

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Austin, Texas

Special Meeting -- August 30, 1971

The meeting of the Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room, Municipal Building.

Present

Bill Milstead, Chairman
S. P. Kinser
Jack Goodman
Fritz Becker
C. L. Reeves
M. J. Anderson
Alan Taniguchi

Absent

Walter Chamberlain
Jack Crier

Also Present

Richard Lillie, Director of Planning
Jack Alexander, Assistant Director of Planning
Henry Mecredy, Supervising Planner, Research and Development
Homer Reed, Executive Administrator, City Managers Office
Pat Ponkoney, Acting Administrative Secretary

C3-71-1(a) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Milstead, Acting Chairman, called this meeting of the Planning Commission to consider the Capital Improvements Program and make its final recommendations to forward to the City Council.

Mr. Mecredy of the staff explained the Schedule of Funds to the Commission. He explained that on the left are the General Government functions with the amounts by each of the functions for each project proposed to begin in 1971-1972. This is the total project cost. The next column is "Unissued Bonds"; "Cash Needed", the next column. The sources of the cash comes from the next four columns. The "Bonds To Be Issued" have been authorized but not sold. These are to defray the cost of the projects. These four columns will add up to the column to the left, "Cash Needed 9-1-71 to 10-1-72". The "Remaining Commitment" is what will be needed to start the next year. "Category I Projects" will not be initiated this year. Categories I, II, III will not be started this year either. The last column "Remaining Bonds" are arrived at by taking the Issued Bonds from the Unissued Bonds.

Mr. Mecredy read each footnote and explained it briefly:

- (a) General Fund
- (b) Street and Bridge
- (c) Aviation

This money has not been authorized as yet and the construction of this building will not begin until the money is on hand. The money will not be taken from runway bonds.

- (d) Traffic and Transportation
- (e) \$473,000 reduction is required to balance this Capital Improvements Program.
Mr. Milstead indicated that this was brought out of balance to the Committee when it met. There are various items which can not be reduced because many of the items have already been committed. This was indicated in Mr. Mecredy's memo of August 26, 1971, and this is what must be worked out at this time.
- (g) Bonds to be Issued.
Mr. Reed indicated that \$1,000,000 has been re-applied for on the Hospital project and may be in line for 1971-1972.
- (h) Applies to Utility Functions.
- (i) Same as (h).
Mr. Milstead stated that the \$205,000 needs to come from the Electric Department, and recommended that they defer projects in descending order of priority.

Mr. Mecredy stated that the first three projects that they least object to deleting, total \$207,000.

Mr. Byfield, representing a group of citizens concerned with the tennis courts in Austin, appeared before the Commission. He indicated that he had appeared before the City Council and was referred to the Planning Commission. He explained that tennis is becoming increasingly more popular and that the only good facility is the Caswell Tennis Courts. As a result, it is becoming rapidly overcrowded. After due consideration, it was decided that the best solution to this problem would be to have two new centers added in Austin. The places chosen were Patterson Park, because it is easily accessible to both east and north Austin; and Zilker Park in south Austin. At the present time, he indicated that they would need \$5,000 to begin a study of the court situation, engaging professional people for the study. Mr. Byfield indicated that approval of the locations and the projects has been given unofficially and that there was \$200,000 in the Program. His main concern, however, was when action would be taken.

Carol McClellan discussed the Austin Recreation Center, stating that although \$30,000 was provided in last years CIP for the improvement of these courts, no improvements have been made, thus the courts are almost unfit for use.

Mr. Randall was present and indicated that the study does need to be made as to where to put the courts and what they should have. He felt that of the \$30,000, from 5,000 to \$10,000 should be allocated to the study.

Mr. John Willard favored the location of 38 1/2 Street and Manor Road near Patterson Park. It was indicated that the FAA may object to the lighting in the area; this could be resolved by conferring with the Building Inspector and the City Manager. There was a lengthy discussion as to the amount of money the Parks and Recreation Department has spent to date.

Mr. Reeves explained that Mr. Sheffield can use the funds remaining for a study in this area since money is already authorized. Mr. Taniguchi agreed on this point and Mr. Reeves reiterated that if the money is available, then the study can be made. If the site can be agreed upon, this will at least be a starting point.

400

Mr. Goodman made the following motion:

"Improvement and Renovation to the Austin Recreation Center; a feasibility study of the future use of the recreation center and a new tennis center. Category III funds for relocation."

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Commission again took up the immediate problem of cutting out \$473,000.

It was voted to defer \$212,000 from the General Fund and \$33,000 from the bond fund expenditures, thus moving a total of \$345,000 to Category I. The source of \$245,000 being the expansion of the PARD office (\$95,000) and the bypass drainage at Barton Springs pool (\$150,000). Money for risers in the Auditorium was deleted and moved to Category I (\$90,000). Under Public Works, \$60,000 for railroad crossing protection was deleted and moved to Category I. Mr. Reed indicated that \$108,000 could be deleted as land to complete the Central Library site will be bought on September 9, 1971. These deletions were unanimously accepted.

It was then

VOTED: To delete Traffic Control Improvements completely and leave \$10,000 for the replacement of obsolete meters.

AYE: Messrs. Kinser, Goodman, Reeves, Becker, Taniguchi and Anderson

NAY: Mr. Milstead

Mr. Milstead read the cover letter and there were no corrections made.

Mr. Milstead read the review and Analysis Report. There was considerable discussion on the hospital. The final wording accepted unanimously read:

"The Brackenridge Hospital Program is entered into the second phase of a long-range program improvement. The Commission recommendation recognizes the necessity of completing the improvements for the most efficient and economical operation. At the same time, following this recommendation will necessitate an additional \$4,750,000 to meet the commitments of the project if initiated on this scope."

The Commission then unanimously

VOTED: To modify the second statement under Library to read:

"The Commission has been advised by the municipal staff that a library study is nearing completion and will recommend a major capital expenditure. This will be submitted in the near future but will require no expenditures in the year 1971-1972."

Mr. Reeves recommended that the following wording be added to the third paragraph under Public Works: "The Commission again recommends that site and rightofway acquisitions be accomplished as early as possible for those projects requiring them and that a policy be established and followed for early site acquisitions. The need to adopt such a policy becomes more urgent each year." The Commission agreed to adding this paragraph.

Mr. Milstead will work with Mr. Lillie on the exact wording under PARKS.

461

Mr. Reed pointed out that the POLICE have been provided no funds to buy land, so an additional \$118,000 would have to be found in the Program.

The following deletions were made and moved to Category I:

\$21,000	Lighting of Auditorium parking lot.
24,000	Elevator in City Hall.
27,000	Left over from the \$473,000 cut-back.
10,000	Sealcoat and re-striping of Auditorium.
25,000	Interest from Perpetual Care fund.

Mr. Reeves moved that this completed program be approved. It was then unanimously

VOTED: To APPROVE the CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM for the City of Austin.