development that SimDesk had written code on top of the Cytrex Corporation Code, so he called, as he believed Council Member Quan did, to check it, because he thought that was part of their responsibility, but to suggest that he made that allegation or to suggest that he had been attacking him on that was just purely false, that surely, Mr. Bern told him that he sent him a copy of that e-mail from the employee, but he thought that was Council's responsibility to check those out as Council Member Quan also did, that he thought anything else would be irresponsible on their part, that as for any other allegations, he would be happy to know what those were, and Mr. Davis stated that he believed they had a conversation on the telephone the other day and he pretty much laid them out, that they forwarded to all Council Members the response that they gave to Council Member Tatro's allegations, and Council Member Tatro stated that he was glad Mr. Davis was present today for nothing more than to be able to clear the air on the source of the allegation of his company's using Cytrix and was glad they had an opportunity to clarify and clear that up, and Mr. Davis stated that they had been able to clarify it by hiring Houston based companies to come out and verify that their networks did not have any code other than that created by their company, that he was still not sure what they had cleared up about the origins of the allegations. Council Members Parker and Quan absent. Council Members Parker and Quan absent.

Upon questions by Mayor Brown and Members of Council, Mr. Davis stated that the only company in the world that was able to provide a technology like this at this price was IAT, a home grown Houston company employing Houston people, that they developed a transport technology which was patented, that the way the world was today they never knew who was doing what, that the plan of the Internet Access Technology was to launch SimDesk at one time, that they had flown under the radar of many companies and had avoided venture capitalists and investment banks, that they raised monies through individuals and private investment funds, simply because they did not want to draw the attention of the other people that were working on something out there, that no, there was no way to know that someone else was not doing it, that he was assuming that was what the RFP process was for, that they brought a project to the City of Houston, which the City decided to install as a pilot program in three libraries, that it quickly grew within weeks to all libraries because of the requests of the other librarians and the other

patrons of the other libraries, that the City of Houston then of course sent out an RFP to find out if there was any technology that would fill this bill, that was very rare that this Council would come across a product that helped educate their children, helped communications for their elderly and reduced their costs, that the basis for their technology, their business model was much different than that of any software vendor, that they sold it as an entire package, whether they had 1 million users or 3 million users, their price was still the same, however, he would like to point out the price given to the City of Houston was nearly 50 percent less than what they would give anywhere else, that they gave all upgrades and all new products to the City at no charge, that they had 100 of pretty much the smartest people in the planet that had created this project, they came from as far away as Russia and came from NASA and from all over the world, that they were now Houstonians and had created this product, every line, every code, every piece of it for the last three years, with this launching in mind, that the ability for all people to be included in the information or Internet technology was very important, there were statistics everywhere, the newspapers had been riddled with articles opposing some of the things President Bush had said lately about the digital divide, but it was a real and true thing, that the digital divide was an inclusion, forget the divide, let us include all in its ability, that if they had two children, one without access to a computer and one with, the one without access was going to do more poorly statistically in school than the one that did have a computer; that their pilot project in the City library was the first real application of their technology, but they were engaged in marketing it to other cities, that he was the creative officer and they had dozens and dozens of cities and states, that he met with the CIO of the State of Michigan, and they were interested in installing it in the entire State of Michigan, that Illinois and Florida, that Denver had a letter of intent, he believed and Chicago had a letter of intent, that they currently sold it through the public sector, that Houston was the flag ship first customer, that they did not expect to launch Houston this quickly, that they met with the City of Houston early, and we wanted to get it in before school started, and we did so, that they were not planning to market this product until this year, but they did it for Houston so that Houston would be the first, that Houston had gained acclaim all over the world, that they were on the front cover of USA Today and in every language in every country, that the reason they launched it in Houston was that Houston was his hometown, this was where he learned to build a computer, that Scarborough High School was where he grew up and was his first exposure to a computer in ninth grade, that Houston was where they wanted to be first, that Chicago was currently negotiating their contract and was trying to beat Houston simply for the press, that the pilot program in his opinion, and anyone who had looked at it, had been a monumental success, there were more than 126,000 book reports, resumes, documents of all types stored on the internet server, that it was a first in all of time, a first in all of history that the citizens of this country had stored their documents at that mass amount, that only 30,000 of them have signed up and 60 percent of those returned to their account more than six times a month, that they could access, create, store and print their data from any device, whether it was a television set or a cell phone, that there were many companies that had developed parts of their product, that any accusations that the materials they were using were taken from someone else were totally inaccurate, that Houston was getting a sweetheart deal because they were the first city, that yes the City of Houston would save money this year by implementing this program, that he believed the City of Houston internal government would use it, that the entire State of Michigan's drive was to replace all departments and all agencies with this software, that all individuals would be able to access it, that he found it difficult to believe that the City of Houston, his hometown and the home of NASA could not do it. Council Members Edwards, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Davis for giving Houston the opportunity to pilot this project, that he had received phone calls from people from Australia and all over the place, that Mr. Davis had done them a favor by being the first city in the world to start the process of bridging the digital divide, that he thought it served them well as a city and even beyond that, that it saved them money, so he thought it was a win-win situation for every one and

he for one wanted to thank him for taking care of his hometown first. Council Members Edwards, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Mr. Danny Perry, 3405 Edloe Street, Houston, Texas 77027 (713-961-0012) appeared and stated that he would like to add his voice to those in favor of approving the Sim Houston proposal, that he was the Texas State Director of Tech Corp, organization involved in supporting technology in schools, that he was also President of the Houston Technology Empowerment Council, an umbrella group of non profit organizations engaged in community development and technology efforts, that from his viewpoint this proposal provided a grand opportunity for Houston to significantly impact the digital divide in all of their communities, that it also demonstrated Houston's willingness and ability to combat a societal issue many viewed as insurmountable by utilizing leading edge technology, that the technology behind Sim Houston would allow Houston's under served individuals and communities to rapidly gain access to the information age, a necessity in today's world, that Sim Houston would also help to eliminate the need for costly regular upgrades of computer technology that neither the citizens nor the City could continue to afford, that as an analogy, in many areas of Africa, Asia and Latin America, the number of cellular phones far out strips conventional land lines, entire generations of technology had been skipped and lines enhanced, that Sim Houston provided the City of Houston to do the same thing for its citizens in the technology area, that in that regard he encouraged their support for the proposal. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Robbie Evans out of order and to add Ms. Toni Hernandez Serna after Mr. Bob Fleming, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Quan and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0620 ADOPTED.

Ms. Brenda Flores, 2041 Mernel, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-722-9258) appeared and stated that that she was present, as she did two weeks ago, to ask that they please vote against Sim Houston, Agenda Item 44, tomorrow, that they could not afford it, that it was a want not a need, that Mr. Davis with all of his humbleness and his great people, after she spoke at Council two weeks ago, in less than an hour upon arriving at her house, one of his employees was there begging her not to speak out against it, in fact, his employee was wearing a wire, that his employee threatened a lawsuit if she spoke out against it, that his employee was the one who demonstrated to the Council Members, the next day, his office equipment. Council Members Keller, Quan and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Berry, Ms. Flores stated that the employee told her he worked for SimDesk, that his first name was Justin, that she knew he was wearing a wire because OIG had wired her so many times she knew the drill. Council Members Keller, Quan and Robinson absent.

Mr. Bob Craig, 3735 Westheimer, Houston, Texas 77027 (713-850-7474, ext 105) appeared and stated that he was Bob Craig of Craig's cleaners, that they had been in business in Houston since 1965, that he and his brother owned and operated Craig's Cleaners, that they had 12 stores and 175 employees, which a lot of them represented in the area, that they were known around Houston as having great quality, great services and high prices, that was where they liked to be, that they were in the service business, that the City Council was in the service business, that they worked a long time to develop a reputation and they were developing a reputation for the City of Houston right now, that what he was talking to them about today was the permit inspection fee that was proposed through the newspapers two weeks ago, that they had the dry cleaners having an inspection fee increase from \$200 a year to \$1,200 a year, that was a 500 percent increase, that they had some others listed also at the same time and the average increase for those industries was 77 percent, why would the dry cleaning industry be

picked out to be increased 500 percent, what would happen if that happened to his industry or to his company, that he was present representing not their cleaners, but their industry in this City, that they would have less to give to their employees when raise time came around, that they could give out only what they had or what they thought they would have, and if they had \$1,000 less times four or five, that was going to mean less raises for their people, so what were they to do, that maybe they had to raise prices, and if they did raise prices, every time they raised prices they lose customers, so how long could they do that, what happens when they had a shortfall in their business, that they would have to reduce expenses, that they would either cut salaries, have fewer hours or reduce services, that they hated to reduce services because they had customers out there and if they did not maintain those customers, they would lose their reputation, so the City needed to look at expenses also, how these expenses were used, that they should look in that area, that they were like a board of directors, they took care of Houston, that they had a lot of pressure being put on Houston right now for some of their board of directors in Houston because of the way they had not taken care of their investors' money and pointed out the Enron situation, that he would not want their City Council to be pointed out like the Enron situation, that they knew the situation but did not do anything about it, and stated that he would leave them today with asking them what kind of reputation were they developing for the City of Houston financially. Council Members Keller and Quan absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Tatro, Mr. Craig stated that they had several fees and licenses put upon them, but this one was coming from the Health Department for air quality, that he guessed they would come and check the emissions they put out to the air, which a lot of their stores did not do anything like that, that he did not know how they started getting the permit but each year they just send them a notice to renew, that they had never seen them out there on this situation, so why they would come out he did not know, but to spend \$1,000 or \$1,200 to come out and take a test, they were doing nothing in their facility that would be harmful because they had a lot of employees in there that would be exposed, that there was nothing being done in his shops in the City of Houston now, and Council Member Tatro asked Mr. Craig to give them in information what was his assessment of what was being done for his business to check on the safety issues. Council Member Quan absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Ellis, Mr. Craig stated that he had been in business since 1965, that he did not remember when the City started imposing a permit fee on their industry, that probably five or ten years, that he thought they started at \$200, but did not remember them going up, that it graduated for the number of people they had working in that facility and \$200 was a maximum, that the minimum was maybe \$100 or \$50, that it was on the application, but not on the permit, that it was based on the number of employees that were at each cleaning facility, that he did not know if they had any inspectors out there, that they might have had one inspector over 20 or 30 years or the last ten years, but it was not a regular occurrence, that it was not a yearly occurrence that an inspector had been there, and Council Member Ellis stated that any information he would send to Council Member Tatro be sent to all of the Council Members, and Mr. Craig stated that instead of waiting ten years to increase the fees he would be in favor of doing it gradually on an annual basis, that he would be in favor of paying the \$1,200 if other industries were treated like theirs, that they were picked out from all the groups to have a 500 percent increase when the average of the others was 77 percent increase, why was their industry picked out to get all the revenue from. Council Members Galloway and Quan absent.

Mayor Brown stated that as they knew the Council contracted with Maximus to do the fee study and the report showed that if a dry cleaner had 11 or more employees, they were now charging \$200 for the inspection and it cost the City \$1,268 and that was the cost that the outside firm determined and what was being proposed to charge was \$1,200, which was even less than what it costs the City to do the inspections, that it depended on what it cost to do the

work, that they could have someone sit down with Mr. Craig and give him more detail, but that was the basis of determining the fee, the cost for doing the inspection. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Quan absent.

Council Member Robinson asked if they could find out if anybody in his industry received any communication from Maximus about what the inspectors actually did, because he would like to find out if they checked not only what they set in house, but what was the experience, because Mr. Craig was the second person he had heard tell him that all that occurred was that they get a notice in the mail, they send a check and were sent a permit in the mail, and asked that someone from the administration visit with him and explain to him what did they spend \$1,200 on in terms of the inspector's salary, mileage, equipment, how often did they go out and inspect, that he would like somebody from the Health Department to come talk to him so he could get an appreciation of exactly what it was in the inspection, that if they would send him that information he would appreciate it. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway and Vasquez absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Goldberg, Mr. Craig stated that they had 12 stores and 4 plants, that it was an increase per plant, that they had more than 11 employees at each of the plants, that it would be an increase of \$1,000 at each plant, and Council Member Goldberg asked Mr. Craig if he knew about how many articles or how many items were dry cleaned at each plant, and Mr. Craig stated that he did not know exactly, that for a period of a year 100,000 would be on the low side, that half a million was probably closer, and Council Member Goldberg stated that at half a million they were talking about an increase of one fifth of a penny and Mr. Craig's complaint was it would increase the price of the items to be dry cleaned, and basically then the increase was one fifth of a penny, and Mr. Craig stated that if all his expenses increased by 500 percent he would not stay around long, that he could sustain the \$4,000, but could not keep on with all the other government entities that wanted to raise taxes or suppliers that want to raise, or fuel charges, and Council Member Goldberg stated that it was not a charge per item, it was a charge per plant that did not go up from there no matter how many articles they dry cleaned, that he just wanted to put it into perspective, that he thought there was miscommunication, that some of his colleagues thought it was per store, but it was just per plant and it was a \$1,000 increase and that was the maximum, that a lot of the plants that had less employees might be just a \$75 dollar, and Mr. Craig stated that there were very few plants in the City of Houston that had less than six people. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway and Vasquez absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Council Member Wiseman asked Mr. Craig if he had an opportunity to look at any of the inspection reports on these inspections that had been done, and Mr. Craig stated that he could not remember, that they had not been bad, they had been good when they had one, they had very few of them, and Council Member Wiseman stated that was her question, if they were conducting inspections, then they should have reports and since Mr. Craig had seen reports, then they were doing them, and Mr. Craig stated that he had seen maybe one or two over the last five or ten years with four different plants, and Council Member Wiseman asked that the department visit with her with respect to the inspection reports, that would it be possible to receive some information on that. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway and Vasquez absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Council Member Alvarado moved to suspend the rules to hear Father John Lasseigne at this time, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway and Vasquez absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. MOTION 2002-0621 ADOPTED.

Father John Lasseigne, 7139 Avenue K, Houston, Texas 77012 (713-923-2394) appeared

and stated that he was a Catholic priest at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in the Magnolia Park neighborhood of Houston, that he also stood in unison with his colleagues from The Metropolitan Organization, the coalition of churches and schools and the Interfaith Health Alliance of the East End, that he was present to speak in favor of maintaining, at the very least, the City's health budget for the next year, that there had been reports, of the proposed budget, cuts of some \$3.5 million, which amounted to about 6 percent of reduction in the budget and 11 percent reduction in the staff, that his parish was proud to be the location and sponsor of a nonprofit health clinic, the Holy Family Health Clinic, in existence for about a year now, that their parish nurse, Ms. Lupe Rivera, saw patients with a variety of circumstances and needs, that she did a wonderful job of organizing drives for vaccinations, checkups for diseases such as Cancer and Diabetes, counseling people about their diet, the proper use of medications and in holding classes about common ailments in the Hispanic community, however, as an RN in a small community nonprofit clinic, there were many services she could not provide, thus she had become very skilled in knowing how to refer people to other clinics and hospitals in the neighborhood, that she had become very familiar with these clinics and these hospitals, their strengths and weaknesses and how to cut through the red tape that made it very difficult for poor people with limited education and limited experience speaking English to cut through, that she had him in several occasions that the City clinics in particular were very difficult to gain access to their services, to put it mildly, specifically the Magnolia Clinic in their neighborhood had very bad under staffing of personnel, specifically nurses, pregnant women supposedly had to wait several months before they could be seen for a prenatal check up, that he suggested to Lupe that it was no longer prenatal checkup after 5 or 6 months, that it was virtually a delivery check up, that she had avoided sending people to City clinics in hopes they could get more rapid service at County clinics or other nonprofit clinics in the City, that his request was the following, that first of all that they please be aware that service at the City clinics was on the decline before the proposed City budget reductions, that statistics from Children At Risk, another agency in town, showed that in the past three years since 1999 the Department of Health and Human Services had experienced a \$6 million reduction in their budget which amounted to 11 percent of their budget and specifically the Community and Personal Health Services Division had experienced a \$3 million reduction to 16 percent of their budget and that was the department that served pregnant women and children, that health care had to be a collaborative effort with the City participating with the County and with nonprofit agencies, that no one part of this picture could diminish it's responsibility, that people would simply go untreated if one of the three reduced it's services, and he would ask them to consider addressing the staffing problems which seemed to be the most critical problem facing the clinics of the City, that he wanted to thank them for their time and hard work, especially Council Members Sekula-Rodriguez and Alvarado for addressing the issue in the public meeting. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to applaud Father Lasseigne for the work he had done in putting the proposal and suggestions together, that she knew in his parish they had a lot of folks that went to the Magnolia Multi Service Center and asked what he thought would be some of the impacts should they reduce the hours of operation, what alternatives if any would the parishioners have to take, and Father Lasseigne stated that he was sure many of them would have to wait in longer lines at the County clinics, that there was the Gulfgate Clinic that he had been informed was a County Clinic and the San Jose Clinic, which was a nonprofit clinic, that it was supported by the sisters of Incarnate Ward, he believed or they would go untreated, which was a very common phenomenon in the Hispanic population. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that they had been in discussions about this and

believed that the administration was very concerned about it and wanted to rectify the problem, that he was right, the reduction in services had already happened and they were going to see further reductions, which she thought would just create a morbid situation for the population in his community, that what they were asking for, her office and Council Member Alvarado as well as numerous others at the table, was to restore, in part some of that 6 percent. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to take a point of personal privilege and recognize a group of students who were in the audience, that they were students of Representative Rick Noriega, who was teaching a class of Texas Politics at U of H Downtown, and asked that they stand and be recognized. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Council Member Tatro moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Dennis Keim at this time, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. MOTION 2002-0622 ADOPTED.

Mr. Dennis Keim, 5651 Laurel Creek, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-202-9428) appeared and stated that he was present to speak on the SimDesk issue, that he was not present to condemn the technology, he was present to question some omissions that he thought had been glossed over or totally violated, that the SimDesk technology required remote servers that supported people sitting at a terminal at a library or an office, that there was a cost to this that had not been addressed and that was the band width to get the connection from the server out to the remote users, that the more users that were out there, the greater demand on the band width, and that was an expensive cost, plus the computers out there and the more people they had out there the more demand there was going to be for computers, that they were facing cut backs that were going to cut the library hours where those very terminals and the people that were supposed to use them would go, that he did not understand what with the shortfalls that they had seen in this City year after year, why the City thought that it was necessary to provide something that had not been fully researched, the costs had not been fully analyzed, and he thought that it was time that this be put to an end, that Mr. Craig was up here a minute ago talking about the fees that were being assessed to individual industries and the question was the computers in the libraries, were the people that used those going to be charged fees to help recover the cost of the software, the band width or the computers, he did not think so, that it was time to stop shifting, that the City was not in a position to provide everything to everybody in this City, there were basic services, they had streets that were falling apart, they had sewers and water system problems that had to be addressed, they could not be giving away services that people had access to in schools or on home computers, that he thought it was time to stop competing with private industry and get back to being a governmental agency. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Ms. Virginia Goodson, 1442 Adkins Road, Houston, Texas (713-216-0875) appeared and stated that she and her group were present to speak in support of the Consolidated Plan, that she was a 19 year resident of Spring Branch and lived about two blocks from the intersection of Long Point and Blalock, that she was a member of Saint Cecilia's Catholic church and had been working with other leaders of The Metropolitan Organization that belonged to Saint Cecilia's Chapter, United Methodist Church, Memorial Drive United Methodist and First Congregational Church, that together their congregations had about 3,000 members that lived north of I-10 in Spring Branch, that they had been looking over the last seven months at the day laborer situation

in their community and had been attending meetings where residents of Spring Branch had complained about the loitering and disorderly conduct of the day laborers, that she had heard day laborers speak about their lives, most recently at two meetings that were held at Amor Restoracion Church on Witte, that over 35 people attended both meetings, that she had heard stories of wage theft, the difficulty the men had in finding consistent work, their need and desire to receive basic trade skills, that the people gathered were all very energized about the idea of a hiring hall that could aid them in achieving their goal of working and earning a living for their families, that they believed there was a need in their community to find a place where these men could find work in an orderly and dignified manner that would get them off of the street corners into a facility that provided protection and screening for the men and contractors that employed them and that provided public rest rooms and space for training, that they had come here today to support the funding from the City of Houston to use the Community Development Block Grant Funds for such a site in Spring Branch. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to recognize the work that TMO had done on the issue, and asked if this was an issue that the community of Spring Branch was concerned about as far as she knew, and Ms. Goodson stated that from their house meetings, and other discussions, there was concern about the day labor situation, that she thought there was some concern, too, about how to handle the situation and what the solution should be, and Council Member Edwards asked Ms. Goodson if the budget that was submitted for the grant from housing was something that would work to put this project on, and Ms. Goodson stated that she believed so and someone behind her would talk a little more about the funding. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan asked if someone would be speaking about the location and the plan, and Ms. Goodson stated yes. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Shareg Ortega, 8650 Pitner Road, Houston, Texas 77080 (713-690-8500) appeared and stated that she was manager of the Pine Garden Apartments which was one of the corner where the laborers waited, that she had been working at the apartments since December 1997 and these were the parents of some of the children of her community, that these parents could not help their children because they did not speak the language, that sometimes they had a day of work, some days they did not work, that if they had a center in the area, these people would be able to learn how to write and read, not just English, but Spanish because some of them did not even speak or read Spanish, that it was very sad for them to receive money orders blank, it was a lot of trust on their people, that when they were picked up to go work, sometimes they went and did not get paid and would go back home empty handed, that they had children at home and these children needed to eat and they needed to dress, that they needed a decent place and they needed parents that could help them, that they needed that center, that they really need the help from the City and would appreciate whatever they could do for them, that it was a very, very serious matter. Mayor Pro Tem Quan asked if someone would be speaking about the location and the plan, and Ms. Goodson stated yes. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Reverend Fidel Garcia, 8564 Risen, Houston, Texas 77080 (713-939-1664) appeared and stated through an interpreter that he was the Pastor of a church in Spring Branch and had been there for ten years and had seen a lot of necessities, but especially there was a very big one of three groups of laborers that were waiting for somebody to give them a job, that they saw there

was a big necessity to built a center for these workers, that he had an experience with people who took advantage of the others, that he was one time contracted to work and worked a whole week and the contractor told him that Saturday he would get paid and it had been 10 years and he had still not paid him, that was what was happening in the area, that they hoped that the center would come true for the benefit of the community. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Bob Fleming, 1900 Louisiana, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-526-4611) appeared and stated that he was Vice President of Catholic Charities and board member of the current Oscar Romero Center, that he wanted to speak to them about the dynamics of the day labor situation, that HPD reported that there were ten large day laborer sites in Houston in at least six City Council districts, that he was present to speak to the one in southwest Houston, that the dynamics at all ten sites were the same, the same stake holders, one were neighborhoods and homeowners who saw open air day labor sites as a nuisance and something that would detract from their property values, that second, HPD and all those concerned about crime considered day labor sites a haven for crime, petty crime and potentially worse crime, that third were the workers themselves who wanted a daily wage, in the Jewish tradition of the prophets and in the Catholic social teaching they were taught that to deprive a worker of his daily wage was a sin that cried to Heaven for vengeance, that the fourth stake holder was the employer who wanted a fair, dependable rationale way of hiring labor, that in the open air sites in Houston none of the stake holders were satisfied, that about a year ago, in southwest Houston, they brought together a group of people, including GANO, the Gulfton Area Neighborhood Organization, the AFL-CIO, Catholic Charities and the Richmond Avenue Merchant Associations and they decided to address the issue on the principals that one they would open new facilities in the market, second, they be indoors, third they would ask the City for \$100,000 to start the effort, fourth, that they would match it with \$25,000 from the stake holders, which they had done, and finally, they would bring in other in kind providers to provide food and other social services, that he was present to tell them today that the southwest labor center, Oscar Romero, had recently celebrated its one year anniversary, that it saw on an average 107 people a day, who used the center, 67 of whom on average got a job, that Council Members Goldberg and Ellis could speak to this, that to his knowledge they received no complaints about the indoor center, that they promised they would make it work and he was present to advocate the City fund it again, it was in the Consolidated Plan, that there was also another \$100,000 in the Consolidated Plan for the same stake holders, plus The Metropolitan Organization and other area churches to open another center in the City of Houston, that they would prefer that it be in the Spring Branch area, that was how it was earmarked now, that they were diligently working for a site to serve one of the three Spring Branch areas and would prefer it be the Gessner and Tanner site which was the third largest site in the City according to HPD, that they were working diligently with private owners right now to find a site and to contract with them, that they had met with the workers, as they had heard, so they could find a site acceptable to them, that they would ask City Council to approve the Consolidated Plan, both for the \$100,000 to continue the Gulfton site and to begin, within the next few months, the Spring Branch site. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Members of Council, Mr. Fleming stated that their position was that they preferred Spring Branch because they had done so much work there, but as all good people should, they had a fall back plan and would be prepared to do it somewhere else, that Council should know that they had not had time to do preparation, the stake holders were not as prepared, that they thought they could make a go of it in Spring Branch and he really wanted to emphasize that they preferred to do that, that they had worked diligently to create a model which they could replicate and were confident they could in those districts where it was needed, that it

was not typical at the Oscar Romero site that people who did not get chosen or were at the end of the line went out to the street, that the way it worked at Oscar Romero if they showed up at 6:00 a.m. today they were actually signing up for tomorrow, that secured their space for tomorrow, that they had 107 people on average in April a day that came, stayed the whole time, 67 of whom got jobs, 30 or whatever that number was who did not, so they did not have leakage in that sense, that if they looked at the HPD report there were two other sites in the Gulfton area that had somewhere between 25 and 35 men a day and no matter what they did in terms of offering a model center, the people would take their chances, that what they could do was lessen the problem and they could knock it down by offering a carrot of a good center and the only way they could totally eliminate it would be with massive law enforcement to force people into centers, that it was not a panacea, they had lessened the problems, there was some leakage in the sense that people simply would not come to the center and see if they could gain the system and they could try to cut that down the best they could, that as to massive law enforcement, the best story he could tell them was about the City of Austin, whose day labor center was downtown, on Congress, and to move that site they required huge City investment of police, they moved them to a model site, but they had to do complete law enforcement, plus a city ordinance and literally occupy the site themselves and force people into the new site, that it required an ordinance and a police presence, that he did not know the particulars of Austin, but it was his understanding that they had the ability to cite the employer and the worker, that the Oscar Romero site was open on Saturday, that there were two sites, one off of Westpark and the other one on Bellaire, not too far from Fiesta, they were alternative sites and were a little too far from Oscar Romero, that they had a workers group that represented each country and they were represented, that they were currently getting \$100,000, and the proposal was to increase it to \$200,000 from the City, \$100,000 for a new site, that the suggestion was that it be in Spring Branch to replicate the Oscar Romero center, that the total budget was \$125,000, that \$25,000 came from the partners, most of them were surrounding Catholic churches, that there was no cost to the contractors, they were not charged although they had some discussion about asking the workers to kick back a dollar of their wages, that he was in favor that if the workers were going to kick back, probably the employers ought to, too, that as they knew the TMO was a consortium of churches that had large Hispanic memberships, they had all been approached, that at Council Member Tatro's suggestion they tried to meet with the Johnson's, a prominent family with the Super Neighborhood in Carverdale, that they had also talked with apartment owners, one of whom spoke, that the Johnson's were the head of the civic club in the area, that they had talked to the Super Neighborhoods in the area as well, that there was a lot of buy into, to try to locate one of these places and it got to be a little dicey, the neighborhood that they believed would be most acceptable to the workers as well as the residents was the Carverdale Community, that they understand that although they could never eliminate opposition, that was just not doable, that they could talk to people and tell them what they had in mind and could minimize opposition, and then if their experience at Oscar Romero could be repeated, then they would have a successful story to tell. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that she did not think they could ever get a perfect plan, but one that mediates and asked what committee was this issue looked upon, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated they had not designated it to any certain committee to tell you the truth, and Council Member Edwards stated that she would like to make the suggestion, because it was not just Spring Branch or Denver Harbor, it was also the 1960 area, the Greenspoint area, and in District D, there were a lot of places, and so she thought they it came to a point where they could not look upon it in an episodic position, but as a citywide, regional position and take a position on it, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he had been to at least two or three of those meetings with the people in Binglewood, and the storefront in Spring Branch to encourage participation. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and

Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Vasquez stated that as part of their budget priorities, his office had submitted a request that the Mayor develop a citywide plan for the day laborer sites, that he strongly encouraged them to be more diverse in terms of the locations they identify for the day laborer sites, that they had to find a way to be the most efficient as possible in running and operating these centers because they all believed in the need. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Anna Cummings, 2929 Buffalo Speedway, No. 803, Houston, Texas 77098 (713-629-1252) appeared and stated that she just wanted to reiterate that the proposal for the consolidated budget was the fruit of a working relationship and a partnership between Associated Catholic Charities, The Metropolitan Organization, the AFL-CIO and GANO, as well as a number of churches and community leaders in the Spring Branch area, that they stood ready to work with any organization or group of churches or group of community leaders who were interested in expanding this project to other communities because they saw this as a citywide problem that needed to be addressed, however, what they had in the present situation was that they had the community that was proactively looking at how could they work and how could they solve the problem of the children, that how could they solve the problem of the day laborers out there, and how could they do it in a dignified and human and Houston way, that they strongly supported, along with all their partners, the budget item for this project, and just so it was clear, they were supporting the \$100,000 for the Oscar Romero site, plus \$100,000 for the Spring Branch site. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Tatro stated that when they went over the budget he believed it was \$65,000 that was in the Consolidated Plan and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that it was \$65,000 that came out of CDBG Funds and \$35,000 that came from RTC Funds for a total of \$100,000. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Vasquez stated that they had visited in his office several times and at those times he encouraged them to go to Council districts where the Council Members were enthusiastic about it, and not those that were less than enthusiastic about it, that he thought they wore out those members that did support it and continually did so over and over and quite frankly the support wears thin after a while, that this was the third budget cycle he had been in and the third request he had made and still to no avail, and Ms. Cummings stated that they were actively looking to participate in other districts, that they wanted to be a citywide program. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he thought that Ms. Cathy York had come to the Mayor's office and had also advocated for it and that the Washington area would probably be the next area, that they were not going to forget District I or District D, that this was recognized by Ms. Bingham when she presented the budget, that she realized it was an efficient way to address the need in communities. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Vasquez moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Mary Lawler out of order at the beginning of the three minute speakers for non agenda items, seconded by Council Member Tatro. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT) (Note: as

no quorum was present, no vote was recorded)

Mr. Pedro Cantu, 1131 Witte, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-629-1252) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Toni Hernandez Serna, as per City Council motion, appeared and stated that she was a field rep for the National AFL-CIO and was present to bring greetings from Mr. Richard Shaw, who was Secretary Treasurer of the AFL-CIO, as well as Mr. Dale Wortham, President of the Harris County AFL-CIO, that they were present today to stand with TMO and Catholic Charities to support the funding for the second day laborer site, that the first site, GANO, was a beginning, and Council Member Goldberg talked about certain practices that were ongoing, that this was about changing behavioral practices that day laborers had been doing for a long time, that they were talking about establishing a center where workers could go and receive worker education, know their rights kind of things, and training that would be helpful to them and their families, that Council Member Goldberg mentioned what happened to those folks that stay toward the end, did they just go out into the street, if they had a center where they could have programs, real programs, whereby people could take advantage of those programs, in the chance that they did not get dispatched for work, that was certainly something they wanted to do, that they knew the Oscar Romero site did have room for improvement everywhere and they were looking to continue working with that site to improve that program there, that also with the second site was to develop a model that they could be proud of in Houston, that as a national rep she worked all over the country and Houston had really stepped up to the plate and had been a real leader in terms of addressing the issue of day laborers, that in terms of the comment that Council Member Edwards made about talking with the community, they certainly did not want to push this on any community, they wanted to collaborate, they wanted to consult, they wanted to talk with folks and make the process as easy as it could be so they certainly would take that into account, they wanted to do those things. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Members of Council, Ms. Hernandez Serna stated that it had been a tremendous increasing concern, that California, for instance, had established councils in day laborer centers where representatives from the different countries would be represented on a council to run the center and there was an actual structure and a format that got developed within the center, that they did this in various cities in California, San Francisco and Los Angeles, that in Houston they processed about 3,000 folks per month, that in terms of the training and what these folks were doing, they were interested in providing folks an opportunity for apprenticeship programs, for instance, they wanted to train and educate and move folks and give them opportunities so that was a very important aspect of this. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Nathalie Paravicini, 818 W. 31st., Houston, Texas 77018 (713-880-9929) appeared and stated that she was present because she was down right alarmed about what was going on with the budget for City health services and she was just going to talk from her experience, that she worked with pregnant women and yesterday she had a woman come and say she had to call six times to get her sister-in-law in prenatal care, that she called Lyons Clinic and was given four months waiting period, that actually she called her in March because she could not get an appointment and she was getting bumped off to August so it had been reduced but it was still four months, that the girl that they had brought in today was 18 years old and her friend had the baby before she could ever get her first prenatal care visit, that she had another woman, and this

was in the last week, so she was not even going and pulling cases from her batch, this was what she had heard in the last week, that she was not the person who came and gave the service, she just managed the program and this was coming to her second hand, so there was much more out there and they were a very small agency, that a woman who had been waiting for over one year to get her postnatal visit, they had also a situation with an encounter with a City Health Department where a young woman, 19 years old, was trying to get prenatal care, got totally chewed about what the hell was she thinking about getting pregnant and that CPS could come and get her baby because she had no clue about why she was getting pregnant, the whole rap, because of course she was an immigrant, that since September 11 and since Jack Corning's brilliant opinion in July to deny services to undocumented workers, people were afraid of getting health care, that the ones who go then have a very difficult time to have access to care, now maybe a lot of people do not relate to prenatal care, but if somebody had a cough and did not get that checked because they did not really have access to health care, they could be spreading tuberculosis in the community, this was a very serious health aspect and in terms of what comes down to them in terms of their economics in the City, what creates wealth is not a company, it's the people who work for a company, and to have productive people who produce wealth, they needed competent people who were healthy and could work and work well, and who were well enumerated, that if they did not have that they could not get out of any economic downturn because they were not prepared to really produce, that she was talking just from her experience, that she had a new employee who came to work and she was so surprised that in their clinic, in the Magnolia Multi Service Center, there were more security guards and people cleaning the building than there were people providing service, that she was very concerned when she saw that the budget was up but health services were down. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, Ms. Paravicini stated that she was not an RN, that she was a community organizer, and worked with people who provided health education and support, they did not provide medical service, that she worked at the Magnolia center helping pregnant teen-agers and women, that she had come to the program only last year, that she was doing other work, that she was concerned with the effective use of her tax dollars and did think there was a lot of inefficiencies in what she saw in the operation of the clinic, money that could go to the service itself, that she came to talk about her experience and from the beginning of last year there was an incredible reduction. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Nadis Stein, 7039 Capital, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-926-2093) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Carolyn Frank appeared in place of Ms. Nadis Stein and stated that she was a community health pediatric RN of 25 years, that she was formerly with the Harris County Hospital District and now she worked with the East End Healthy Children's Collaborative, that Saint Luke's Episcopal Health Charities and the East End Healthy Children's Collaborative had applied to be a federally qualified health center and provide care to children, adults, the whole life span and lease space at the Magnolia Multi Service Center where the clinic space was there and being underutilized, that there were no patients there, that she had worked with City nurses who have retired and moved onto other employers and their positions had not been filled, that in 1995, 1996 and 1997 she worked at LBJ in the Mejia Program and they booked ultrasound appointments for City clinics, at that time it took one to two weeks for an ultrasound appointment for a prenatal mom, and now it took two to three months, sometimes longer, to get a new

prenatal appointment, that the Harris County Health Department Gulfgate Health Center was inundated with patients due to not being seen or booked an appointment at the City clinics, what would happen if Magnolia's hours were cut, they would see less people and of course the children would be sicker and there would be more missed school days, that she worked as a CHIP outreach worker and they had signed up one-quarter of the State's kids in Harris County, that they already knew there were 1 million more uninsured children in the State that needed to be insured, so it was just imminent, of the utmost importance that they provide services and money for sick people to see the health care workers. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that no one was complaining on this side of the table on that issue, that they needed to be looking at an overall picture. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Mary Lawler, 2505 Washington Ave, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-864-8099) appeared and stated that she was Executive Director of Avenue Community Development Corporation, and was present to testify today regarding the 2002 Consolidated Annual Plan, that Avenue CDC developed affordable housing in the Washington Avenue and near north side community just northwest of downtown in Council Member Vasquez's district, that their community had benefited from the Houston Hometown Program which provides down payment assistance to low income home buyers purchasing housing developed by Avenue CDC, that to date Avenue CDC had assisted over 100 families to purchase their first homes and 26 of those homes were developed by their agency, that they also developed a 74 unit apartment complex, Washington Courtyards, which provided affordable mixed income housing in our community, that Avenue CDC's programs benefited from the technical assistance and training funds administered by local initiative support corporation, that the technical assistance funds assisted them in the critical predevelopment phase of their projects and the training funds assisted them to improve their agency's overall effectiveness and knew that the contract for those funds was coming before Council tomorrow, as well, that in addition, Avenue CDC, recently acquired nine dilapidated rental units and they had requested city funding to rehabilitate those units for very low income households earning less than fifty percent of medium income, that those units were located in the First Ward, that she looked forward to coming back before Council in the next couple of weeks when this project came before City Council. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that they would welcome her to their next Housing Initiatives Committee, that he believed a policy statement regarding the CHODO's would be presented at that time by Steve Fairfield. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that she was going to ask that they call Pastor Elmo Johnson out of order, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated they needed at this time a motion to continue in session, and Mr. Bibler stated it was just kind of a committee at this point any way, that they did not have a quorum to conduct business, but if the people wanted to stay and listen to the speakers, they were welcome to, that if they had to conduct any official business like to adopt a motion was no longer possible. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards asked that Pastor Elmo Johnson be brought out of order and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Pastor Elmo Johnson would be the next speaker. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Pastor Elmo Johnson, 1106 Valentine, Houston, Texas 77019 (713-651-1215) appeared and stated that he was present to support the consolidated budget, that he was present to thank the City Council and the Mayor and the Community Development Department for what they were doing in their communities, that they needed housing for low to moderate income, that Council Member Berry had been in Fourth Ward just a couple of blocks from here and he had talked to him several times about housing for elderly and housing for low income, that they had a contract to do about 28 homes, and they did ten and the good thing about it was that the Mayor held them accountable, they had meetings every month to see how far they had come along, that they had built ten and had four under construction and had sold all of the houses to low income people, that low to moderate income people seemed to fall between the cracks and they had a lot of homeless and these homes really were needed, that the consolidated budget really addressed that, that he wanted to thank Ms. Bingham and her office for really staying on top of it and pushing all of them, all of their CDC's, to do the very best they could to get those homes, that he was present to say thank you to City Council as well as the Mayor and the Community Development Department. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, Pastor Johnson stated that his organization was called Uplift Fourth Ward, that he had been in Fourth Ward pastoring at Rosharon Baptist Church for 18 years and the fight had been along battle, but they were getting something accomplished now, that they build homes, that they had built ten and on Friday they closed on their last, that they had 4 under construction and four more to come after that, that they had purchased about 24 rental units for senior citizens, that the Community Development Department of the City helped them renovate a building that was built in 1905, and people that would ordinarily be homeless were living in there, that they had eight units in there. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

The City Secretary called Ms. Leticia Flores, that her name was left off the list, but Ms. Flores was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Dr. Motapa, 6425 Woodard, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-645-9598) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Agnes Johnson, 5401 Chimney Rock, Houston, Texas 77081 (713-780-4026) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Troy Vaughn, 13151 Greens Parkway, No. 31, Houston, Texas 77067 (281-872-0170) appeared and stated that he was the owner of Houston First Driving Academy, and what he had

to offer was a truck driving program for young people, whether it be male, female, Black, White or Hispanic, as long as they were 21 years of age, that they not have any DWI's and DUI's, that he went through truck driving school at Houston Community College and a lot of times it was set up to where they did not have a lot of money up front, you can't go to a class at Houston Community College or they would have to go and commit to a big trucking company for a year or two in order to get the training that they needed, that he felt that they needed some type of training in the City of Houston to help the people because it was easy to lock a person up and teach them how to cut a yard or cleanup in the kitchen and cook, but if they were used to making money, whether it was illegal or whatever, \$500 or \$600 a day, when they got out they were going back to the same thing they knew how to do, that he was trying to be of service to address that issue, that he was present asking for support from the City Council, that presently he did not have anywhere to teach these people, but did have a lot of people who were inquiring about it, a lot of friends, a lot of people at his church, different places he went, they were always asking how they could get into driving trucks, that a lot of these people in the community wanted to be out of the crime scene, but they did not know how, and he was present today to try to figure out a way to give them an opportunity to have a place where he could bring these people together for a month and give them an opportunity to try to receive their CDL licenses, that he was also certified in the State of Oklahoma and Texas as a certified instructor, that he trained people from all over the Country when he was on the road three or four years ago with Arrow Trucking and that was able to be verified. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the industry did need individuals, that Ms. Debbie Dillard was present from the Mayor's Citizens Assistance office and would meet with him to see what they could do. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Robbie Evans, 5147 Enyart, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-558-3542) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Dan Persha, 7422 Tours, Houston, Texas 77036 (713-829-0915) had reserved to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Richard Hill, 555 Butterfield, Houston, Texas 77090 (281-586-7389) had reserved to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Zenel Hunter, 1435 Dell Dale Blvd., Channelview, Texas 77530 (281-547-0520) had reserved to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Jean Warnke, 4603 Fox Hollow Blvd., Spring, Texas 77389 (281-288-2144) appeared and stated that she had a question about order, that she had already heard that to present what she was going to present to this Council was worthless today because they did not have enough people to even act on it, that when she called the City she was given a three minute time on the

agenda and was told she was the first speaker to sign up, that she left her office at twelve o'clock today and had been there all afternoon, that she was sure they were as tired as she was, that it took her away from her office where she administered three other associations and her question was that she was wasting her time at this point so perhaps she should come to another session, that she was sure there were some of the other people who were equally as frustrated who had sat here as long as she had and they needed to know, that this was to no avail to anybody for her to stand up at the podium and tell them what she had planned to speak about. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that she was free to come back to Council and speak to more of the Council Members, that it was her option at this point, that this was the public session today and they did not vote on business items, but they opened the floor to the public to come express their views to Council, that she could certainly come back next week if she would prefer, that she would go to the one minute speakers, but he would personally extend her time to allow her to say what she intended to say. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards asked Ms. Warnke if she had a prepared statement that she could leave with her and Ms. Warnke stated that she had put some remarks down, and Council Member Edwards stated that she would like to have it so she could have some preparation if she would leave it with her. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Victor Scales, 5251 Kilkenny Dr., Houston, Texas 77048 (713-991-7514) appeared and stated that he wanted to enumerate unauthorized use of City equipment in the Parks Department, that this was done on Wednesday, May 30th, last week, and he was not too pleased about it, that any time people get into your private business on City computers, you did not know what they might be doing, they might be pulling up their name or how much money they had in their bank account or how much money they made last year, that it was very private and he wanted something done about it in the Parks Department. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Mr. Brian Hill was present representing the Parks Department and could meet with him and see what they could do and thanked him for bringing it to their attention. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Patricia Spikes, 3134 Sunbean, Houston, Texas 77051 (713-738-1886) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Willie Smith, 3232 Francis, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-751-0072) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Luis Chatos, 2014 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007 appeared and stated that Article 25, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted December 1948 stated that everyone had the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and necessary social services and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood and circumstances beyond his control, that they lived in a City and a society who had taken that away, that they lived in a society that looked down on the people that this was addressing, that they shamed them and were saying they needed to live in a nicer house, that they needed to not ride the bus, that they needed to wear nicer clothing, that they did not allow people to make those decisions for themselves and to address the issue of the day labor thing, most labor halls paid minimum wage, make 14 dollars an hour to get people to work for them, pocket the money, if a man was working out of a labor yard, he could negotiate for himself whether he wanted to go to work for these people, that he was not forced into this system like a slave. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Mischa Duvide, 2014 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77004 appeared and stated that he had a couple of visual aids to start off with here because he wanted to make the point that dumpster diving really was a good thing and stated that he had Calvin and Hobbs and a flower, so dumpster diving was a really good thing, that they just ate out of the dumpster and he was not sick, that he was also talking about the ordinance proposal for downtown, and they knew they were still going to give City Council a hard time until they knew what was going on exactly with this, that he would like to know when this was coming before City Council and why mainly, that they knew there were a lot of people out on the street and the problem did need to be alleviated, but it needed to be alleviated in a more humane manner than people going to jail. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that a date had not been set for it going to council, that he would have Mr. Duvide check with the Quality of Life Committee, that they were studying it before they brought it to Council. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. William Ennols Beal, 4748 Boicewood, Houston, Texas 77016 (713-633-0126) appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Anthony Morris, 330 N. Sam Houston Pkwy, Houston, Texas 77060 appeared and stated that he was a crisis counselor with the Southeast Texas Flood Recovery Project and was present with Ms. Mary Hawkins, one of Houston's own recording artists who wrote the Allison song, that they were present because on June 8, 2002 the northeast communities would be presenting an Allison commemorative service at Saint Peter Claeburn Catholic Church, 6005 North Wayside from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., that the theme for the occasion would be a time of reflection for survivors of Tropical Storm Allison, that in addition on June 29th the northeast communities would be presenting an Allison Commemoration celebration at Tidwell Park located at 9720 Spalding Road from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the theme for this occasion was a community united in the face of a challenge, that their activities on that day would be recreational activities for senior citizens, performances by community choirs, recording artists, high school bands, health fair, voter registration, college recruitment, local radio and media coverage and

have both City and State officials participate in the event, that the Mayor and City Council were formally invited to participate in the Allison Commemorative Service and in the Allison Commemoration celebration, that they were especially needing support on June 8th, which was this upcoming Saturday, at the Allison Commemorative service, this would be the time when they would be honoring the 22 individuals who lost their lives due to Tropical Storm Allison and all of the surviving family members would be present, that they were hoping to have all the City Council, everyone that was possible, to come out and show their respect to the families, that they would like to thank Council Member Galloway, along with Mr. Cantu who had been working with them to make it a success. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he did have it on his calendar and knew several Council Members planned to go. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez asked if they had any literature on the celebration and Mr. Morris stated they had a couple of flyers, and Ms. Hawkins stated that she was also present to encourage those families who were still suffering the aftermath of Allison, which had really created a really low attitude and atmosphere in their communities, that they needed to encourage them to empower themselves and come beyond this catastrophe so that they could move forward and really help to start life anew. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone, had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr./Coach Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 (202FA34511) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Joseph Omo Omuari, 15 Charleston, No. 1107, Houston, Texas 77025 (713-665-1929) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Joe Robinson, 4615 Nichols, Houston, Texas 77020 (713-674-3217) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Ann Thomas, 1301 Travis, Ste. 1701, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-739-7514) appeared and stated that she was with the Coalition for the Homeless and was also present to speak on the Consolidated Plan, that the Coalition for the Homeless was a multifaceted puzzle, that they tried to do it all and tried to have their fingers everywhere in the homeless services, but what she wanted to tell them was that the National Low Income Housing Alliance this year published a paper, The Ten Meanest Cities in the Country, and Houston was mentioned, but she must tell them it was not on the negative side, it was cited as one of the most compassionate cities that

walked that delicate balance between empowering homelessness, which they did not want, that no one wanted homelessness as a way of life, they did not advocate that at all, the streets were a mean place to live, but was compassionate and understanding of the services that were needed by the people who found themselves homeless, that she hoped she would never have to say she was one paycheck away from being homeless, that their agency was funded through the CDBG, the Block Grant, that they were a Nationally recognized model and there were only four major cities in the Country that had paid coalition staff and one of the results of that was through the continuum of care which their agency was the lead agency for, they brought in \$15 million last year, all of that going to homeless service agencies, the fee required to produce that application was funded by the City and the County, that they also had a council which was a model program and she just thanked them all and asked that they please consider them in the Consolidated Plan. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he wanted to thank Ms. Thomas for all the fine work they did. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Dell York, 8855 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-408-8181) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, 8034 Antoine, No. 107, Houston, Texas 77088 (713-878-2355) appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Lee Mercer, 4928 Winnetka, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-741-9656) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Robert Horton, P. O. Box 21635, Houston, Texas 77226 (713-697-0958) appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated that these comments were for Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, that he did get her letter concerning the situation at 1611 Holman and why the City of Houston came in and took all his stuff out, that he thought that Mayor Brown was being very vindictive because he voted for Sanchez, that he thought her office was still not doing enough because he had been waiting a long, long time to get the answers from Mrs. Flanagan, that he believed she was the head of Public Works, that he had been waiting over two weeks so her office should not be taking that long to find out to forward his e-mail for her to answer those questions, that there was nothing so hard about that, that he wanted those questions answered and he wanted her office to send him the answers she got from her office, because he thought it was very disrespectful that she was taking so long, that it should not be taking this long to answer those questions and this situation in his house, he wanted them to know, was going to wind up in Martha Hill Jamison's court, the whole situation, that the lawsuit was probably going to expand, that he

expected her office to do more. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 5:29 p.m. the City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 5, 2002. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council reconvened in the City Council Chamber at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 5, 2002, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Gordon Quan, Shelly Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 8:20 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:12 Mayor Brown reconvened the meeting of the City Council and stated that the first item of business would be the monthly financial report. Council Member Vasquez absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

9:00 A.M. - REPORT FROM CITY CONTROLLER AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE CITY including but not limited to, a revenue, expenditure and encumbrance report for the General Fund, all special revenue funds and all enterprise funds, and a report on the status of bond funds

Ms. Sylvia Garcia, City Controller, stated that she was pleased to present to them the Monthly Financial and Operations report for the period ending April 30, 2002, that her remarks would pertain to the General Fund, that the General Fund Revenue projections had increased \$1.5 million from the March report, that these projections were based on historical trends, current year collections and discussions with the administration, that the largest increase was in the Electric Franchise Fees area, which was \$5.5 million higher than last month, that two separate one time adjustment checks, received during May, account for this revision, that Gas Franchise Fees were also up due to increased consumption, that the most notable of the decreases was in the Sales Tax area, that the amount they received in May for March sales was 5.7% less than the amount received in May a year ago, that they were now assuming revenues for the rest of the year at 2% less than last year; that their estimate for Municipal Courts Fines and Forfeitures remained unchanged at \$35.7 million, that case filings in recent months were increasing with April filings being the first month to surpass those of a year ago, that the new ticket task force was active but the filings, of course, would take time to work its way through the process and procedures of the court before they would translate into revenues, that collections at courts now stood at 9.9% below year to date, Fiscal Year 2001, that was almost 10%; that Direct Inter Fund Services were projected to contribute \$65 million in revenues during the current year, that with two months to the end of the fiscal year, however, only half of this amount had been billed, they had been urging the administration to expedite the processing of these Inter Fund billings to insure that the General Fund was repaid in time to assist them with their cash flow at the end of the fiscal year; that with regard to expenditures, none of them had really changed they really pretty much reflected the appropriation ordinance which they passed about a month ago, and that completed her report. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Dr. Philip Scheps, Director, Finance and Administration, stated that they had increased their revenue estimate overall for the current month at \$4.5 million, that was a combination of the same

\$5.5 million that the Controller spoke of, the Electric Franchise Fees less, \$1.5 million adjustment for Municipal Courts Revenue, that General Fund expenditures were up \$3.9 million and as she mentioned they were at budget for all of the departments, now that Council had passed the appropriation ordinance, but they had noted that there was going to be an extraordinary amount of tax refunds due this year, that overall they were showing a General Fund ending balance projected to be about \$87.3 million, which was about 7.2% of expenditures and that included the Rainy Day Fund; that Cash Management they would probably be back maybe next week gaining their permission to do potential borrowing from the ALP or Disaster Recovery Fund to cover the weekend, year end cash problem, they did it last year, gained permission to borrow it internally, they did not need it, but they wanted to take the precaution this year; that today's Item 40 had to do with the item the Controller mentioned, the Inter Fund Transfers, they needed an appropriation and this was the Public Works version of that which would allow them to move projects from their CIP back into the General Fund, so that was important to that as well, and that concluded his report.

Council Member Parker moved to accept the report, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0623 ADOPTED.

Council Member Galloway moved to suspend the rules to consider Item No. 44 out of order, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0624 ADOPTED.

Council Member Robinson moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 15-1, 15-1a, 16 and 16a out of order, seconded by Council Member Galloway. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0625 ADOPTED.

44. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **INTERNET ACCESS TECHNOLOGIES, INC** for Desktop Software and Productivity Tools, Licensing and Support Citywide; providing a maximum contract amount - \$9,560,375.00 - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund - 3 Years with 3 one year options - **(This was Item 26 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS WISEMAN, EDWARDS, TATRO, VASQUEZ, KELLER, SEKULA-RODRIGUEZ, PARKER and GALLOWAY)** - was presented.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that as she said before, she thought that the Internet Access Technologies had a reasonable proposal for the City of Houston, however it was a luxury item and hoped that the Council Members would look at it as a luxury item and follow a postponement for a reconsideration next year when the budget would be less tight and less difficult because there were so many items that they really needed.

Council Member Edwards stated that she would disagree with her colleague, that she did not think it was a luxury item, especially for the inner city children of the City who needed to have an access to technology and accesses that would bring them into the technological world, that she thought it was a moot argument to talk about after school programs but on the other hand take away the ability to make those programs a reality.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to make sure they were clear with the public, that he agreed that it was a tight budget, but the only problem was that the pot of money they were talking about did not apply to the Health Department, the Library or the Parks, that it was a separate pot of money and they could not use it to fix the infrastructure, in fact, what they were doing was making a loan out of what they called Equipment Acquisition to purchase this, and then pay a small interest rate on it going forward, that there were other ways to deal with the Health Department, the Library, the Parks and the infrastructure, there were going to be some on going discussion, that he wanted to make sure in the public's mind that they eliminate these confusion that somehow they were taking money that was for the Health, Parks and Library

Departments and using it on this system, which they were not and they ought to be clear about it.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he agreed with Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez that it was a tight budget, but this particular agenda item would produce a savings and allow them to not increase other additional fees, that for him this would actually bridge the digital divide by delivering technology to the citizens that could not afford technology and would also like to point out that it had a very successful pilot implementation at the library, that they as a Council sit around and encourage their directors to come forward with innovation and potential savings and in this case Mr. Piper had done so, that it was somewhat controversial because it was new technology, but at the same time it had successful implementation and so he would be supporting the agenda item.

Council Member Keller stated that the project in its whole did make sense, he thought, at the proper time, that he was aware of the pot of money it was coming from and in his opinion that pot of money could fix the infrastructure and could be used to tie in all of the software maintenance programs that they had going on within the City of Houston to where the departments could communicate with one another, which could help fix code enforcement and street cut ordinance, sewer line replacement, waterline replacement, therefore help fix infrastructure, that amount of money would be allowed and would be very helpful to tie in all of the splintered technology projects that they had going on.

Council Member Alvarado moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Danny Piper, CIO, seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0626 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Alvarado, Mr. Piper stated that as most of the Council Members knew the savings imbedded into the 2003 plan was \$1.6 million and a four year run rate for the plan was \$7 million annually, that the City of Houston was getting a sweetheart of a deal, about one half to one fourth of what the cost would be.

After further discussion, Council Member Quan moved to call the question, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0627 ADOPTED.

A roll call vote was called on Item No. 44.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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| Mayor Brown voting aye | Council Member Vasquez voting aye |
| Council Member Tatro voting no | Council Member Alvarado voting aye |
| Council Member Galloway voting aye | Council Member Parker voting aye |
| Council Member Goldberg voting no | Council Member Quan voting aye |
| Council Member Edwards voting aye | Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez voting no |
| Council Member Wiseman voting no | Council Member Berry voting no |
| Council Member Ellis voting no | Council Member Robinson voting aye |
| Council Member Keller voting no | ORDINANCE 2002-0460 ADOPTED. |

15-1.ORDINANCE creating the **DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE REINVESTMENT ZONE** for Tax Abatement purposes pursuant to Article IV of Chapter 44 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - was presented and tagged by Council Members Robinson and Keller.

Council Member Edwards moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Burce Edmundson, Vice President of Del Monte, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0628 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Edmundson stated that they would certainly support anything that the workers would want to do as they did in all the locations where they operated, that their officers were located in Miami, Florida, that their main operations were in Costa Rica and Guatemala and they worked very well there with their labor unions down there and labor in general, that they were one of the top employers in both of those countries, that he thought some questions had surfaced before about issues in Guatemala and they did have a strike a couple of years ago that was resolved to the satisfaction of both parties, that they were working very well with the union down there and they provided very good benefits and working conditions to the workers down there, that he thought a lot of the pressure from union members to resign came from the union itself, there was some restructuring of the union, that it was primarily internal pressure in the union and though they had a new contract that started three years ago and they had been working very well with the union since then, that they were modifying all of their contracts to not buy products from plantations that would employ child labor, that for a number of years they had endeavored to work with larger more sophisticated growers and to their knowledge all labor laws that they had in their Code of Ethics were being complied with down there, that they had been one of the leaders in all over Latin American in implementing ISO Standards, that in terms of operations in Latin America they did a very good job as a company, they had a very tight ethical policy that concerned workers, worker safety, environmental standards and the like. Council Members Vasquez and Parker absent.

After further discussion, Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 15 was tagged. Council Members Vasquez and Parker absent.

- 15-1a. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, **DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE, N.A., INC.,** and **TCB #6, L.P.** for certain property located within the **DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE REINVESTMENT ZONE** - was presented, and tagged by Council Members Robinson and Keller.
16. ORDINANCE relating to Health Benefits; approving and authorizing the restatement of the Point-of-Service Health Program contained in the revised plan document, City of Houston Employee Welfare Benefit Plan; approving and authorizing two restated agreements between the City of Houston and **SOUTHWEST TEXAS HMO, INC d/b/a HMO BLUE TEXAS**: (1) for provision of Health Maintenance Organization Services and (2) for administration of the City of Houston Point of Service Health Program and the Retirees' Hospitalization and Medical-Surgical Program; authorizing certain documents to be executed; containing findings and other provisions relating the foregoing subject; providing for severability - was presented

Council Member Robinson stated that he was going to cast a no vote on the item, that they had several meetings on the issue and were told that the City employees opinions had been solicited and all was well that ends well, that he decided to hold a meeting with the City employees and also communicate with them by email and he had a folder of several thousand people who had called or emailed him and worked for the City, and he read a letter from one

concerned City employee, that he or she wrote, that they were urging Council not to raise the co-pay that they should understand that there were a lot of women raising children alone who could not afford the raise in the co-pay, that they did not understand why they were doing that, that was his concern about why they were doing it, that they were going to lower the benefit, increase the co-pay and then say they were going to take the money and give it to the employees as part of the pay raise package and essentially do harm to those employees in the process, that he did not think it made sense to rob Peter to pay Paul, and that was what they were going to do on this and there was no commitment that going forward in the out years, that the civilian employees were going to get any benefit in the out years, that he intended, as part of the budget, to forward an amendment that they index their base pay to inflation. Council Members Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that this was an opportunity for the City to go to HMO Blue, prior to the major re-negotiations and say that they wanted to work with them to decrease their utilization and by doing so they could position themselves in a better place in two years so when they had major negotiations with HMO Blue or a competitive insurance company, then they could say to them that this was what they had done to control costs. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Quan stated that as an employer of over 50 individuals knew of the cost of insurance in the private market, that the program that the City had was a rich program, that he thought that a modification as minor as they were looking at was justified, that he strongly supported it.

Council Member Edwards stated that she had been stopped by City employees telling her that they did not want to pay more money for rotten service, that she thought they needed to develop a way to hear what people were saying and thought one of the things they were looking at in this issue was that employees thought they were not being heard, that she would be voting no on the item.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Haines stated that they were proposing a compensation adjustment for their civilian employees, however this was a significant issue, that it was such a minor modification to the plan that they believed it was worth going forward with it, that if they did not go forward with this there was no question that once this thing came due it was going to be very high, that as to the employee's complaints about the HMO, they had taken many of the concerns, not only expressed at the Council table, but from employees as well to heart and indeed there had been meetings already initiated with HMO Blue and they were going to ask Ms. Aldridge to give them regular updates on the performance side in terms of customer response as it related to the employees, that if they could, perhaps through the Fiscal Affairs Committee, at least on a quarterly basis, come back and give them updated reports on performance, that there was a timing issue on this, that because of the processing, the plan design change, someone would have to go into the documents, the communications to the employees and so on, that the reality was for every month that went by, they were facing that additional cost and what they were hoping for was the passage of this plan design change by Council before the budget, because in order to get it effective in July they had to get it moving, that was their dilemma.

Council Member Tatro stated that he had not worked out the numbers or whether the employees viewed it as a substantial benefit, that he did not hear other than the budget motions and just the laps in time that there was a drop dead timing issue with this and stated that he would tag the item.

After further discussion by Council Members, Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 16 was tagged.

- 16a. RECOMMENDATION from Director Human Resources to establish new participant contributions - was presented, and tagged by Council Members Robinson and Tatro.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 41

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 1 through 6

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON LIBRARY BOARD**:
- Position 2 - **DR. EUGENIO AGUILAR, III**, reappointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004
 - Position 4 - **MR. BARRY HUNSAKER, JR.**, reappointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004
 - Position 6 - **MR. JAMES BASHAW**, appointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004
 - Position 8 - **MS. JUANITA ELIZONDO**, reappointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004
 - Position 10 - **MS. KATHRYN L. E. RABINOW**, reappointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004
 - Position 11 - **MR. FRANKLIN JONES, JR.**, appointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2003
 - Position 12 - **MS. RUTH ANN STIMLEY**, reappointment, for a term to expire March 12, 2004

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0629 ADOPTED.

3. CONFIRMATION of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION**, for terms to expire February 1, 2003:
- Position B - **MR. R. C. JONES**, reappointment
 - Position D - **MS. SHERRY STERLING**, appointment
 - Position E - **MR. PAUL KEVIN DIX**, appointment
 - Position F - **MS. KAREN NORTH**, reappointment
 - Position H - **MS. TERISA TAYLOR**, appointment
 - Position I - **MR. RAMIRO FONSECA**, appointment

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0630 ADOPTED.

4. REQUEST from Mayor for appointment of **MR. ROBERT BARTLETT**, as Chair to the **HOUSTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**, for a term to expire July 26, 2003 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0631 ADOPTED.
5. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **MS. DIANA M. VALVERDE** to Position 21 of the **HOUSTON READ COMMISSION**, for a term to expire January 1, 2005 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0632 ADOPTED.

6. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON READ COMMISSION**, for terms to expire January 1, 2005:
Position 3 - **MS. MARLENE McCLINTON**, reappointment
Position 6 - **MR. STEPHEN THORINGTON**, appointment
Position 12 - **MR. JOSE F. GRINAN**, reappointment

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0633 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY - NUMBERS 8 and 9

8. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for condemnation of Parcel KY1-108, located at 7100 Wright Road, owned by Degussa Construction Chemicals Operations, Inc (formerly known as SKW-MBT Operations, Inc.) a foreign corporation, CT Corporation System, Registered Agent, for the **SPENCER ROAD WATERLINE PROJECT from Brittmoore to Jersey Village Pump Station**, CIP S-0900-71-2 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0634 ADOPTED.
9. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for condemnation of Parcel KY1-111, located at 11811 Charles Road, owned by Albert Dwayne Brush and wife, Diana Brush, for the **SPENCER ROAD WATERLINE PROJECT from Brittmoore to Jersey Village Pump Station**, CIP S-0900-71-2 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0635 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 10 through 14

10. **BLISS COMMUNICATIONS, INC** for 800 MHz UHF Mobile and Portable Radios with Accessories for Department of Aviation - \$53,999.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0636 ADOPTED.
12. **AMEND MOTION #2000-374, 3/8/2000, TO INCREASE** spending authority by \$115,330.00 from \$230,660.00 to \$345,990.00 for Steel Ambulance Stretchers, Stretcher Replacement Parts and Labor for Fire Department, awarded to **SAN ANTONIO EQUIPMENT REPAIR** - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0637 ADOPTED.
13. **IMG CORPORATION** for Chemical Storage Tanks and Sight Gauges for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$41,100.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0638 ADOPTED.
14. **MACAULAY CONTROLS COMPANY** for Two Total Organic Carbon Analyzers Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$38,960.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0639 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 20 through 36

20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an amended and restated agreement with **LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)** to extend the term and provide an additional \$150,000.00 in Home Investment Partnerships Program Funds for Technical Assistance to Community Housing Development Organizations - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0461 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an amended and restated agreement with **LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)** to extend the term and provide an additional \$150,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the provision of Organizational Development Assistance to Community Housing Development Organizations and Community Based Development Organizations - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0462 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and the **JULIA C. HESTER HOUSE, INC** to provide \$500,000.00 in Community Block Grant Funds for Renovations to a facility located at 2020 Solo Street - **DISTRICT H - VASQUEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0463 ADOPTED.
36. ORDINANCE appropriating \$819,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing third amendment to professional services contract between the City of Houston and **POLYTECH, INC d/b/a PTI, INC** for Design of Sludge Facilities Improvements and Expansion at the East Water Purification Plant (EWPP) Complex, CIP S-0056-Y8-2 (10536); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0464 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE appropriating \$236,900.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, \$102,850.00 out of Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund and \$313,500.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional environmental consulting services contract with **MALCOLM PIRNIE, INC**, GFS D-0073-10-2, L-0067-01-2 and S-0019-01-2; providing funding for project management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund and Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund was pulled by the administration and was not considered.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

1. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of appointment or reappointment of the following to **HOUSTON AREA WATER CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
 - Position Two - **MR. BINH HO**, reappointment, for a term to expire August 1, 2003
 - Position Three- **MR. CHARLIE PENLAND**, appointment, to complete an unexpired term ending August 1, 2002
 - Position Six - **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMSON**, appointment, for a term to expire August 1, 2003
 - Position Seven- **MS. YAVA SCOTT**, reappointment, for a term to expire ending August 1, 2003

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0640 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown stated that Ms. Claudia Williamson was present in the Council Chambers and stated that they thanked her for her service to the City.

PROPERTY

7. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Stan Sarman, Turner Collie & Braden, Inc., on behalf of Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, D. D., Bishop-Diocese of Galveston-Houston, for abandonment and sale of a portion of a 20-foot-wide storm sewer easement in exchange for the conveyance to the City of a 20-foot-wide storm sewer easement, both located within Restricted Reserve A, Bear Branch Village Addition, Section 7, Parcels SY2-059 and LY2-037 - **STAFF APPRAISERS - DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0641 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

11. **TRANTEX TRANSPORTATION PRODUCTS OF TEXAS, INC** for Pavement Marking Vehicles for Department of Aviation - \$118,450.00 - Airport System Capital Outlay Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0642 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 15 through 41

15. ORDINANCE authorizing the issuance of City of Houston, Texas, General Obligation Commercial Paper Notes, Series D, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$165,000,000 for the purpose of providing money for certain authorized purposes; approving and authorizing certain authorized officers and employees to act on behalf of the City in the selling and delivery of such Notes, within the limitations and procedures specified herein; making certain covenants and agreements in connection therewith; resolving other matters incident and related to the Issuance, Sale, Delivery and Security of the Notes, including the approval and/or Ratification of an Issuing and Paying Agency Agreement, a Credit Agreement, an Offering Memorandum and a Commercial Paper Dealer Agreement - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0465 ADOPTED.
- 15a. ORDINANCE amending certain prior ordinances relating to the issuance of City of Houston, Texas, General Obligation Commercial Paper Notes, Series A; approving an amended and restated Credit Agreement; making certain covenants and agreements in connection therewith; resolving other matters incident and related to the Issuance, Sale, Delivery and Security of the Notes, including the approval and/or Ratification of an amended and restated Issuing and Paying Agency Agreement, an Offering Memorandum and an amended and restated Commercial Paper Dealer Agreement - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0466 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON DBA M. D. ANDERSON FAMILY YMCA** for Summer Day Camp Programming at Moody Park - \$48,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICT H - VASQUEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0467 ADOPTED.

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **DR. DENNIS W. SMITH** for evaluation of the Mayor's 2001-2002 After-School Achievement Program - \$30,000.00 Housing Special Revenue Fund - was presented.

Council Member Parker stated that she believed this was the fifth year they had used this contract to evaluate their After School Achievement Program, that each year the program got good remarks and a good reviews and they had made modifications to the program in response to some of the previous years evaluations and questioned if they needed to be spending the \$30,000 this year to evaluate the program, that would do a lot of After School Program activities and moved to refer Item No. 18 back to the administration, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0643 ADOPTED.

19. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the City of Houston to submit the 2002 Consolidated Annual Plan to the **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**, including the following 2002-2003 grant applications: 1) 28th Year Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$38,900,000.00 (\$35,900,000.00 Entitlement Grant and \$3,000,000.00 Program Income); 2) Home Investment Partnerships in the amount of \$13,624,000.00 (\$13,124,000.00 Grant and \$500,000.00 Program Income); 3) Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS in the amount of \$4,653,000.00; and 4) Emergency Shelter Grants in the amount of \$1,239,000.00; and to accept the aforementioned grant funds, if awarded – was presented.

Council Member Vasquez stated that they had an amendment that they were distributing at the Council table to Item No. 19 and offered the following amendment:

Amend Item No. 19

“to amend the 2002 Consolidated Annual Plan to designate the funds to be used in the Spring Branch area for a day laborer facility to be used in the Washington Avenue Corridor in the vicinity of Shepherd/Durham”, seconded by Council Member Keller.

Council Member Tatro stated that he appreciated Council Member Vasquez making the amendment, that he planned to tag the main item, that he was in support with Council Member Vasquez amendment and met extensively with TMO and thought that as this time the designation of the money in the Spring Branch area was a little cart before the horse in the efforts for TMO to have a facility in the area, that they had not really decided on the facility and knew that Council Member Vasquez had been working for quite some time to try to find the funds for a day labor site in his area, that he would tag the main item and ask Council Member's support for the amendment.

Mayor Brown stated that the item and amendment were tagged by Council Member Tatro.

After discussion by Council Members, Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to ask the administration if they would look at the option, during the one week delay, to see if there was the possibility of earmarking money for both districts, and Mayor Brown stated that since the matter had been delayed for one week they would take a look at what he was suggesting.

After a further lengthy discussion, Council Member Alvarado stated that she passed out an amendment at the Council table and asked Council Member Vasquez if he would be willing to work with her on it, again instead of naming a specific location it read that “it would be used in the location of highest need that would be determined by Council”, that she would introduce it as a substitute amendment.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Hall stated that Council Member Alvarado could put her substitute amendment on the table if they removed the tag in order to let her do it, and Mayor Brown asked Council Member Tatro if he wanted to release his tag and allow Council Member Alvarado to introduce her amendment and Council Member Tatro stated that he would not release his tag.

After further discussion by Council Members, Mayor Brown stated that the Citizens Assistance Office had been looking at a master plan for day labor camps and there was a draft that was being circulated and they would have some information to help them sort through it during the coming week, that they would make a copy available to all the Council Members, that Item No. 19 and Council Member Vasquez amendment had been tagged.

23. ORDINANCE appropriating \$260,000.00 out of Low Income Housing Fund 872; appropriating \$146,086.00 out of Low Income Housing Fund 162; approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston and **PYRAMID RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY CORPORATION** to provide a grant of \$406,086.00 to pay eligible costs in connection with the construction of 106 Single-Family Affordable Homes - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Edwards. Council Member Robinson absent.
24. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS INSPIRING COMMUNITIES, INC** for Education and Training Services \$300,000.00 CDBG Funds - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Alvarado.
25. ORDINANCE authorizing payment to the **UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** of an Arbitrage Rebate not to exceed \$116,601.17 relating to the City's Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 1992C - General Debt Service Administration Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0468 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE authorizing payment to the **UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** of an Arbitrage Rebate not to exceed \$26,794.29 relating to the City's Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 1995A - General Debt Service Administration Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0469 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE authorizing payment to the **UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** of an Arbitrage Rebate not to exceed \$206,727.16 relating to the City's Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1994B - General Debt Service Administration Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0470 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE authorizing payments to the **UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** of Arbitrage Rebates not to exceed \$60,790.49 relating to the City's Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 1997A and Tax and Revenue Certificate of Obligation, Series 1997B - General Debt Service Administration Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0471 ADOPTED.
29. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to professional engineering services contract between the City and **A & S ENGINEERS, INC** for Lake Houston Unserved Areas approved by Ordinance No. 98-1075, CIP R-0801-05-2 (4745) - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0472 ADOPTED.

30. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **HAHN EQUIPMENT CO., INC** for Submersible Pump Repair Services for the Public Works & Engineering Department; providing a maximum contract amount 3 Years with two one-year options - \$1,201,045.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0473 ADOPTED.
31. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **COASTAL PUMP SERVICES, INC** for Submersible Pump Repair Services for the Public Works & Engineering Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$1,369,493.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0474 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE appropriating \$462,000.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for Professional Environmental Consulting Services contract with **ROY F. WESTON, INC** (approved by Ordinance No. 99-557), GFS D-0073-09-2; providing funding for project management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0475 ADOPTED.
33. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,436,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional services contract between the City of Houston and **ROY F. WESTON, INC** for the Design of the 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, CIP R-0509-07-2 (WW4842); providing funding for the Civic Art Program and contingencies relating to the construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented.

Council Member Keller stated that he was in support of the item and the project was of a great interest to him and would like a meeting with who would be the superintendent or project manager on behalf of Weston and the City to discuss it in detail, and Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that she would also like to request further information on the 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plan, and Mayor Brown stated that they would have somebody meet with them.

A vote was called on Item No. 33. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0476 ADOPTED.

34. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,723,470.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Professional Construction Management and Inspection Services contract between the City of Houston and **LOCKWOOD, ANDREWS & NEWNAM, INC** for Paving and Street Reconstruction, CIP N0369-02-3 (SB9055); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS E - WISEMAN; G - KELLER and I - ALVARADO** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0477 ADOPTED.
35. ORDINANCE approving authorizing amendment No. 1 to the construction contract between the City of Houston and **MORGANTI GROUP, INC** for the Central Concourse at William P. Hobby Airport; Project 417D; CIP A-0131, A-0141, A-0222 and A-0372 - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Keller.

37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$8,031,900.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP, LP** for Upper Brays, Almeda Sims and WCID No. 111 Wastewater Treatment Plants Improvements; GFS R-0265-20-3 (WW4759-03); providing funding for engineering testing and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS D - EDWARDS; F - ELLIS and G - KELLER** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0478 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE appropriating \$767,500.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **R J CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC** for Westhollow Lift Station Replacement, GFS R-0267-A7-3 (WW4728-7); providing funding for engineering testing, and contingencies relating to the construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT G - KELLER** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0479 ADOPTED.
40. ORDINANCE appropriating \$503,185.17 out of Storm Sewer Consolidated Construction Fund and \$5,493,123.96 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund for Management of various Storm Sewer, Street and Bridge Projects - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Goldberg.
41. ORDINANCE No. 2002-0458 passed first reading May 29, 2002
ORDINANCE consenting to the transfer to **SHAW COMMUNICATIONS, INC** of control of the Cable Television Franchise currently held by Kingwood Cablevision, Inc, granted pursuant to City of Houston Ordinance No. 98-15 and prescribing certain supplemental conditions to such assignment - **SECOND READING** – was presented. Council Members Wiseman, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Goldberg and Edwards voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2002-0458 PASSED SECOND READNG.

Council Member Quan moved to suspend the rules to hear from an executive of Shaw Communications, Inc., seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0644 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Ken Stein appeared and stated that he was Senior Vice President for Corporate Regulatory Affairs for Shaw Communications and with him was Mr. Dennis Malloy, Assistant Manager, Kingwood Cablevision, that Shaw was Canada's largest cable and satellite provider and serviced about 2.8 million cable and satellite providers, that their revenues this year would be about \$2 billion, that they acquired systems in the United States as the result of an acquisition of Moffett Communications and those systems were in Florida and in Texas, that they received transfer approval for all of them with the exception of Kingwood where they agreed with the staff of the City that they would negotiate a new franchise agreement, that the importance of the new agreement to them was that they would recognize the importance of the Kingwood system, which was a very advanced system and they wanted to be able to continue to do that, that it had for example one of the highest Internet penetrations of any system in North America at about 30%, that Shaw Communications was a company that was totally committed to leading the technology development and a company that was totally dedicated to customer service, that was their reputation in Canada and in the other systems that they served, that what the new agreement did was in fact set out in very clear terms what their responsibilities were as a provider in that area, that they thought it was a very good agreement and they worked very closely with the City staff to insure that it was an excellent agreement and that it would insure to the people of that area continuing services that they had come to expect and to continue to lead in the development of new services, that what they were doing was negotiating a new franchise agreement and what would happen, when they agreed to it, the City

and Shaw Communications, the franchise agreement would last until 2017, the current franchise, he thought, would expire in 2007; that the system was one that was advanced now and in the franchise agreement it laid out very clearly that they were to maintain a state of the art system and there were provisions within the agreement for public hearings if there were any questions that the commitment was not being met and there were severe penalties in the agreement, and federal law, for not complying with the terms of a franchise agreement, so they thought for the citizens of Kingwood that this was an excellent agreement, that he was not totally at liberty to discuss any questions about Time Warner wanting to buy them out, that there were a number of people who were interested in the system and Time Warner was one of them but there were no final decisions about how that would proceed, that yes, if Council did nothing they would get control of the Kingwood system under the existing franchise agreement, that the current agreement was not as up to date as the one the Council had before them right now, that if Council passed the agreement and if they wanted to sell the franchise agreement they would be selling it under the terms of the new franchise agreement, which was before City Council today. Council Member Parker absent.

Council Member Robinson moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Ernest Davis, F&A Department, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Parker absent. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0645 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Robinson, Mr. Davis stated that the proposed document for Shaw Communication was a document that reflected some of the latest franchise provisions that were available, that if Council did not pass the proposed agreement then Shaw would own Kingwood Cablevision under the existing franchise agreement, if they wanted to transfer it under the existing franchise agreement they would have to come back to Council for permission, that they could have elected to transfer in the 120 days, but that would not reflect what they had determined as the best technology or the best services for the City, that anybody could have triggered the 120 days, not negotiated and gotten the franchise agreement, but they negotiated and got something more than the base agreement that was out there now. Council Member Parker absent.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any financial advantage to the City for approving this agreement in contrast to letting the 120 day period pass, that there were \$400,000 that they had negotiated for it, the INET and PEG type services, if they did not approve it they would lose \$400,000. Council Member Parker absent.

Council Member Weisman stated that this had to pass because they would lose that \$400,000 and because they would lose the upgrades that they received, that was not her problem, her problem was that it had been longer than 120 days, that Shaw brought it to the City in March 2001 and they were just now being put in a position to address it, that she was not informed about this when she took office and it had been an issue that she had brought up time and again with respect to the administration's handling of the transfer of power from term limited Council Members to incoming new Council Members, they were not given information, that as the representative of Kingwood she had no other choice but to allow it to go through, that she was voting no on principle. Council Members Alvarado and Parker absent.

Council Member Berry requested that his no vote be withdrawn from Item No. 41.

Mayor Brown stated that Council Member Berry voted yes, that Item No. 41 passed on second reading.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 42 through 48

42. MOTION by Council Member Galloway/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Chief of Police for approval for Refund of Cash Draw of \$472,341.00 in federal grant funds, plus accumulated interest of \$21,000.00 pertaining to the Distance Learning Project funded under the COPS More '98 Grant to the **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - (This was Item 4 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SEKULA-RODRIGUEZ)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Alvarado absent. MOTION 2002-0646 ADOPTED.
43. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,449,546.00 out of Houston Airport System Consolidated 2001AMT Construction Fund and approving and authorizing amendment No. 1 to the construction contract between the City of Houston and **MANHATTAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** for Utility Tunnel to Terminal E, FIS Foundations and Excavation and Site Utilities at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston, Project No. 500J, CIP A-0203 - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY - (This was Item 7 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER EDWARDS)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0480 ADOPTED.
- 43a. MOTION by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez/Seconded by Council Member Tatro to adopt recommendation from Director Department of Aviation for approval of Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$2,449,546.00 on contract with **MANHATTAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** for Utility Tunnel to Terminal E, FIS Foundations and Excavation and Site Utilities at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston, Project No. 500J, CIP A-0203 - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY - (This was Item 7a on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER EDWARDS)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0647 ADOPTED.
45. ORDINANCE appropriating \$279,850.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund and \$33,270.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing an interlocal agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY** for Reconstruction of Aldine-Westfield Road from 1000 feet south of Beltway 8 to Simmans Road, CIP N-NA-0002-2 (SB9072) - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY - (This was Item 30 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ELLIS)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0481 ADOPTED.
46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$204,715.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund and \$282,485.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing an interlocal agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY** for Reconstruction of Brittmoore Road from Clay Road to approximately 1,150 feet south of Tanner Road, CIP N-NA-0003-2 and S-0521-E7 (SB9073); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund and Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT A - TATRO- (This was Item 31 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ELLIS)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0482 ADOPTED.
47. RECEIVE nominations for Positions A, C and G of the **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION**, for terms to expire February 1, 2003 - (This was a portion of Item 41 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2002-612) - was presented.

Council Member Tatro stated that he wanted to nominate Ms. Jessica Pugil for Position A and moved approval of the nomination, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Berry absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to nominate Ms. Ruth R. Hurst for Position C and moved approval of the nomination, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Members Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he wanted to nominate Mr. Harry J. Phillips, Jr. for Position G and moved approval of the nomination, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller moved to close nominations, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0649 ADOPTED.

48. RECEIVE nominations for Position 18 of the **HOUSTON READ COMMISSION**, for terms to expire January 1, 2005 - **(This was a portion of Item 41 on Agenda of May 29, 2002, NOMINATIONS REMAIN OPEN FOR ONE WEEK, MOTION #2002-613)** – was presented.

Council Member Quan moved to close nominations, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Galloway and Berry absent. MOTION 2002-0650 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Robinson asked if they were going to do anything relative to Tropical Storm Allison's first anniversary and if they were that it be shared with him. Council Members Galloway and Berry absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that today they were in Austin at the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission on the Clean Air issue and there was discussion about lowering the cap on industrial plants and a recommendation to change the speed limit back to 70 miles per hour for cars and light trucks and to maintain the 55 miles per hour on the heavy trucks, 10,000 lbs or heavier, that he would hope that they would expedite the process of moving forward with other communities in the area, their No Trucks in the Left Hand Land Program, because if they were going to go to a dual speed limit system they ought to increase their efforts to segregate cars from trucks. Council Members Galloway and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to thank her staff and Mr. Cantu's staff for the service and support that was given this weekend with the collapse of the apartment wall, that they were able to take care of 16 families in a 24 hour period, to get them placed, that it was only because Mr. Robert DeYoung, Ms. Wanda Robinson, her staff and Mr. Cantu and also thanks to Storage USA for providing a month's free storage for those families until they could get everything squared away. Council Members Galloway and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that as to SimDesk it bothered her when they continued to tell people they had to wait, that when they tell their children to consistently wait, but at the same time to be all that they could be she thought it was a disingenuous position to put their children into, that she understood the magnitude of the budget crisis they were in but in order for people to succeed they had to provide them apparatus and the tools with which to do that, that in her district they had Madison High School students who were not able to utilize computers at their school and were using them at Johnson Library and when the library closed they were shut out completely, so how were these

children supposed to compete, that the cost was not just dollars, the cost was also people, they had a serious issue with children in the City. Council Members Galloway and Berry absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to congratulate Council Member Ellis for his selection to the Five Outstanding Young Houstonians which was awarded by the Houston Jaycee's. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he also wanted to congratulate Council Member Ellis for the Young Outstanding Houstonian Award. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller stated that one of his constituents reported on Monday that a light was out at Memorial and Gessner and 311 did take the call and told the constituent to call 803-3000 and the constituent called at 5:45 p.m. and did not get the name but was told that they were told to let them flash the lights at that intersection, that there was no money for the controller that was out and no money for overtime, that may be true, but they should not tell their constituents that, Mayor Brown stated that they would try to find out who the person was because that was not acceptable. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller stated that yesterday at Fiscal Affairs he wanted to applaud Mayor Brown and the administration for taking such swift action on a request that was made a couple of weeks ago to do a newspaper ad every week with the property tax violators. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he would like to congratulate Council Member Ellis and also would like to congratulate the other four people, Reverend Joel Olsteen, Lakewood Church, Mr. Eugene Lee, Lynnbeck Construction, Ms. Mary Vitech, Girl Scouts and Ms. Sofie Androge, Girls Inc. for their recognition. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that as mentioned by Council Member Robinson, this weekend would mark the one year anniversary of Tropical Storm Allison, that several churches were planning events this weekend to commemorate the 22 individuals who lost their lives and the valor shown by so many during the catastrophe that Allison was, so he hoped that Houstonians take a moment this week and pause and be grateful for the blessings they had, the lessons they learned and the sacrifices by so many in the area. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to commend Council Member Edwards for her outstanding effort regarding the apartment episode, that he saw it on the news and was very proud that she was their with the people. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that to all Houstonians who followed this, the World Cup was going on and the United States won their first round against Portugal, 1-0. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that she received a letter from Mr. Frank Morales who shared with her some of the problems he had experienced at the Health Department, that he was a volunteer in Health Education and watched the steady decline of services in the Health Department. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker stated that she wanted to thank her colleagues for their cooperation during the Budget Workshop process, that they just finished Phase I and appreciated the cooperation of the department directors, that they were going into Phase II tomorrow morning in a process similar to the one they had each year, that Council Members were asked to bring their amendments forward so that the budget impact could be figured out, that anything that was in her office by noon the

administration was committed to do an analysis of it to see if there was any budget impact and whether they could support it, that they would accept amendments tomorrow morning at the committee meeting and anything that passes committee that the administration supports would be incorporated into the budget which would be posted on Friday and they would be voting on them on Wednesday, that if it passed committee, and the administration, for whatever reason chooses not to support them, those amendments would appear on the agenda so they could vote on them individually, they would not have to be inserted from the floor, that of course last minute amendments would also be acceptable. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Parker for her leadership, that she had put a lot of time and effort into the budget hearings and they sincerely appreciated that. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that last week two Latino women were killed in the Magnolia Park area and there may be some relation to a previous homicide that happened in January, another young Latina, that there was concern in the community that young Latina women were being sought after by that individual, that she knew that HPD was doing everything they could and the investigation was going on and she would like to ask that maybe they have more visibility in that immediate area where the crime occurred and whatever HPD could do to speed up the process. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he knew the Police Chief was aware of it, that he briefed him on it and they were doing everything they possibly could and would make sure they continued to do so. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she also wanted to congratulate Council Member Ellis on the Young Outstanding Houstonian Award.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she was getting a lot of emails both at the office and home, that she would appreciate it and Mayor Brown stated that he would have Mr. Piper look at it and see what they could do to address that issue.

Council Member Parker stated that she and Council Member Edwards would certainly like to offer their services if they could help pull the community together and asked if Council Member Alvarado had anything planned, any meetings, and Council Member Alvarado stated that she welcomed their support, that they would continue to work with HPD and community groups and would advise them of the upcoming meetings. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Ellis stated that he wanted to compliment Council Member Parker on running a smooth Budget Workshop. Council Members Galloway, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that as to SimDesk, he attended Johnston where they did have computers and graduated from Madison, where they did not have computers, and yet their class was full of attorneys, accountants and doctors and they were not held back and he did not think that was the problem, that their libraries were full of computers and there was access and if students wanted to find a way they can, that he did think they needed to provide more access just to encourage people, that the other problem he had with SimDesk was the way they were going to pay for it. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Berry, Parker and Robinson absent.

Council Member Weisman stated that she had been having difficulty obtaining information from the Information Technology Department, that they were told that the \$1.6 million in savings that they would realized was imbedded in the budget, well they were having to look at the budget, study it, make some amendments, vote and approve a budget, yet they were not being given the information, that it

was her hope that since they had now passed SimDesk and were now cutting edge with respect to technology that they could easily extract the embedded information, that she thought as Council Members having to vote on the budget they should have the right to look at that information, so she was asking again that the \$1.6 million that was embedded in the budget be extracted for their review, that she had also asked for information regarding user profiles, the people who had opened accounts with SimDesk at the library and was told in the workshop that it was difficult to obtain information with respect to the number of minors that had opened accounts, yet it was interesting to have Mr. Davis present at Council and spew off a list of numbers, that for instance, he indicated that there were 120,000 reports that had been produced out of the service along with other breakdown of documents and if it was possible to provide that information why was it not possible to provide information on the number of minors that had opened accounts, that it also raised another question of privacy, that she had some concerns with respect to the users privacy and would really like those questions to be addressed and Mayor Brown stated he would have someone meet with her to answer her questions. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Weisman stated that she wanted to thank Mayor Brown for allowing her to implement her summer student page program for District D, that the children were very excited and it was a wonderful opportunity for them to feel like they were taking part in the government process and that aspect of the program would not have been possible without the Mayor's help, and also Mr. DeYoung, Mr. Spellman and Ms. Stein were helpful in working it out, and Mayor Brown stated that he thought it was a good idea. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 11:38 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary