CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY ADVISORY COMMISSION



Chairman:

Alex Romero

Vice Chairman:

Ex-Officio Commissioner:

Don Kaufman John A. Garcia Commissioners:

: Beverly Chavez

Larry Garcia Larry Rainosek

Scott Throckmorton

Anthony Trujillo

MINUTES from AUGUST 21, 2012

ATTENDEES:

Alex Romero
Anthony Trujillo
Don Kaufman
Larry Rainosek
Scott Throckmorton

STAFF:

Donna Griffin Cheryl Rein- Borunda John Garcia

Ramona Zamir-Gonzalez

GUESTS:

Kelly Sanchez, Council Services Mayor Richard J. Berry

Attachments: Draft Statement: Help Make Albuquerque More Business Friendly

Meeting called to order by Chairman Alex Romero at 7:38 a.m.

- I. Commissioner Trujillo requested an addition to the Agenda regarding the Paseo del Norte Interchange Project and how it may affect small businesses. It was agreed to add the topic following Item VI.
- II. July 17, 2012 Minutes reviewed and approved by the Commission.

 MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THROCKMORTON

 SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TRUJILLO

 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- III. The proposed new Fire Code Legislation was heard at the Finance & Government Operations Committee (FGOC) Meeting on August 13, 2012. The vote was tied (one Councilor was absent) on moving the legislation forward with recommendation so it was deferred to the September 10th FGOC meeting. John Garcia reported at the City Directors' meeting on August 20th, the Fire Chief announced that Fire will add an amendment removing the sprinkler provision from the legislation prior to the September 10th meeting

There was further discussion and clarification about the Legislation and the Fire Code as it stands. Cheryl Rein-Borunda added that Carol Wight of the New Mexico Restaurant Association submitted a letter to the FGOC in opposition of the proposed Ordinance as written, which very likely impacted the vote. Commissioner Throckmorton requested a copy of the letter.

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IV. It is assumed that an amendment to the Ordinance regarding the sprinkler requirement will be introduced with the legislation at the September 10th FGOC meeting, and subsequently moved to full Council. John Garcia suggested that Alex Romero and as many Commissioners as possible attend the meeting. Donna Griffin suggested that in case an amendment is not offered, the Commission discuss and vote whether to draft its own [floor] amendment.

Commission voted to draft a floor amendment to the Ordinance if Fire does not prepare an amendment prior to the September meeting.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TRUJILLO SECOND BY COMMISSIONER RAINOSEK MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Donna Griffin will assist with drafting the amendment and will check into whether or not a Councilor is needed to introduce it; if so, she will ask Councilor Jones or her staff.

John Garcia thanked the Commission for its work on this Legislation.

V. The Commissioners reviewed the Draft Statement: *Help Make Albuquerque More Business Friendly*. Commissioner Throckmorton informed that Anderson School of Management is willing to work on the project; Cheryl Rein-Borunda added that she will be meeting with one of the instructors the first week of September to discuss the project parameters.

There was a general discussion regarding the Statement, next steps, and process for the project. It was emphasized that the purpose of the Statement is to gain support of the project and buy-in from City Council and the Mayor. The next steps discussed were an action plan, the scope of work and a timeline for the project. Donna Griffin suggested looking at previous business-related studies that have ranked Albuquerque, and determine what elements were used to make judgments; this would be helpful when articulating the plan to the City Council and Mayor as to where the research is stemming from. Kelly Sanchez affirmed that the Statement ought to be in the form of an action plan if the Commission expects involvement from City Council and the Mayor. Chairman Romero summarized that the Statement should state that, based on the results of the study, a call to action plan will follow.

The Commission agreed that the Statement should be revised with the suggested changes, including replacing Phoenix with Salt Lake City, UT, and delivered to the Mayor and City Council.

VI. The Commissioners discussed a scope of work to present to Anderson School of Management. Cheryl Rein-Borunda suggested that the scope include a time table and the cities that will be examined. She added that the study should compare Albuquerque to a set of comparable cities in regards to their small business start-up process. Commissioners Trujillo and Throckmorton suggested line-items in the project that include taxes and Workers' Compensation fees small business are required to pay, as well as government contractual opportunities.

Mayor Berry sat in on the discussion, adding that the City is currently working in partnership with the University, and this upcoming project is a good opportunity for doing more. He added that Esther Tenenbaum in 311 is a good source of information on City processes for the Anderson students.

The Commission asked for a draft of the project scope before the next Commission meeting on September 18. In the meantime, Commissioner Throckmorton will discuss potential dates with Anderson School for a formal meeting with the Commissioners.

- VII. There was a general discussion about the Paseo del Norte/ I-25 Interchange Project and how the plans may impact small business. Specific concerns were with the access roads and on/off-ramps at Jefferson. Commissioner Throckmorton clarified that Paseo at Jefferson will have a full intersection, but the specific design (diamond or between-lane ramps) has not yet been decided. He informed that a meeting was being held the following Tuesday and Wednesday at the Department of Transportation to discuss this issue.
- VIII. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:42 am.

Minutes submitted by Cheryl Rein-Borunda

Minutes approved by:

Alex Romero, Chairman of the Board

Date 9-/8-20/2