

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, April 29, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 2003, 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-Gibbs, M.D., Michael Berry, Carroll Robinson; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Assistant City Attorney, Legal Department; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 2:04 p.m. Mayor Brown stated that Council would begin their presentations. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Quan stated that it was Asian Heritage Month and invited those with the Asian Pacific American Heritage Association to the podium and presented them a Proclamation in the celebration of accomplishments and contributions of all Asian Pacific Americans, extended them best wishes for a successful and rewarding festival and proclaiming the month of May 2003 as "Asian Pacific American Heritage Month" in Houston, Texas. The spokesperson thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition and presented a limited edition calendar of events. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker invited Mr. Henry Inabnett of SWACHA to the podium and presented him a Proclamation proclaiming "Direct Deposit and Direct Payment Month" which was critical for senior citizens. Mr. Inabnett stated that on behalf of SWACHA he thanked the Mayor and Council; that direct deposit and direct payment provided increased security, control and convenience and over 115,000,000 people who used it. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Keller, Vasquez, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that in commemoration of the beginning of Cinco de Mayo festivities she was pleased to present Ms. Gabriela Villegas and Mensajeros de Amor (Messengers of Love). Ms. Villegas stated that culture was expressed through art and Cinco de Mayo was celebrated as the commander of the battle was a Texan; and Mensajeros de Amor entertained Council with three songs. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that Houston was recipient of an award at the National Conference of Black Mayors and she was honored to accept it for the Mayor and presented it to him along with a check for \$5,000. Mayor Brown thanked Council Member Galloway. Council Member Vasquez absent.

At 2:22 p.m. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order and stated that Council Member Berry would lead everyone in prayer.

Council Member Berry stated that he was honored to have Monsignor Frank Rossi present who served with the Galveston Houston Area Diocese and called on him to lead everyone in prayer. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Berry led in the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Vasquez absent.

At 2:25 p.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Members Keller and Robinson moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent.. MOTION ADOPTED.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to recognize a group of students with the

Houston Community Southeast College Campus who were present today as a part of their final exam; that she wished them well on the exam and asked them to stand to be recognized; and Mayor Brown welcomed the group.

Mayor Brown stated that the City Secretary would begin to call the speakers.

Council Member Tatro moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of hearing Ms. Brenda Flores as the first speaker, seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Ellis, Vasquez, Parker and Berry absent. MOTION 2003-0408 ADOPTED.

Ms. Brenda Flores, 2014 Marnel, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-722-9258) appeared and stated that she was apologizing to the Mayor; that last month she accused him of creating eight layers of bureaucracy and he said he had not so she took him up on the challenge and found he was correct; that in the three departments she researched in Public Works and Engineering alone he created 27, 30 plus engineers were given blanket promotion to chief engineer and they had no duties because according to the bylaws of their jobs they needed five engineers under them and one major project a year and those 30 plus were not doing it and they also had a new chief of staff; that he created the BS Department, officially Building Services, and put a director there with four deputy directors and they all had assistant deputy directors; that there were also two city engineers because of the BS Department and in the Charter and ordinances concerning the city engineer she saw no provision for a second one; and at the Library Barbara Gubbin had one assistant when he became Mayor and now she had ten and she believed that was 70 plus layers of bureaucracy and she still had not finished with city departments; that every year since he had been in office there were pot holes and talk of closing health clinics; and urged that he cut the bureaucracy and leave the average worker alone and he would save money. Council Members Ellis, Vasquez and Berry absent.

Ms. Ramona Davis, 712 Main #110, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-216-5000) appeared and stated that she was the executive director of the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance and present to speak on behalf of the J. P. Morgan Chase Bank building at 712 Main Street, it was completed in 1929 and a Jesse Jones Building; that it was Item 11 on Council's Agenda as a historic landmark and encouraged that they follow-through and designate it a local landmark. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent.

Ms. Shelley Ryan, 410 Peace, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-868-2900) appeared and stated that she was present supporting Item 23 on Council's Agenda, she was founder and CEO of Birdnest Software and a client company of Houston Technology Center, they had high ambitions of creating 200 jobs in the Houston area; and she was asking Council to think and act creatively to promote such businesses and approval of Item 23 would be a strong demonstration to that. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker and Berry absent.

Mr. Joseph Trahan, 410 Pierce, Houston, Texas 77002 (281-464-5050) appeared and stated that he was president of Distributed Network Services and the Houston Technology Center service provider network had meant all the difference to them; and he was asking support for Agenda Item 23. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado, and Parker absent.

Mr. Lloyd Bentsen, 2145 Troon Road, Houston, Texas 77019 (713-627-9111) appeared and stated that he was chairman of the board of the Houston Technology Center and was present to speak in favor of Agenda Item 23; that in 1999 the partnership between the City of Houston, the Department of Commerce and the Houston business community was formed to capitalize on the enormous economic development potential of greater Houston's vast technology resources and the result was the Houston Technology Center; that they had a commitment to provide workforce training and improve employment opportunities and could not continue without approval of Item 23. Council Members Tatro, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Berry, Mr. Bentsen stated that the funds would provide operation for the next two years; that they raised as much as they could from the community and that plus the grant would provide what was needed. Council Members Tatro, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, and Robinson absent.

Mr. Carl McCutcheon, 5390 Tilbury Dr., Houston, Texas 77056 (713-443-3884) appeared and stated that he was president of Adextech and the Houston Technology Center had been very instrumental in helping him grow two businesses in Houston; and strongly urged Council to support Item 23. Council Members Tatro, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, and Robinson absent.

Mr. Gilbert Moreno, 6001 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas 77023 (713-926-4756) appeared and stated that he was president of AAMA, the Association for Advancement of Mexican Americans, and the Houston Technology Center first worked with them in 2000 to do a program for youth offering advanced technology computing which would allow them to get excellent jobs; and urged support of Agenda Item 23. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Gibbs, Mr. Moreno stated that there had been over 200 students through the program learning intricacies of computers and advanced network management. Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she felt all should support his efforts and those of the Houston Technology Center. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Parker, absent.

Mr. Lee Zieben, 3131 Cummins #7, Houston, Texas 77027 (713-443-1134) appeared and stated that he was cofounder and CEO of Voyagen, a local software company, and the Houston Technology Center had been very instrumental; and urged support of Agenda Item 23. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado and Parker absent.

Council Member Galloway moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of hearing Dr. Robert Gilmore after Mr. Beary Broadnax, seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Alvarado absent. MOTION 2003-0409 ADOPTED.

Mr. Geary Broadnax, 849 Sprucewood Lane, Houston, Texas 77024 (713-273-6886) appeared and stated that he was present regarding the Houston Technology Center, they were essential in diversification in the city; that he was a small businessman hoping to grow larger with their help, they provided a venue not available anywhere else; and urged support of Agenda Item 23. Council Members Vasquez and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she was not aware he was a part of the team of the Houston Technology Center, in her history with him she thought he epitomized the spirit of entrepreneurship and an excellent role model. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he needed information from the Administration and needed someone to visit with him; that he would probably be tagging the item tomorrow and did not want anyone to be surprised. Mayor Brown stated that someone would visit with him. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Dr. Robert Gilmore, 3232 Windbern, Houston, Texas 77004 (281-546-8168) appeared and stated that he also supported the technology efforts as it was needed, but was primarily present to introduce a new project being started citywide and it was a community drop-out prevention program and they needed the Mayor's help and support and his Administration's support and would like their help in kicking it off for the Summer. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that she applauded him for reaching out to the community for such a worthy cause and certainly had her support. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she would like him to contact her office on their meeting times and would like to work with him on how to manage it with HISD. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he would always be willing to help with that project. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Mr./Coach R. J. Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Ms. Anna Martin, 3114 Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas 77051 (713-733-4833) appeared and stated that she brought pictures to show Council of a home next door which had weeds as tall as the roof and she could not understand why they could not cut it at least four times a year; that boards were missing and the back door was off, it was a disgrace, dangerous and brought property values down; and urged that if the owners could not take better care then maybe have it demolished.

Mayor Brown stated that Robert DeYoung was present and he would work with her until it was done.

Council Member Edwards stated that in talking with Ms. Martin earlier one thing brought to mind was her conversation with Drug Enforcement and how the vacant exacerbated the whole drug enforcement process; and encouraged that if property owners were holding whole communities hostage they needed to look at how it worked and how to get integrity back to them.

Council Member Quan moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of hearing Mr. DeLoyd Parker at this time, seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0410 ADOPTED.

Mr. DeLoyd Parker, 3201 Elgin, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-651-0003) appeared and stated that he worked a long time with Ms. Campbell who lived on Gillespie and Robin Street and on Good Friday he had a bad experience, across the street from her they were building affordable housing and the street in front of her was totally dug up with no way to get in or out; that she was given no prior notice and when he talked to the city inspector and police officer they said they did not need to give her any prior notice and that was not the issue, the issue was she was given no notice; that a subcontractor cursed her and threatened him; that a police officer asked if he lived there; and he encouraged the Mayor and Council to look into it immediately. Council Member Tatro absent.

Mayor Brown stated that they would take a look at it, there should be some procedure in place and if there was not they would make sure prior notification was given; that he agreed they did not want to disturb Ms. Campbell she was a longtime activist. Council Member Tatro absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that there had been some of the same problems in his district where people were given little or no notice when streets were closed off or water cut off and he thought there did need to be notice and would like to know what it was; that if there was no policy there needed to be one so people could be given as much notice as possible. Council Member Tatro absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he felt they addressed this three years ago and notice was to be given and if they had not been doing it they needed to do something about it. Council Member Tatro absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he was just informed there was a policy to do so and he would find out who had been derelict in their responsibilities. Council Member Tatro absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Edwards, Mr. Parker stated that the contractor was Backhoe Construction. Council Member Edwards stated that as a contractor he was representing the city and that was not something she wanted going on in her district. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro and Goldberg absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Ramon Rodriguez, 6919 Thrush, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-640-2748) appeared and stated that he appreciated Council hearing him and his classmates from HCC and today he wanted to discuss museum prices; that he was going to speak specifically about the Museum of Science, they had many great exhibitions but in his opinion it was too expensive, for him to see all attractions it would cost \$60.50 for one afternoon and that was ridiculous; and urged that the city make it more affordable by asking for assistance from the state or federal government. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway and Goldberg absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Parker stated that virtually all museums in the city had memberships and for a fairly moderate fee you could attend as much as you wanted all year long, there were also three museum days when it was free. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway and Goldberg absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Ms. Maria Rodriguez, 6919 Thrush, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-640-2748) appeared and stated that she was present to discuss flooding in her neighborhood; that flood zones were determined by the Flood Plain Management Office and her concern was that her property was in the flood zone and she had always had to have flood insurance as her mortgage imposed the fee, but her home has never flooded during her 27 years and she would appreciate it if the zone was reconsidered and her neighborhood was taken out. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway and Goldberg absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the flood control maps were being redone at this time and they expected them released this summer, but in general the flood zone had increased, they were sympathetic but did want to be sure people had their property protected. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Juan Garza, 107 Canton, Houston, Texas 77012 (832-434-6887) appeared and stated that he lived in District I and was sure Council Member Alvarado was aware of their street repair problems; that he resided in the Magnolia/Pineview area and their streets were in terrible condition; that Houston Country Club Place was in the process of new streets and sidewalks and Idlewood Place had new streets and sidewalks; that those two areas were within walking distance to his parents home where they had lived for 45 years and since he could remember the streets were always in sad condition; and asked that Pineview receive the same consideration as its neighbors. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she knew exactly where he was referring to and she had been working with the Greater Magnolia Pineview Civic Club Association to get streets resurfaced. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he had lived in that neighborhood as well and suggested that Mr. Garza attend CIP meetings to get his area on as a project in the future. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Vinh Nguyen, 8250 Park Place #614, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-644-0813) appeared and stated that his concern was with the number of crimes in the area, for example gangsters, robberies, etc., it had been there for years with no solution and he was asking what could be done to help them. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she was familiar with his area and there was a very active civic association and substation in his community and she would be happy to have a staff member speak with him and get the location he referred to; that between all of them they should be able to address the high crime areas he spoke of. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that they had an anti gang task force and he should speak with Chief Simmons who was in the Chamber at this time and they would see what could be done to direct police resources to address those concerns. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards and Parker absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Ms. Mol Pen, 2607 Lidstone, Houston, Texas 77023 (713-926-4655) appeared and stated that her concern was the safety of those in her area; that when she was younger she lived near the Post Oak area and walked on safe beautiful sidewalks, but now she lived in the south central part of the city and had never seen sidewalk maintenance and on both sides of the street they were cracked and not able to be used so everyone walked in the streets, sometimes the children would roller blade in the streets and she would like to know what could be done to get them repaired for everyone's safety. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Robert Fiederlein with the Public Works and Engineering Department was present and he would get information from her and then follow through. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Edwards, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Juan Ramirez, 2800 Jeanette, Houston, Texas 77063 (713-977-8405) appeared and stated that he brought pictures for Council to view and was a student at Houston Community College, Southeast Campus; that they were doing a lot of remodeling at the school and he was present regarding the 6800 block of Rustic which contained many potholes and hoped they could do something to help. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that there was a 311 citizens call line to report problems and now had a pothole repair line where they were to be repaired in 48 hours and if it was not taken care of he could call Council Member Alvarado or him. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Ms. Janie Enriquez, 6403 Hollow Oaks, Houston, Texas 77050 (281-987-9734) appeared and stated that her concern was the increase on the fee for drivers license; that often there were too many people there working as several did nothing but stand around and if they cut down on employees maybe they would not need to raise the fee. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Alvarado, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated though they were sympathetic that was not the city's jurisdiction; it was the Texas Department of Public Safety. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Alvarado, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Shouming Kong, 7214 Staffordshire, Houston, Texas 77030 (713-436-2042) appeared and stated that his concern was the SARS outbreak and response network; that Houston was

the fourth largest city in America and public health was a major concern; that SARS was impacting the world, it was a respiratory illness with a high death rate and severely contagious; that there were three reported local cases and it would be a disaster to spread in Houston; that he was appealing to Council to setup an outbreak alert and response network. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that SARS was indeed a very serious crisis around the world, however, she would like to make one correction, the cases of SARS to be known in the Houston/Harris County area were reversed, the case definition was changed and this area has had no SARS reported. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Keller, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Ms. Julie Caballero, 6810 Myrtle, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-926-1396) appeared and stated that she wanted to address the need for neighborhood clinics and if they could not get more then a better system than what they have now; that there were over 200,000 constituents in the Southeast Houston district, Council Member Alvarado's district, and there were three health clinics, multi-service centers, and broken down it was about 90 people a day seen and the wait time was approximately six hours, if you went in at 8:00 a.m. you came out at 2:00 p.m. and that kept a lot of working people from going as it took all day and they could not miss work; that some had Medicaid, etc., but since doctors were so full they would not see them; and she was urging more clinics or a better process with more equipment and more staffing. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she would urge Ms. Caballero to contact her office and work with them on doing what she suggested; that she would also suggest she contact a website, gatewaytocare.org and she would see one initiative was to bring federally qualified health centers to Houston/Harris County as they only had one and working together would help to correct that. Ms. Caballero stated that she would love to help; that Houston had 1.9 million in population and only had nine multi-service centers that actually serviced people for medical care. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Traci Boyd, 5514 Griggs Road, Houston 77021 (832-372-8991) appeared and stated that she was present regarding increasing voter turn out and suggested that they make it more convenient; that generally people were lazy and looked for things convenient and entertaining and holding a festival, concert, etc., at a major voting location she thought would work to their advantage. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that she thought mobile voting would help and also increasing voting days or using grocery stores; and suggested they speak later. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Robinson stated that if young people who were registered would come out and vote it would help and they were still trying to figure out what would do that and she could help them out. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Keller stated that he believed the magic bullet would be to have candidates in every race sign a commitment to not personally attack or negatively speak about their opponents. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Eshombria Ross, 9406 Redford #45, Houston, Texas 77075 (713-910-8280) appeared and stated that her issue was the rising locations of liquor stores, you could see as many as eight on a block and they caused a lot of depression and crime; that she would rather have more activities put out for children to do because she saw many just hanging around such places; that more recreation centers or churches keeping their doors open could assist them with sports and recreational activities and she would not mind helping. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that the community needed to really be on top of their deed restrictions and so fourth to keep out liquor stores and she would like her to give her locations of them so they could be checked out. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller stated that the Mayor had arranged for Mr. Roberto Medina with the Mayor's Citizen Assistance to be present and he could speak with her at this time. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Belva Ortega, 3622 Lazywood Lane, Houston, Texas 77023 (281-748-1000) appeared and stated that she was present to address the proposal of House Bill 2465; that she realized it was not city level but her concern was that if money was being taken away from the school district to place in vouchers allowing students to go to private schools it could instead go into the under performing schools which needed the money; that she volunteered with Junior Achievement for several years and put three children through public schools and they were good schools and needed money; that some teachers had to put their own money in to get children essential needs and she would like to express a desire for a partnership between the City of Houston and the Houston School District where there would be a pilot program for school supplies allowing children to get vouchers for them. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that was an issue she was personally following in the legislature; that it was not a direct city matter, but it was their responsibility as leaders to be concerned and have the general welfare of the public in mind as they governed; and urged Ms. Ortega to contact her legislators and let them know of her concerns and opposition. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that she was intrigued with her idea of vouchers for school supplies; and upon questions, Ms. Ortega stated that she did not have her ideas in formal presentation but would be happy to express her general ideas; that when parents filled out papers for the free lunch program that information could be drawn off of to see if they qualified for school supplies and it could just be a basic like the free lunch; that would take the burden off the teachers and insure that the children had the essentials needed to start school and the parents would not be worried about how their children would start school when they still had to get their clothes. Council Member Edwards stated that if she could tighten up on her idea she felt it was something many state legislatures would like to hear of, it was a good idea and sounded like it could be doable and meaningful. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Ms. Sarah Murphy, 5526 Lakefield Drive, Houston, Texas 77033 (713-733-0276) appeared and stated that she was present requesting speed humps in her area; that drivers should consider the impact they had on streets and the people who lived there but unfortunately that was not happening and she would like to know how to get speed humps so everyone could be

safer. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Council Member Edwards stated that she was in District E but the process was the same and she needed to get a petition signed; that she used to be in her district but it was reconfigured. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Council Member Wiseman stated that she was her Council Member and there was a process in place for the speed hump program and one of her staff members was coming down now with a packet explaining the qualifications, etc. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding.

Mr. Jose A. Martinez, Jr. 6634 Avenue I, Houston, Texas 77011 (713-926-4699) appeared and stated that his topic was on speeders driving down streets drinking and he would like to know how to get more patrol, particularly between Harrisburg and Avenue V and 65th Street and Macario Garcia in the housing areas; that it was especially bad on Friday and Saturday evenings and children were at play; that he would like more police units or bicycle patrol; that there had been one fatality on his block and several hit and runs where parked vehicles were hit. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that there were officers present who would be willing to take his information and aside from that she thought an education campaign should be addressed in schools, etc., regarding dangers of hit and run and DWIs. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller stated that the Mayor arranged for Assistant Chief Simmons to speak with him. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Brooks Conlan, 14222 Kimberley Lane #432, Houston, Texas 77029 (281-679-1110) appeared and stated that he was present to speak on street construction, he felt far too much was going on at one time; that hundreds of projects were going on at once and many were left untouched for weeks; that they were facing budget shortfalls and considering cutting priorities such as safety through the Police Department, comfort through the Fire Department and health through clinics, but for luxuries such as the bikeway program they could find money and that made no sense to him; that just like a household luxuries should be cut before necessities. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Liu Hsiu-Ling, 11614 Chesswood Drive, Houston, Texas 77027 (281-495-7904) appeared and stated that he was present regarding road construction and surface quality; that around his area there was construction and it was okay, as it was needed for Houston to grow, but the problem was surface quality; that sometimes the work done was kind of bad and it seemed to get worse after it was fixed; that also some roads were worked on when they were almost perfect and other roads needing repairs were just getting worse, nothing changed. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Isaac Martinez, 16958 Ridgeview, Houston, Texas 77043 (713-722-7924) appeared and stated that he wanted to speak on enterprise zoning; that he appreciated enterprise zoning as it did benefit poor areas and allowed businesses to come in and create jobs, however, most were inside the 610 Loop with only one outside the Beltway 8 area and with all the undeveloped land outside 610 and Beltway 8 why did they limit the zones. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller, Mr. Martinez stated that he was not speaking of tax increment zones, but enterprise zones, the city website said there were two state enterprise zones and they were within Loop 610 and the other...; Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller stated that they could help him communicate with the state legislature to try and submit application for another area and they were similar to tax increment zones. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that federal enterprise zones had to be economically disadvantaged and she would guess outside the loop chances would be slim they would meet the requirements. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Tania Silva, 2400 Briarwest Blvd. #1718, Houston, Texas 77077 (832-722-9978) appeared and stated that she was present to address Metro rail construction, it had begun downtown and businesses and restaurants were doing all they could to stay open and hold on until improvements were completed; that streets were closed due to construction and clients looked elsewhere for services and she believed the city should have some commitment to them to help them survive. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Jeff Storm, 3802 Parkridge Glen, Houston, Texas 77052 (281-415-4056) appeared and stated that he was present regarding crime in low income areas such as Alief, District G and District F; that he resided in District G and there were many problems with drugs; that he noticed that problem in the Falls of West Oaks located at Highway 6 and Alief Clodine and Spice and Cinnamon Lane and Forum Park, particularly the Raven Crest complex; that when he went to visit in these areas it was rare that he was not offered drugs for sale, but there were never police; that there was also violence and vandalism and still no patrol; that he was asking police patrol be stepped up in those areas. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller stated that he heard no complaints on District G; and Mr. Storm stated that Highway 6 and Alief Clodine was District G. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller stated that was his border; that Assistant Chief Simmons was present to speak with him and if he did not see it getting better he should contact him or Council Member Ellis. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Keller presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Rosa Vela, 7410 Fir, Houston, Texas 77012 (713-921-9338) appeared and stated that her concern today was neighborhood security; that so much was seen lately on the news she felt there should be better security, but with everything else she was happy. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs

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

Council Member Alvarado stated that she would like her to speak with HPD before she left and give them specific information. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Katherine Windom, 1705 West, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-224-1425) appeared and stated that she wanted to thank Council Members for not passing the drainage fee. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that it was not over yet, but thanked her for coming. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker and Berry 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, Parker and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Leon Lemmons, 6603 Barronton Dr., Spring, Texas 73489 (281-655-9686) appeared, presented information and stated that he was present asking for help in rescuing a Falun Gong practitioner who was a U. S. citizen, Dr. Charles Li was arrested on January 22, 2003, for planning to interrupt a television signal in China and convicted and sentenced to three years and the evidence which convicted him was CD players in his luggage; that they had contacted other state representatives and the Chinese Embassy and 80 congress persons had sent a joint letter asking for his release and others and sent individual letters; that he was asking for help from the Mayor and Council in support of Dr. Li. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he was sympathetic to the situation, but had never seen where petitions by a local government would have any affect on the Chinese government in something to do with the criminal element and felt they were limited in their assistance; and Mr. Lemmons stated that knowing he was a Council Member it would carry more weight than someone who was just a citizen and those at the state level advised they try and get more levels of support; and they would appreciate their help. Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he would check with Amnesty International and other groups and see what they felt could be done. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Yan Sun, appeared, presented information and stated that the persecution of Falon Gong practitioners in China has continued with extreme brutality shown in the persecution; that the primary person responsible for this persecution is China's former leader Jiang Zemin; that thousands were sent to labor camps and hospitals and in October 2002 when he visited the U. S. he was handed a subpoena from the U. S. Federal Court in Chicago charging him with Genocide; that bringing him to justice was action the entire world had reason to support and he was trying to get the U. S. government to intervene and stop the lawsuit and that would be regrettable and he was asking for the Mayor and Council to send a letter of support for the lawsuit against him to President Bush to ensure his being brought to trial. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Joe Roach, 1920 Sunset Park, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-228-3390) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members

Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. James Partsch Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. William Beal, 4748 Boicewood, Houston, Texas 77016 (713-633-0126) appeared and stated that he had the cure to all infectious diseases in his home and continued with his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Robert Horton, 3714 Bain, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-260-6144) appeared and stated that Uncle Sam was under arrest and businesses and churches should be closed and continued with his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 appeared and stated that he was present regarding his crime victim case and was demanding emergency protection and continued with his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Jean Wilkins-Dember-MHS, 2612 Rosewood, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-942-0533) appeared and stated that they believed Mayor Brown should get a social worker for Ms. Pruitt to place her and her children in a home and continued reading a poem until her time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Mary Pruitt, no address, no phone appeared and stated that she and her five children were still homeless and continued with her personal opinions until her time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 4:43 p.m. City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 30, 2003. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Parker, and Berry absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, April 30, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 30, 2003, 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-Gibbs, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; and Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 8:29 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:10 Mayor Brown reconvened the meeting of the City Council and stated that he would use his Mayor's Report time so they could hear a presentation from the Metropolitan Transit Authority on their proposal, the Metro Solutions and introduced Ambassador Schechter.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Presentation on "Metro Solutions" proposal by representatives
of the Metropolitan Transit Authority - Shirley A. DeLibero,
John Sedlak and Steve Beard

Mr. Schechter stated that he wanted to take the opportunity to tell them how much he and the other members of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Board, especially the City appointees, were appreciative for their allowing them the opportunity to work and participate in the development of a program and to work on an issue that was so urgently important to the future of their City and asked the members of the board to stand and be recognized, that they were very appreciative of the opportunity to be present to tell them about the plan and program that METRO had developed that they believed carried them as they stood on the cusp of opportunity for their City over the next 25 years, to develop and to continue to develop in a way that was going to allow them to continue to be a City of opportunity, that over the years, as they knew, those transportation issues had been studied and restudied and many fact finding programs had been done, that in 2000 the Greater Houston Partnership developed a study that resulted in Trip 2000, in which it was concluded that at current funding levels they could build, buy or enhance about 40% of what they needed to build, buy or enhance as a community to maintain current congestion levels through the year 2020, that as a citizen it was not acceptable to him, that as a businessman and businessperson in their community it was frightening to think the impact that such a dilemma would cause to businesses in their City, that they were all in agreement and accord to several things in the community, first 2 million more people were destined to come to their community, to Harris County, by the year 2020, 17 years hence, that many of these people, demographically, would be immigrants, the demographic studies that had been done and were being used by the Houston Galveston Area Council and by METRO and others who had been working together to develop a 25 year plan, a 2025 plan for transportation in their community, that the work had been done very closely and very much in conjunction with one another and he was told that the Houston Galveston Area Council plan, which had been directed to be a 100% plan for their City, would also be available in the summer, that they were in agreement that they must address the issues in aggressive ways and it was the METRO job to address the transit portion of the future program, that over the last 15 months or so literally tens of thousands of man hours had been spent by METRO, its staff, the people that they had brought in to do the corridor studies that they were going to hear the results of today and others in their community, that millions of dollars of public resource had been spent on the studies, that they believed that it was disingenuous to make the studies the basis of political argument, that they believed it was destructive to try to face the issues as Republicans or Democrats, as environmentalists versus developers, or to consider it on the basis of roads versus highways, the constructive issue for their community was to try to work together to address the needs of the community in the future and to address what must be done in order to achieve the goals of having a mobile community in 2025, that present with them today was Ms. Shirley DeLibero, President of METRO, Mr. John Sedlak, Vice President, METRO, Mr. Francis Britton, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of METRO and Mr. Steve Beard, who had been detailing their corridor studies, that they were going to present the corridor studies and answer any questions that they had and wanted to urge the continued opportunity to meet with them and to understand what their positions were, that they were carried to a point where they had what was really essentially somewhat beyond a preliminary study, it was a final report on which they were going to invite even further public input and political input over the next three months before the plan was finally adopted to be taken to the voters in November 2003, that they needed to understand that there had been thousands of people who had participated in the meetings leading up to today, that over two thousand had actually signed on and had given them phone numbers and addresses as they attended the meetings, the hundreds of meetings that had been held in various communities around the City over the last year and a half because it was their goal to create a holistic transportation plan for their City, a holistic transit plan for their City that reflected not only the future needs of the City but the goals of the community as reflected in the process, that over the next three months the process would be further intensified, that they were getting ready to mail out about 500,000 mailings that showed the map as proposed and invite public comments, and turned the meeting over to Ms. Delibero. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman and Alvarado.

Ms. Delibero stated that they would go right into the Metro Solutions presentation, and Mr. Sedlak and Mr. Beard conducted a video presentation of the Metro Solutions, copies of which were distributed to each Council Member. Council Members Tatro and Robinson absent.

Ms. Delibero, Mr. Sedlak and Mr. Beard were questioned at length by Members of Council and Council Member Vasquez requested a more detailed explanation on the revenue and expenses involved with the plan and the street and road maintenance and how it impacted the City and encouraged that it be in public forum like a Council committee; and Council Member Berry stated that they referenced clean air attainment but he did not see any numbers, that he would like to see that in the plan, what was their current bus ridership and how were they increasing that capacity, that he would like to see the inputs to achieve that, and what was the cost and where was the cost; and Council Member Edwards stated that she had some points that she wanted someone to get back with her on, that one was when they talked about 2 million people, where were those people coming from and how do they move people in Houston, Texas from cars to mass transportation, and the other question dealt with environment, EPA issues, what kind of fuel used on the new or added buses.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to thank them for coming and making their presentation and looked forward to continuous dialog on an extremely important issue. Council Members Tatro, Alvarado and Berry absent.

Ms. Delibero stated that they would make sure that they got the ridership riders and the cost and the environmental thing back to all of the Council Members, that they hoped that the plan did what they were trying to do which was to allow capacity for the 2 million people they were expecting in the next 20 years. Council Members Tatro, Alvarado and Berry absent.

At 10:42 a.m. Mayor Brown stated that they would move to the report from the City Controller and Finance and Administration. Council Members Tatro, Alvarado and Berry absent.

Council Member Parker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 23, 46, 47, 18, 18a, 35 and 35a out of order, seconded by Council Member Sekula-Gibbs. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Tatro absent. MOTION 2003-0411 ADOPTED.

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 and a Quarterly Investment Report by the City Controller

Council Member Keller moved to dispense with oral presentations and accept the Monthly Financial and Quarterly Investment Report as distributed, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Tatro absent. MOTION 2003-0412 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown stated that they would accept both reports as distributed. Council Member Tatro absent.

23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **TECHNOLOGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER OF HOUSTON, INC** d/b/a **HOUSTON TECHNOLOGY CENTER** to provide a Ch. 380 Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$675,000.00 to operate a High-Tech Business Technology Center - General Fund – was presented. Council Member Tatro voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0410 ADOPTED.

46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$14,000,000.00 from the Water & Sewer Renewal and

Replacement Fund (Fund No. 751) and authorizing its transfer to the Water and Sewer System Junior Lien Revenue Bond Debt Service Fund (Fund No. 714) for the purpose of paying Water and Sewer Debt Service – **(This was Item 18 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS WISEMAN, ELLIS, TATRO, BERRY and KELLER)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0411 ADOPTED.

47. ORDINANCE making an appropriation of \$15,000,000.00 from the Public Works & Engineering Accumulated Unexpended Fund (Fund No. 754); authorizing its transfer to the Rainy Day Fund (Fund No. 12R); amending Ordinance No. 2003-0243 related to the Interim Borrowing of Cash in support of the City's General Fund – **(This was Item 19 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS WISEMAN, ELLIS, KELLER and TATRO)** – was presented.

Council Member Parker stated that on Item No. 47 she would like to propose a two delay, that there was a great deal of discussion at Fiscal Affairs yesterday about the perimeters of a Rainy Day Fund and wanting to put together some rules for expenditure of a Rainy Day Fund and that should allow time for a complete discussion so that when they voted on it in two weeks they could add a list of criteria, seconded by Council Member Keller.

Council Member Ellis stated that he was in favor of that as well, the perimeters and restrictions that would be placed on a Rainy Day Fund and would hope that the administration would bring forth in two weeks an item giving the definitions of what a Rainy Day Emergency was and whether it took a super majority to allocate those funds, and Mayor Brown stated that they were working on that and would circulate them, and Council Member Ellis stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Parker for her input.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she would like to know what CIP items would be affected if they acted in this manner, and Mayor Brown asked Mr. Haines if there would be any CIP implications and Mr. Haines stated not at all.

Council Member Robinson stated that he did not have any problem with the delay, he supported it because it had taken them quite a while but they may ultimately get to actually define what the emergency was and apply the super majority requirements so he looked forward to the item and would ask also that the administration continue to add as appropriate to the agenda the various other items relative to closing out the ALP, that he thought there were still two other items to come so hopefully in the next two weeks they would have the information from Mr. Haines that was requested at Fiscal Affairs and would keep moving forward on the four step process that was outlined in the memo from Mr. Haines and the Controller.

Council Member Keller stated that he wanted to compliment Mr. Haines for trying to get with him before the meeting and making himself available early in the morning, that the majority of his questions were not really related to Finance and Administration and he also appreciated him expediting some members of Public Utilities with Public Works in working with his staff in getting at 95% of his questions regarding his CIP and/or the City's ability to monitor drainage maintenance in 2003 and their plan in 2004, that he did support the delay and their making the language stronger on the Rainy Day Fund.

A vote was called on Council Member Parker's motion to delay Item No. 47 for two weeks. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0414 ADOPTED.

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing interlocal agreement between the City of Houston and the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL** for funding a Strategic Wireless Infrastructure System Study for Various Departments - \$325,000.00 - Grant Fund – was presented.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she had a few questions and did not want to delay the item, but wanted to know if the County was undergoing a similar study with HGAC and Mayor Brown stated that if they wanted to suspend the rules and bring Mr. John Bales forward they could answer her questions.

Council Member Alvarado moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. John Bales, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0414 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown stated that they would substitute Chief Storemski for Mr. Bales.

Upon questions by Council Member Alvarado, Chief Storemski stated that it was his understanding that this particular study was just to do the City of Houston's radio system, that the County was already on the 800 megahertz and had a regional system, the City was not involved in that and so the study just simply allowed them to have a consultant look at their systems and infrastructure and determine what it was going to take for them to migrate to the new technology, that it was to simply inventory their system and determine what it was going to take for them to migrate, that the City administration will review the study and determine where the City would proceed after that and then it would be presented to the City Council, that initially the study was going to be funded by the City but HGAC had funds and agreed to fund it because of the City's intent to look at a regional system, and Mayor Brown stated that the goal was to make sure they were compatible with the other systems in the region and for that to happen they had to conduct the study and it involved not just the police but all of their radio systems in City government, that it had nothing to do with governance. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Upon additional questions by Council Member Sekula-Gibbs, Chief Storemski stated that at this point he did not have any information if there was any money available in Homeland Security funding that could help them to implement the region in their communication system, but thought if they could show a Homeland Security nexus then that was always a possibility but at this point they were not aware of any, that typically when the funds were made available there were guidelines for the use of that money, and the \$8.3 million that had been allocated to the City at this point had some specific areas that funding would be available for, and Mayor Brown stated that Mr. Bales was responsible and coordinated their Homeland Security initiatives and they monitor what funds were made available and certainly if funds were made available for equipment they wanted to make sure they had their applications in. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he would volunteer to run some of it back through committee again so that they could continue to be briefed and would be happy to work with Mr. Bales, especially on the issue of governess and would hope the administration would work on offering up a couple of different proposals that they could package it in when the recommendations came back and knew there had been some discussions back and forth between the City and County and thought it was appropriate that those go to committee and they start to look at what those discussions had been so they would set it for May 19, 2003 to discuss the various thoughts about governess, that he had heard that the radio system, fully up and loaded, was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50 million to \$70 million project.

Council Member Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Robinson for saying he would take it back up in committee, that at the last committee meeting a lot of her concerns had to do with not the study, but how would they get to be fully inter operative with the larger system in the area and that was still an open question as far as she could see and they were going to have to spend some time talking about that and appreciated his making the committee available, that she intended to support the item but did have some questions pending on the amount of money they had spent on their wireless system and the type of technology they had purchased over the last five years, knowing the problem was coming and Mr. Bales had indicated that he would get that information to her and she was still looking forward to that; that

on a related issue she would request that perhaps the Public Safety Committee have a discussion of the HGAC Houston Emergency Center, that her understanding was and remembering the initial briefings, was that it was supposed to be up and running about a year ago so she thought they ought to have a complete discussion of the status of the emergency center, how the integration of the different employee groups was going, that again her understanding was that it was a year late and would like to know if it was on budget, and Mayor Brown stated that they could give her a briefing, but it was not a year late, that it was never anticipated to be open a year ago, and Council Member Parker stated that she had some stuff in her files that had dates on it, and Mayor Brown stated that it was supposed to open this year and they were doing training now, that they would be glad to update her on it.

Council Member Keller stated that he wanted to note that HCAG had about \$12 million readily available now and were getting another \$30 million if not already received in the last few days, that Mr. Jack Steele with HCAG would decide when and how of those disbursements HCAG would be supporting, that HCAG was forming a special committee which the Mayor would be sitting on and it was a special Homeland Security Council which would handle the disbursement for the funds related to Houston and the region and it would be 13 County Judges and the Mayor sitting on the Homeland Security Council and they also were hopeful to get another \$300 million plus, they had their hat out for that, that he also wanted to compliment Council Member Robinson in taking the important issue up and it was worth noting that they should find out the status of their moving into that facility and getting it operating as soon as possible. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Wiseman stated that she wanted to reiterate what Council Member Keller stated and wanted to thank HGAC for their assistance in the funding, that it was something that they did need to get on board with, they were the largest City in the region and the last piece of the puzzle that was left out and important that they get on board with communications with the others given what they may or may not have to face in the future in the way of terrorist activity or other natural disaster where they would have to have all of their organizations communicating, that she appreciated support of the item. Council Member Galloway absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Gibbs, Mr. Bales stated that they were going to have to rely on funding with other City budget money and they were working very closely with HGAC and working with their legislators from their area and the lobbyists who they were also working with, that they had several different groups who were monitoring what was going on in Washington, particularly in the Homeland Security Funding area, that HGAC was going to play a big role in assisting them in identifying the funding and helping not only their project but the project for implementing it throughout the region, that they were going to have to look to other applications and were still waiting for the final instructions from the Office of Homeland Security but as they understood it now the kind of equipment that they were willing to fund did not include funding of the this, that they had heard all kinds of numbers and were really dependent on the study to determine what the final cost would be. Council Member Galloway absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 18. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Galloway absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0412 ADOPTED.

18a. ORDINANCE appropriating \$24,000.00 out of Police Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional services contract between the City of Houston and **RCC CONSULTANTS, INC** for Strategic Wireless Infrastructure System Study for Various Departments – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Galloway absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0413 ADOPTED.

35. ORDINANCE accepting \$75,000.00 from Harris County and depositing such funds into the Harris County Construction Fund; approving and authorizing interlocal agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY** for the Cambridge Corridor Feasibility Study,

GFS N-0729-02-2 (SB9140) - **DISTRICT D – EDWARDS** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Parker. Council Member Galloway absent. (Note: Council Member Parker released her tag later in the meeting.)

- 35a. ORDINANCE appropriating \$75,000.00 out of Harris County Construction Fund; approving and authorizing professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **TRAFFIC ENGINEERS, INC** for the Cambridge Corridor Feasibility Study, GFS N-0729-02-2 (SB9140) **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Parker. Council Member Galloway absent. (Note: Council Member Parker released her tag later in the meeting.)

Council Member Robinson moved to suspend the rules to consider Item No. 11 out of order, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2003-0415 ADOPTED.

11. RESOLUTION designating a certain property located at 712 Main Street in the City of Houston as a Historic Landmark - (Gulf Building and Annexes) - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. RESOLUTION 2003-0007 ADOPTED.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 38

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBER 1

1. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for establishment of a connection charge in the amount of \$0.5498 per square foot for properties connecting to the 8-inch and 10-inch sanitary sewer lines constructed by **MR. XIANG BING WU** located along Converse Street - **DISTRICT D – EDWARDS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0416 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY - NUMBER 2

2. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Christy Miller of Pate Engineers, Inc., on behalf of North Harris Montgomery Community College District, for abandonment and sale of a 10-foot-wide sanitary sewer easement, a 10-foot-wide storm sewer easement, and a 20-by 25-foot storm sewer easement in exchange for the conveyance to the City of two drainage easements, all within Kingwood Place, Section 12, William Massey Survey, Abstract 342, Parcels S98-070B, S98-070C, S98-070D, L98-033A and L98-033B - **STAFF APPRAISERS DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0417 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 3 through 10

3. **HENSON FORD, INC** for Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Vehicle for Houston Airport System \$169,950.00 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0418 ADOPTED.
4. **ALTO U.S., INC** for Riding Scrubbers for Houston Airport System - \$136,479.36 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0419 ADOPTED.
6. **THE RELIZON COMPANY** - \$275,694.00 and **SEELEY ART AND PRINTING STUDIO**

\$92,500.00 for Traffic Tickets, Parking and Non-Parking for Municipal Courts-Administration General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0420 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 13 through 38

13. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the sale to the State of Texas Department of Transportation of: (1) ±18,966 square feet of land out of a 4.144-acre tract, from Broadfield Boulevard to Memorial Brook Drive (State Parcel 455), and (2) ±14,236 square feet of land out of a 4.442-acre tract, from Memorial Brook Drive to its dead-end (State Parcel 456), both adjacent to the Interstate Highway 10 Service Road and located within the former Park Ten Municipal Utility District Site; Parcel Numbers SY3-044A and SY3-044B, respectively; subject to the terms and conditions of the deeds therefore **DISTRICT A - TATRO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0414 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE appropriating \$200,000.00 out of Homeless and Housing Consolidated Fund and approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and **LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION** to provide a grant to establish a Pilot Rebuild Home Program which will provide financial assistance of up to \$20,000.00 to each qualified elderly and/or disabled low-income victim of Tropical Storm Allison to rebuild their home on the existing lot - had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered.
24. ORDINANCE correcting Item Numbers 8, 13 and 14 in the Assessment Roll included within Ordinance Number 79-2064, and authorizing refund for certain assessment liens and apparent liens created by Ordinance No. 78-1939 for the initiation of a paving project for the permanent improvement of portions of Yellowstone Street from the South Freeway (SH 288) to La Salette Street, in the City of Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2002-0415 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE approving and adopting an updated ongoing Service and Assessment Plan for and on behalf of **THE LAMAR TERRACE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2** covering the period through 2011 pursuant to Chapter 372 of the Texas Local Government Code; calling a public hearing on the proposed Assessment Roll and Assessments within the Lamar Terrace Public Improvement District No. 2; authorizing the provision of notice thereof; making various findings and provisions related to the subject; providing for severability **HEARING DATE - 9:00 A.M. - WEDNESDAY - TWO WEEKS AFTER PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0416 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE appropriating \$232,463.66 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$240,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund; approving and authorizing a developer participation contract between the City of Houston and **150 CLARK SPRINGS, LTD.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Section One of the Clark Springs Subdivision, CIP S-0800-82-03 and R-0800-82-03 - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0417 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE appropriating \$135,227.88 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$165,000.00 out of Homeless and Housing Consolidated Bond Fund; approving and authorizing a developer participation contract between the City of Houston and **150 CLARK SPRINGS, LTD.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Section Two of the Clark Springs Subdivision, CIP S-0800-83-03 and R-0800-83-03 **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0418 ADOPTED.

29. ORDINANCE appropriating \$125,279.19 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$189,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund; approving and authorizing a developer participation contract between the City of Houston and **150 CLARK SPRINGS, LTD.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Section Three of the Clark Springs Subdivision, CIP S-0800-84-03 and R-0800-84-03 - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0419 ADOPTED.
33. ORDINANCE appropriating \$32,000.00 out of Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **ASHKAR ENGINEERING CORPORATION** for services related to the Frank Branch Library, GFS E-0146-01-2; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0420 ADOPTED.
34. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract amendment between the City of Houston and **KINSEL INDUSTRIES** for Repair and Replacement of Concrete Pavement, Sidewalks, Driveways, Wheelchair Ramps and Mudjacking Pavement, authorizing the Director to approve an assignment of the contract to **MAIN LANE**, CIP N0655-02-3 - \$1,459,410.00 - General and Stormwater Utility Funds had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$364,800.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **REDDY ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS, LTD** for Northside Wet Weather Facility Improvements, GFS R-0265-25-3 (WW4760-05); providing funding for engineering testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund **DISTRICT H - VASQUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0421 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE granting to **PHONOSCOPE, LTD.**, a Texas Limited Partnership, the right, privilege, and franchise to erect, maintain and operate a Cable Television System in the City of Houston, Texas - **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0420 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to recognize former Council Member Larry McKaskle who was present in the Council Chamber.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

5. ORDINANCE appropriating \$265,650.00 out of Convention & Entertainment Construction Fund for Flood Door Installation for Convention & Entertainment Facilities Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0423 ADOPTED.
- 5a. **PARALLAX BUILDERS, INC** for Flood Door Installation for Convention & Entertainment Facilities Department - \$253,000.00 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$265,650.00 Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0421 ADOPTED.

7. ORDINANCE appropriating \$491,511.64 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund for Emergency Water Main Repair for the Public Works & Engineering Department, CIP S-0019-21-3 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0424 ADOPTED.
- 7a. **JALCO, INC** for Emergency Water Main Repair for Department of Public Works & Engineering \$491,511.64 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0422 ADOPTED.
8. ORDINANCE appropriating \$7,331,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund for Spending Authority to address the Repair of the 84-inch Sanitary Sewer Line on Alameda Road for the Public Works & Engineering Department, CIP R-0019-25-3 – was presented.

Council Member Galloway stated that she did have some concerns but many of her questions had been answered and would like for the Director of Public Works to work with the contractor to try to improve the MWDBE participation to 25% contributions because as they knew that was an area for minorities with technology and construction and also for the Affirmative Action Director to monitor to see if it had taken place to at least have a 25% goal on this project since there was no goal at the beginning when the first original contract was issued due to the fact that it was an emergency, and Mayor Brown stated that they would address it with both the Director of Public Works and Affirmative Action.

Council Member Tatro stated that they kept talking about the Rainy Day Fund and the General Fund and this was an example of rainy day need in the Water Sewer Enterprise fund, from the cave-in on Alameda Road to a couple of years ago they also had a rupture of 110 inch water line at Wayside near Clinton which cost them just under \$10 million, so as they contemplate continuing to transfer more money out of the Water Sewer Enterprise Fund also note that they had disasters within the Water Sewer Enterprise Fund to when cash and capital were needed.

A vote was called on Item No. 8. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0425 ADOPTED.

- 8a. **AMEND MOTION #2003-99, 1/29/03, TO INCREASE** spending authority from \$3,000,000.00 to \$10,331,000.00 for Additional Repairs to the 84-inch Sanitary Sewer Line on Alameda Road for Department of Public Works & Engineering, awarded to **GARVER CONSTRUCTION, LTD.**, for a total increase of \$7,331,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0423 ADOPTED.
9. **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (H-GAC)** for Cab & Chassis through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing for Solid Waste Management Department - \$55,725.00 Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0424 ADOPTED.
10. **BUCKEYE CLEANING CENTER-HOUSTON** for Janitorial supplies, Part II, for Various Departments - \$277,810.00 - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Keller.

Council Member Wiseman stated that she would not tag the item, but would like for a representative from Building Services and the Library Department to visit with her on it and their

line item budgets.

A vote was called on Item No. 10. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. MOTION 2003-0425 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

12. RESOLUTION approving and amendments to the Bylaws and Guidelines for Regulations and Procedures of the City of Houston Industrial Development Corporation – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. RESOLUTION 2003-0008 ADOPTED.

Council Member Robinson requested that someone visit with him about the Industrial Development Corporation, and Mayor Brown stated that they certainly would. Council Member Berry absent.

14. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 42.661 acres of land to **WEST KEEGANS BAYOU IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0426 ADOPTED.
15. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract parking agreement between the City and **HCPA SERVICES COMPANY** for certain City Employee parking in the Hobby Center Garage; providing a maximum contract amount - 2 Years - \$684,090.00 - General, Enterprise and Other Funds **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Goldberg. Council Member Berry absent.
16. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **SOUTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SERVICE, LLC** for Archaeological Investigation Services - \$99,956.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0427 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE authorizing payment to the **UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** of an Arbitrage Rebate not to exceed \$48,507.84 relating to the City's Public Improvement Bonds, Series 1998A – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0428 ADOPTED.
19. ORDINANCE appropriating \$53,500.00 out of Homeless and Housing Consolidated Fund and approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and **HOUSTON SRO HOUSING CORPORATION** to provide a grant to administer a Project-based Housing Rental Assistance Program and provide other supportive services to homeless families and individuals – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0429 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS - HOUSTON CHAPTER**, to provide \$2,166,172.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the Administration of an Emergency Home Repair Program – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0430 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing grant agreement between the City of Houston and **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** for the Click-It or Ticket Selective Traffic Enforcement Program – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0431 ADOPTED.

26. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston, **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS** and the **SAINT GEORGE PLACE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** in connection with the Lamar Terrace Public Improvement District and Lamar Terrace Public Improvement District No. 2 - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0432 ADOPTED.
30. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Compromise and Settlement Agreement between **CIVILTECH ENGINEERING, INC (CTE)** and the City of Houston and to settle a claim \$41,007.83 - Stormwater Utility Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0433 ADOPTED.
31. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Amendment No. 1 to contract between the City of Houston and **CONWAY CONSULTING, LTD.**, for Professional Services in connection with providing lease exhibits and updates to the Competition Plan for the Houston Airport System \$129,980.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS B - GALLOWAY and I - ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0434 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE appropriating \$10,400,000.00 out of Houston Airport System Consolidated 2001 AMT Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Amendment No. 4 to contract between the City of Houston and **KELLOGG BROWN & ROOT, INC** for Professional, Architectural, Engineering, Construction Management and Program Management Services in connection with the Airside Improvement Program at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston, Project Nos. 554, 555, 556, 558, 560, 560A, 561, 569, 522, 522B, 522C, 522K, 522L, 605A, 605B, 605C, 605D and 509; CIP A-0396 and A-0391 - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0435 ADOPTED.
36. ORDINANCE appropriating \$749,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Construction Fund, awarding contract to **HARD ROCK CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Safe Sidewalk Program C2 Project, GFS N-0610A-C2-3 (SB09049-2); providing funding for engineering testing, construction management, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS C - GOLDBERG; F - ELLIS and G - KELLER** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0436 ADOPTED.

NON CONSENT AGENDA - NUMBER 39

PROPERTY

39. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from C. L. Davis of C. L. Davis & Company, on behalf of Houston Independent School District (HISD), for abandonment and sale of (1) Andrews Street, from Taft Street to Genesee Street; (2) Ruthven Street, from Mason Street to Genesee Street; (3) Cleveland Street, from Mason Street to Genesee Street; (4) Mason Street, from Andrews Street to West Gray Avenue; (5) a 20- to 30-foot wide right of way, from West Gray Avenue connecting to Mason Street; and (6) three utility easements in exchange for the conveyance to the City of 30 feet of right of way to widen Genesee street, from West Gray Avenue to Andrews Street, all within Powars South Side Addition and/or Alden Place, and a right of entry for Houston Independent School District, Parcels SY3-039A through H and AY3-625A through C - **APPRAISERS - DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** – was presented.

Council Member Alvarado named Mr. George Coleman, Jr. and Mr. Frank D. Flores as appraisers and moved approval of the recommendation, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2003-0426 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 40 through 48

40. ORDINANCE appropriating \$114,744.45 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund as additional funding for contract with **PEPPER-LAWSON CONSTRUCTION, L.P.** for the East Water Purification III Administration Building Renovation, GFS S-0056-Y8-3, Project No. 10536-4, approved by Ordinance No. 01-0550 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – **(This was Item 2 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER KELLER)** - was presented.

Council Member Keller stated that he had met with Mr. Robert Fiederlein and appreciated the time that he had given the issue, that he did not want to hold up the necessary change order that was not caused by the fault of the taxpayers of the City of Houston, in his opinion the errors were design flaws that stemmed back from the geo technical work and the design engineer that was originally used on the project and not the fault of the contractor and to delay it further would be an inconvenience and would harm the project, that PWE was pursuing the issue of errors and omission with the designer and he was going to follow it up and work with them on it, that if it did not work out that way they would have to hold projects up which would penalize the contractor, but he was assured from Mr. Fiederlein that they would get results from a Public Works & Engineering investigation. Council Member Robinson absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 40. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Berry absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0437 ADOPTED.

- 40a. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$208,906.32 on contract with **PEPPER LAWSON CONSTRUCTION, LP** for East Water Purification Plant III Administration Building Renovations on Construction Contract No. 53044, GFS S-0056-Y8-3 (10536-4) - **DISTRICT E – WISEMAN** – **(This was Item 2a on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER KELLER)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0427 ADOPTED.
41. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department, to award to **STEPCO RESTAURANT SUPPLY, INC (Bid No. 2)** - \$193,726.00 and **TEXAS PROCUREMENT CENTER, LLC** - \$5,811.78 for Food Service Equipment for Convention & Entertainment Facilities Department - Enterprise Fund – **(This was Item 7 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TATRO)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0428 ADOPTED.
42. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department, to award to **ALFA LAVAL, INC (Bid No. 5)** - \$319,000.00 and **TEXAS PROCUREMENT CENTER, LLC** \$9,570.00 for Repair of Rotating and Conveyor Assemblies for Department of Public Works & Engineering - Enterprise Fund – **(This was Item 8 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TATRO)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0429 ADOPTED.
43. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt

recommendation from Finance & Administration Department, to award to **WESTERN REFUSE & RECYCLING EQ., INC** for Heil Garbage Truck Bodies Aftermarket Replacement Parts and Service Contract for Solid Waste Management Department \$1,250,000.00 - General Fund – **(This was Item 10 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER WISEMAN)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0430 ADOPTED.

44. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department, to award to **ACR SUPPLY, INC** for HVAC Repair Parts for Various Departments - \$544,900.00 - General and Fire Department Revolving Funds – **(This was Item 12 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS KELLER and GOLDBERG)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0431 ADOPTED.
45. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department, to award to **FOCUS CAMERA, INC** \$799,419.85, **HPI INTERNATIONAL, INC** - \$342,226.70, **THE TAPE COMPANY (Bid No. 3)** \$89,440.00 and **THE TAPE COMPANY (Bid No. 2)** - \$386,115.50 for Photography Supplies for Various Departments - \$1,617,202.05 - General, Enterprise, Cable Television and Building Inspection Funds – **(This was Item 13 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS WISEMAN and KELLER)** – was presented.

Council Member Wiseman stated that she wanted to offer the following motion to Item No. 45:

“The Administration would issue NO purchase orders except for Fire and HPD – delay the remaining spending authority for the remaining Departments for two weeks”, seconded by Council Member Keller. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0432 ADOPTED.

Note: The City Secretary interpreted MOTION 2003-0432 as replacing Item No. 45 to provide funding and issuance of purchase orders for the Police and Fire Departments only and the motion as recorded reflects the following funding for the departments authorized:

Award to **FOCUS CAMERA, INC.** - \$317,720.00, **HPI INTERNATIONAL, INC.** - \$287,360.00, **THE TAPE COMPANY** - (Bid No. 3) - \$56,000.00 and **THE TAPE COMPANY** (Bid No. 2) - \$286,500.00 for Photography Supplies for Various Departments.

48. ORDINANCE appropriating \$6,846,300.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **PEPPER-LAWSON CONSTRUCTION, L.P.** for 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Dryer Replacement/Rehabilitation, GFS R-0265-24-3 (WW4760-04); providing funding for construction management, engineering testing and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO – (This was Item 41 on Agenda of April 23, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS KELLER and VASQUEZ)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0438 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to take the opportunity to congratulate Ms. Jackie Pope for her excellent organization of the Black Mayor’s Conference that was held in

Houston last week, the pulling together of the volunteers and the venue itself, she thought, was outstanding, so she just wanted to congratulate her and her boss Mr. Anthony Hall for letting her do that. Council Member Robinson absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she would like to encourage her colleagues to support the sisterhood status of Lawonda, Angola that was up for consideration, that for those of them in the 1980's who did a lot of work around the Southern African movement and the whole Apartheid question, Angola was at the forefront of that movement and there was a lot of history that went regarding Houston's involvement with Angola and that whole issue, that she was excited to see them become a major player in the City and stepping up to the plate, that she was excited to see the day that these countries were coming forth and becoming full partners at the table, that hopefully their sisterhood status would help them in working with the land mine issues that were still lingering in Angola, left over from the Apartheid situation that had not been cleared up. Mayor Brown and Council Member Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Edwards stated that she had been receiving a number of calls from people and City employees regarding the Patriotic Act and how it was to be interpreted and what they were expected to do and what they were not expected to do and did it really apply and was it for real, that she did not know, and Mr. Hall stated that he did not want to give her wrong information and was not certain, but would prepare something and give it to her and the other Members of Council. Mayor Brown and Council Member Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Edwards stated that the other thing was the incidents of traffic accidents and the responsibilities and accountabilities for employees and departments and asked if there was any movement on that, and Mr. Hall stated that was an issue that the Mayor had asked them to look at, that it had been discussed over a number of years, that they did not have a proposal to advance, but thought that it was something that could be considered by Council committee, that right now the Mayor was advised on all of the settlements that they recommend that were a consequence of negligence claims on the part of City employees and he was also provided confidentially the punishment that was given to those employees, but frankly there was no financial accountability from the departments, and Council Member Edwards asked if that would be appropriate for the Fiscal Affairs committee or for Public Safety, that she thought it was something that they really needed to look at, and Mr. Hall stated that it was probably something that could be considered by Fiscal Affairs or other committees, because that money, for lack of a better definition, came off of the top from everybody, and they did not have an option about paying it, and Council Member Edwards stated that she would like to see some commitment and however they needed to get it moving, and Mr. Hall stated that there was zero accountability now for waste of City dollars in that fashion. Council Members Wiseman, Ellis Keller, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that they were present at the Park Plaza Community Center ribbon cutting ceremony last night and it was a great event, that Building Services and the Parks Department had done a great job in terms of redoing the center and the park and thought it was something that the City would be very proud of, that he knew it was very consistent also with the historic nature of the park and the historic nature of the building and so they were really pleased to see that the citizens were pleased that their dollars were well spent, that they had some very senior citizens who came out that had lived in the neighborhood for 30 to 40 years, to get a look at the restoration and they were very pleased, so he wanted to congratulate Public Works, Parks and Building Services for pulling it off and making it a reality. Council Members Wiseman, Ellis Keller, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he would like to recognize and encourage Council Members to attend the Cinco de Mayo Parade and the festivities that would be going on during the week in terms of promoting and celebrating Hispanic culture and Hispanic pride and encouraged everyone to get out and to get involved and learn a little bit of Hispanic culture.

Council Members Wiseman, Ellis Keller, Parker, Quan and Robinson absent.

Council Member Tatro stated that he had passed out some notes and some backup, that all of the backup was City generated backup, that it was all backup that was part of the Voice Over IP RFP that was issued, except for the last letter, which was the letter that Council Members received from Mr. Ken Jones, the IT professional who did an assessment of three City facilities and went over a compilation and summary of what they found by reading the RFP and what they found by the documentation that was enclosed under the whole VoIP issue and stated that City Council should demand that before a single dollar is allocated for any VoIP initiative, a detailed traffic analysis be performed on all 137 sites bid in the RFP for excess trunk capacity, and those savings be taken first, before falsely attributing those savings to the VoIP project, that the entire traffic analysis could be done on a contingency fee basis, that they require the IT Department to provide a corrected and detailed cost savings analysis incorporating only the 137 locations bid in the RFP (with the exclusions of the call centers as specified in the RFP.) Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he would like to tell them about an incident that happened, that they owed an apology to Jim McInvale, Mattress Mac, that his office along with Oliver Luck and Jordy Tollett, with the Visitors Bureau, had been working with him for 6 months for him to host a very important event which was the Men's U.S. Clay Championships, that they worked on traffic, security, transportation, parking, lighting, signage, they had everything going and Mattress Mac was extremely impressed with all of that, that he could not blame Mr. Vanden Bosch, Mr. Oradat or Mr. Tim Lincoln who were very helpful, that what it came down to was a project that was a waterline replacement on Wilcrest and six months ago they had been working on timing that waterline replacement to happen after the tournament, not hard to do, that he checked all of that and everybody had given him their word and commitment and an employee, the day before the championship, allowed a contractor to intimidate him into starting work, not only did he start the work, he started it at the entrance of Westside Tennis Club, that 100 countries were watching the tournament, that the stage was set for Houston to have international venue for tennis and they were going to have it again in November, the Tennis Masters would be in Houston, the Superbowl would be here in January, that when a member of Public Works gave a Council Member their word he should call them if a contractor changed his mind and then he could get the Mayor to intervene with him to tell the contractor that they would not get a change order by their delaying the project one week, that he really wanted to urge the lines of communication, that number one it was a big common sense issue for any employee of Public Works, that number two he overruled a supervisor and disrespected the Council Member by giving the Council Member and his staff his word that he would not allow construction to begin on Wilcrest, much less blocking the entrance to the tennis tournament, that he really applauded Mr. Vanden Bosch, the Mayor's office and Mr. Oradat, from the moment they found out about it they stepped in and had the contractor back out there within 15 minutes to put the street completely back, exactly how it was and get the equipment out of the way, it was as little a disruption as it possibly could have been once their hierarchy got involved and he really wanted to thank them, that what they had to do was to make sure with some of the other important venues, like he had stated, that when they say they were going to do something for somebody and they were bringing that kind of venue to the City of Houston that they had to do it no matter what, that they could not let them down and he certainly hoped that they learned a lesson from this, Public Works, the Sports Authority, Mr. Tollett and the district Council Members. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he had attended the Women in Law Enforcement Annual Officer of the Year, that there were 14 officers nominated and the winning officer was Officer Pamela Slader, that Officer Slader served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Marines for 6 years in the Military Police Unit, that she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in American Cities from Providence College in Rhode Island, that Officer Slader was the wife of an HPD officer and wonderful mother to two boys, that in August of 2002 Officer Slader entered a burning apartment to extract a resident who was inside the apartment, that due to the heavy smoke and uncertain

conditions of the resident, Office Slader acted quickly with the help of neighbors and carried the resident to safety, that once outside the man was quickly revived and the Houston Fire Department arrived to extinguish the flames, that Officer Slader exemplified the honor and integrity to which the Houston Police Department strived to demonstrate, that WLE wished to congratulate Officer Slader for her outstanding dedication to the profession and her selfless act of heroism to be called among Houston's finest, that he wanted to salute the members of WLE and especially Officer Slader for the award to her. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he had a chance to attend the Tommy Tune awards, that it was the first time they ever had it, that it was TUFT sponsored it at the Hobby Center, that everyone knew who Tommy Tune was, that the award was given to high school students in Drama Departments across the City for their work in musical theatre, that he and his wife were just delighted with what they saw it was a wonderful presentation for the first time ever having it, that Cinco Ranch High School received the Best Musical Award for their presentation of the Sound of Music, that he would like to mention that Mr. Josh Burner of Bellaire High School was named Best Leading Actor and Ms. Stephanie Gibson of Stratford was named Best Leading Actress, that it was so well done and thought that anyone who had a chance to attend that would have been amazed with the talent that the high school students had and demonstrated and thought it was an inspiration to all of them as they came up to receive their Tommy Tune Awards and was something that everyone would look forward to in the future. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker stated that she would like to release her tag on Item Numbers 35 and 35a, that she had a meeting to get her questions answered and was okay on the items. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

35. ORDINANCE accepting \$75,000.00 from Harris County and depositing such funds into the Harris County Construction Fund; approving and authorizing interlocal agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY** for the Cambridge Corridor Feasibility Study, GFS N-0729-02-2 (SB9140) - **DISTRICT D – EDWARDS** – was again before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0439 ADOPTED.

35a. ORDINANCE appropriating \$75,000.00 out of Harris County Construction Fund; approving and authorizing professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **TRAFFIC ENGINEERS, INC** for the Cambridge Corridor Feasibility Study, GFS N-0729-02-2 (SB9140) **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** – was again before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0440 ADOPTED.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that her comments would reiterate what Council Member Tatro had already stated, she too was very concerned about the Voice Over IP contract that Mr. Lewis would be proposing at some future time to the Council, that her office had devoted a significant amount of time researching it and felt that they had some serious concerns that they should know about and hopefully they would offer some implementations of the savings that could be immediate without going forward on a new program, that their current system was working well and they did not have the luxury money to go forward with ripping it out and replacing it with the best and the brightest at this point, that they should really take their time and go back and determine their current needs and have an assessment that was being made, not by the ultimate vendor, who would benefit from the contract, but by an independent vendor who would study their current needs and lines and make recommendations, that it should be independent, that she would like to ask the IT Department to please present to them a choice of alternatives so that they could have enough information to make a wise decision on how much they could afford to spend on a telecommunications system that would be both reliable and

affordable for them and to also go forward immediately with implementing the savings that Southwestern Bell had said they would be willing to implement and not push that five months into the future, that she did not think it was in their best interest to push those savings off for five more months, that they could have them in the immediate future and they desperately needed them before the budget was passed. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Parker stated that she wanted to thank the administration for requesting that the International Festival hold the band today and knew they were supposed to crank up at 11:00 a.m., that she wanted to apologize to those folks who came to hear the band outside today and they were not playing, and stated to Mr. Haines that she still wanted a Festival Ordinance. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to distribute a document to his colleagues, that he wanted to follow on the tail end of Council Member Tatro's comments, that he did not think any of them were really interested in who got the credit, they just wanted the savings to help them in next year's budget in going forward, that the document that was being passed around was a copy of a letter and a Statement of Good Faith Agreement to enter into pricing negotiations with SBC, that it was signed by their regional manager and stated that they were willing to enter into negotiations with the City, that the City had originally sent out the document and they made a minor modification to eliminate any reference to Voice Over IP because their position was that they were out of the Voice Over IP issue and just wanted to demonstrate that they could provide the City savings on the existing Telco System and they had signed the agreement that said that all the \$1.8 million worth of savings that they laid out to them in committee and distributed to the administration they were willing to enter into a good faith negotiation to achieve those savings and he was hoping that they would move forward by taking full advantage of those opportunities and that they would look at the revisions to the Voice Over IP savings that Council Member Tatro referenced. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he had talked to the Legal Department about some help on the Overweight Truck Permit Ordinance, that he would like to see if they could get that done, that there were a couple of other cities in the area that had Overweight Truck Permit Ordinance where they collected a fee like the State did for overweight trucks since they did damage to the local streets and that may be one of the sources of revenues, that would in time and in the long run, help to replace some of the general mobility money that they would return to Metro as they moved forward on their system. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Berry stated that he was a little concerned and was supportive of Item No. 23, the \$675,000 to the HTC, but they had effectively handed a grant to an organization, that he thought would use it well for a good cause and the City needed it, but the City told the Veterans Museum that it was illegal for the City to hand them a grant out of the General Fund as a private entity, even if they qualified as a non profit, that he had talked to Mr. Bibler who said that the HTC had signed a contract with the City, but when they asked for the \$675,000 they were not asking them to engage them in a contract, they were effectively telling them that they were dying on the vine and needed the bailout to make it through the next two years, that effectively they had just done to HTC what they had told the Veterans Museum they would not do, that he thought they needed to be consistent in what they did. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that Council Member Edwards had referenced her support of the Lawanda, Angola Sister City arrangement, that their Sister City Committee meeting was on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. and hopefully everyone had heard about it and whether they were on the committee or not they were welcome to be there, they were going to have

some of those individuals from the local community who were very supportive of that and hoped everyone would make it for that. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Berry stated that he wanted to thank his team for putting together the Neighborhood Solutions Conference that they had on Saturday, they had over 200 participants and attendees and thought it was wonderful, that there were a lot of people on behalf of the City who gave up their Saturday, Chief Connealy sat throughout the entire conference and they really appreciated his being there, that Mr. Carlos Gonzales of the Municipal Channel, Mr. Rudy Velasquez of the City Attorney's Office brought a great deed restriction presentation, Mr. Adrian Garcia, Officer David Acres, Mr. Ed Gonzales, Mr. Robert Norris, Sign Administrator, Officer Sharron Richardson, HPD, Mr. Wilbert Theory, Neighborhood Protection and presenters like Ms. Evalyn Krudy, Mr. Rush Shultz, Mr. Jack Gillum and Mr. Ray Taylor and wanted to thank all of them for participating, that they were going to have video tapes of those for the neighborhoods and people could just ask their office for them. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Goldberg stated that this Saturday was the Buffalo Bayou Regatta, which would start at Sheppard and go all the way to Sesquencial Park and arrive there about 12:30 p.m., that last year he and his partner, Mr. Mike Garver, won first place in the Corporate Cup and would team up again and try it. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to congratulate the Jewish Herald Voice, their owner was Mr. Joel Samuels, that his family had owned the Jewish Herald Voice for 30 years, that the paper had been in Houston for 95 years. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Robert Fiederlein, Public Works, who really helped him to understand a lot about the Almeda Sink Hole, that he had questions about it and Mr. Fiederlein prepared an entire analysis with graphs, pictures and charts and helped him understand it. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 11:53 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs 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