



**CASA OF CENTRAL TEXAS, INC.**

July 25, 2017

City of San Marcos  
 c/o Charles Daniels, Interim City Manager  
 San Marcos, TX 78666  
 By email: city\_manager\_info@sanmarcostx.gov

Dear Mayor and Council:

Thank you sincerely for your consideration to plan financial support to the CASA Training & Support Center capital project for CASA of Central Texas. As you know, this facility will enable CASA to continue unduplicated services for abused and neglected children and meet a significantly expanding gap in services for the San Marcos community.

In listening to the staff presentation and council discussion at the Budget Workshop session on 7/24/17, CASA respectfully requests your further consideration on the following points:

- a) \$35,000 per year vs. \$45,000 per year – at a prior meeting, the initial figures suggested by Councilman Gregson were \$45,000 for 10 years with a 5% annual discount rate, which calculates to a present value of approximately \$347k and rounds closely to CASA’s request for \$350k; on the other hand, \$35,000 per year calculates to a present value of \$270k, thus leaving CASA short by \$80k
  - *With a long-term payment schedule of 10-years, CASA requests consideration at \$45,000 per year.*
- b) “Funding begins after building completion” – this language is vague; also, an earlier benchmark event would provide cash flow for CASA at the time funds will actually be needed and equally provide assurance to the city that the project is moving forward
  - *CASA requests payments to begin upon signing of engineering contract, permit approval or other clear benchmark, earlier in the project timeline.*
- c) While CASA does not reject the city’s proposal of a 10-year payment schedule, we believe the support being sought should not be unduly tainted by poor experiences with other agencies or projects. CASA has a proven history as a service provider in San Marcos and Hays County for 30 years, meeting the needs of a highly vulnerable population, utilizing the services of community volunteers, and never previously incurring long-term debt. CASA has complied with past city contracts and has proven itself as reliable, transparent and fiscally sound – CASA is a smart community investment. This is CASA’s first major capital request to the city and almost all project expenses are expected to be incurred sooner rather than later.
  - *CASA requests consideration for a shorter payment schedule such as three (3) years to total \$350,000.*

**New Braunfels**

**San Marcos**

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Upon a pledge by the City of San Marcos, CASA plans to leverage the city's lead gift by seeking major gift funding from private foundations. We also would like to ask Mayor Thomaides for his support of a "Mayor Challenge" to the city councils of Kyle, Buda, Wimberley, Woodcreek, and Dripping Springs.

Thank you again for your generous consideration, especially during a budget year in which you are presented with many important decisions. Please let me know if you have questions or require additional information.

Kindly,



Norma Castilla-Blackwell, Executive Director  
TJ

NB:ts

Cc: Jamie Lee Case, City Clerk (jcase@sanmarcostx.gov)  
Steve Parker, Assistant City Manager (sparker@sanmarcostx.gov)  
Heather Hulbert, Finance Director (hhulbert@sanmarcostx.gov)