

Downtown Advisory Board Minutes June 8, 2006

Present: Steve Trevino, Tuddy Dominguez, Kevin Christiansen, Sean Nooner, Mark Sunderman, Evelyne Barbutti, Carol Buttler, Assistant City Manager and Sandra Rodriguez, Meeting Coordinator.

Absent: Jose Najera and Chris Stiegler

Review of the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program Funding Application:

Carol stated that after the last Downtown meeting pending the changes and the motion not to close 16th Street, staff contacted the designer as well as the grant writer the next day and spent the next 2 days readjusting the design without changing it totally because a concept had already been presented to the Transportation Coordinator at San Antonio TxDOT office. The plaza was relocated and made sure the design did not encroach on any county property. The city committed \$250,000 to the project. Staff took the comments from the public and went back to the designer and told him to leave 16th Street open and to keep and move the plaza on to City property. Jose Najera asked how many people the plaza would hold. Carol stated it could hold at least 200. Terry Teague asked question regarding the amount being committed by the city. Since 16th Street is not being closed, the money being committed should be less. All the board members in attendance stated that they did not recall the amount committed being less because of 16th Street not closing. Tuddy Dominguez stated he looked at a million dollar project no matter what. The money could be used to work on other areas. Evelyne Barbutti stated it could be spent on more pedestrian and safety issues. Tuddy stated that the city would probably end up paying about \$125,000 over a five year period because the 4B Board would be funding half of the \$250,000. Tuddy also stated he would like to the entire 16th Street redone with cobblestone or pavers and close it only for special events with a strong barricade structure. Carol explained the state level reviewing process step by step. The submitted total value of the project was at 1.2 million and asking the state for almost 1 million and the City will fund the rest. Terry asked how long it for the project. Carol stated that the City would find out until the end of the year if the City got the grant and maybe one year or two to break ground.

Downtown Revitalization Funding for July 2006 deadline:

The board discussed the Downtown Revitalization funding program and discussed uses of proceeds. The following public infrastructure issues were mentioned:

1. Acquisition of land for public parking
2. Acquisition of the building at corner of Avenue J & 18th Street
3. Acquisition of the building at the corner of Avenue K & 15th Street

4. Acquisition of land at the corner of Avenue M & 17th Street.
5. Acquisition of the “Lil Bit of Everything “ building on 1200 Block of 18th Street
6. Barricades for 16th Street closure for downtown special events
7. Water/Sewer infrastructure

Tuddy motioned for the City to pursue the funding and proceed with the Texas Capital Downtown Revitalization Program application at 10% match or match amount the city deems appropriate. Mark Sunderman seconded the motion.