



Meeting Minutes  
City Council

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Monday, April 24, 2017

5:30 PM

City Council Chambers

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**630 E. Hopkins - CDBG-DR Workshop-Feasibility Study**

I. Call To Order

**With a quorum present, the CDBG-DR Workshop of the San Marcos City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomaides at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 24, 2017 in the City Council Chambers, 630 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, Texas 78666.**

II. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Mayor John Thomaides, Mayor Pro-Tem Jane Hughson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Lisa Prewitt, Council Member Saul Gonzales, Council Member Ed Mihalkanin, Council Member Scott Gregson and Council Member Melissa Derrick

1. Receive a presentation and update regarding the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Grant; the findings of the Infrastructure Feasibility Study and the identification of infrastructure projects to address flooding in the neighborhoods affected by the 2015 floods, and provide direction to Staff.

**Laurie Moyer, Director of Engineering and CIP, provided an introduction to the Council regarding the infrastructure update, and introduced Daniel Zail with AECOM to review the study and provide a recommendation of the projects that should be funded to address flooding issues. Mr. Zail introduced the team involved with the Infrastructure feasibility studies. Mr. Zail reviewed Blanco River flood events from 1957 to present.**

**He provided the current findings that showed that the projects recommended will increase protection during local rainfall events, but during larger events flooding will still occur. There were numerous stakeholder meetings and site visits throughout the study to determine needs. The Blanco Gardens Riverine solution was discussed which proposes drainage improvements and a bank improvement trail, either a paved surface or vegetated surface could be created. This bank improvement trail could potentially tie into the City proposed trail at a later time. Overflow channels would be created as well to further increase protection from future flood events.**

**Mr. Zail presented possible solutions to address local drainage issues in the**

following areas: Blanco Gardens, Clarewood/Barbara Drive, Midtown/Aquarena Springs, Clarewood/Hwy 80, Uhland Road/County Road, Fairlawn, River Ridge, and Rio Vista. This includes proposed new storm sewers, new outfalls, street and road regrading, ditch vegetation clearing, and the addition of culverts.

Marcie O'Connell with AECOM presented the prioritization matrix and explained the scoring and ranking of each item. The top five projects recommended with use of Disaster Recover, City and Other funds include: Midtown, Blanco Gardens, Clarewood/Barbara Dr., Bank & Trail Improvements, and Uhland Road. The Rio Vista, River Ridge, and Fairlawn projects were prioritized as the bottom three initiatives, but staff will roll these projects into the CIP and will be completed as funding and staff workload becomes available.

Laurie Moyer, Director of Engineering and CIP, discussed the costs and schedule of completion of the top five projects. Council consensus was to move forward with these recommendations.

### III. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

**Grace Davis: 616 Conway Drive**

What is the Woods drainage like at this time? She noted that a senior staff was onboard when the Woods Apartment Complex was constructed and the River Road in front of the Woods Apartment is at a slant and she believes this was a factor of flooding in Blanco Gardens.

Laurie Moyer stated the design of the Woods drainage is 4000 cubic feet per second. The City will use this capacity for other floods and not just the 100 year flood. She also stated The Woods Apartment did provide some of the funding to the City.

Ms. Davis asked what about the total cost in loss of the homes that are not being bought out? Staff indicated this is not known at this time, but will talk with Ms. Davis.

Ms. Davis asked how the City will explain to the citizens when they are fearful when flooding occurs? She mentioned receiving a call from her mother who lives at Mariposa and when Hunter Road began flooding there was a lot of concern by residents.

**Sharon Smith: 943 Haynes Street**

She questioned the alert system sent to citizens regarding flooding. In 1998 Ms. Smith could not get out of her neighborhood and in 2015 her son could not get out. She said no alert was sent out on April 11th. She was in Austin so had no

**idea there was a flood in San Marcos. She wants to ensure citizens get an alert and have a way out of their homes and neighborhood.**

**Jim Valentine: 1000 Hackberry: He asked about communication with TXDot regarding the ditch behind the Fairlawn addition. He suggested the ditch could be dug out to improve drainage. He asked about cost effectiveness and stated it should be minimal.**

**Dianne Wassenich: 11 Tanglewood**

**She asked why the 1971 flood was not listed in the historic flood events chart. Staff informed her this was only flood events on the Blanco River and the 1971 flood was on the San Marcos River.**

**Douglas Beckett: 714 Barbara Drive**

**Commented that the City is on the right track, but there is no talk of existing easements in Blanco Garden. These easements have not been maintained throughout the years. He stated better culverts need to be placed in order to convey water. He also noted there are not enough plans for retention ponds. He discussed a project near Slaughter Lane in Austin that is creating a retention pond to provide relief from future flood events.**

IV. Adjournment.

**Mayor Thomaides adjourned the CDBG-DR Workshop of the San Marcos City Council at 7:39 p.m.**

**Tammy Cook, TRMC, Deputy City Clerk**

**John Thomaides, Mayor**

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