



MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK BETTER COMMITTEE

Meeting Report
August 13, 2003

PRESENT: Chair Nora Campos, Councilmember Chuck Reed, Councilmember Linda J. LeZotte

EXCUSED

ABSENCE: Councilmember David Cortese

STAFF: Kay Winer, Danielle Kenealey, Meghan Horrigan, Jerry Silva, Sara Hensley, Deborah Nelson, Cynthia Bojorquez, Kirk Pennington, Mike Hannon, Paul Ledesma

The meeting was convened at 2:35 PM

a. Review of Strong Neighborhood Initiative Performance Measurements Memorandum (Auditor)

Jerry Silva, City Auditor gave an overview of the report. He stated that staff looked at the performance measurements that are in place and determined that the purpose of SNI needs to be consistently stated and that performance measurements can be improved to better measure SNI efforts. Staff made 4 suggestions for this improvement.

Councilmember Reed stated that he would like to avoid performance measurements that don't actually measure the program objective.

Jerry replied that staff discussed with the Administration performance indicators that are valid and sufficient. The indicator should reasonably represent the program objective.

Councilmember LeZotte asked if the Administration would incorporate these performance measures in next year's budget cycle.

Deborah Nelson, Director of Neighborhood and Industrial Development, Redevelopment Agency stated that the key departments have met a couple of times now and a subcommittee is currently working on a number of measures.

Councilmember LeZotte asked what the Administration's response would be to recommendation number 4, which is that SNI area residents be included in the development of SNI performance measurements and goals.

Cynthia Bojorquez, Acting Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services responded that in the near future, staff will be conducting focus groups that include the DAC and NAC, with representatives from each of the 20 areas.

Chair Campos asked what the timeline is for implementation.

Cynthia responded that staff will be making a presentation to the Building Strong Neighborhoods Committee in September or October and will have a specific timeline after that.

Kirk Pennington, QUEST, City Manager's Office added that the community survey will be coming out in October and staff will try to incorporate SNI in it.

Councilmember Reed asked what the purpose of the Strong Neighborhood's Initiative is.

Cynthia answered that developing a Mission Statement will be the group's next focus.

Upon motion of Councilmember LeZotte, seconded by Councilmember Reed, the Committee accepted the staff report.

b. Neighborhood Development Center Audit Report (Auditor)

Jerry gave an overview of the report. He stated that there was 1 finding and 6 recommendations made and that the administration concurred with all of the recommendations.

Councilmember Reed asked where the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) will go when PRNS terminates the property lease?

Sara Hensley, Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services answered that there is an interim site available now and a potential site that staff is looking at for later. The objective is to get the NDC back out into the community.

Chair Campos stated that it is important that specific community needs be taken into consideration when developing the criteria for the CAP Grants to make it an equitable process.

Councilmember LeZotte stated that she is glad to see the staff's response to Project Blossom.

Jerry added that this is due to an understanding between PRNS, Housing and Code Enforcement.

Chair Campos asked if staff would be working more efficiently with the Community Foundation Agreement in the future.

Sara answered that staff will meet with them soon and that there had been an internal decision in the past to take over some of the operation that Community Foundation was contracted to perform. In the future, this work will be delegated back to them.

Chair Campos asked if there would be training for staff members who work with the community.

Cynthia answered that training for community coordinators will start in a few weeks. Six different training sessions are planned.

Chair Campos requested a copy of the curriculum.

Sara replied that she would send a copy to her and to the other members of the Committee.

Chair Campos requested a Council information memo from staff in December to follow-up on this program.

Jerry added that this would also be included in the Audit Recommendation Follow-up report.

Upon motion of Councilmember LeZotte, seconded by Councilmember Reed, the Committee accepted the staff report.

c. Environmentally Preferable Procurement Report (General Services) – Recommend Deferral to September

No Committee action taken. This item was deferred to September.

d. Follow-Up Report on the Targeted Neighborhood Clean-Up Program (Code Enforcement)

Mike Hannon, Deputy Director, Code Enforcement gave a brief introduction to the report.

Councilmember Reed asked if the City is involved in the Waste Characterization studies.

Paul Ledesma, Environmental Services Department responded that Environmental Services staff have participated in these studies. He added that waste audits have been done on a number of residential waste locations. The audits show that hazardous waste dumping at these sites has been minimal. Limited budget makes it infeasible to reach every household, but staff is focusing on those households that have not yet participated.

Chair Campos asked how residents who are unable to attend clean-up events get the information.

Paul answered that some of the block grant money is used to ensure that bilingual staff is present at each clean-up event. For those who cannot attend, a voucher is given that provides the proper disposal address. This address is not widely distributed because staff does not want dumping to take place during hours when the facility is closed. Additionally, door hangers are also used in neighborhoods that have not participated in the past.

Chair Campos asked if there was any data on whether or not participation in these events has increased.

Mike answered that, in all districts, the average number of participation has increased from 16 to 20 bins.

Upon motion of Councilmember Reed, seconded by Councilmember LeZotte, the Committee accepted the staff report.

e. Oral Petitions

Bill Garbett, public spoke on the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative and the Neighborhood Clean-up program.

f. Adjournment

The Committee was adjourned at 3:20 P.M.



Councilmember Nora Campos, Chair,
Making Government Work Better Committee