



**RECORD OF A JOINT WORKSHOP
OF THE WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
AND
THE WESLACO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017**

On this 26th day of October at 10:00 a.m., the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a joint Workshop with the Board of Directors of the Weslaco Economic Development Corporation in a bus tour departing from City Hall, 255 S. Kansas Avenue, Weslaco with the following members present:

Mayor	David Suarez
Mayor Pro-Tem	Gerardo “Jerry” Tafolla
Commissioner	Greg Kerr
City Secretary	Elizabeth Walker

Also present: EDC Board members Richard Talbert, Joe Olivarez, Cynthia Cabaza, and Diana Fuentes Aguilar; EDC staff members Marie McDermott, Steve Valdez, and Maria Cisneros; Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Johnny Bautista, Bobby Calvillo, and Vangie Saenz; Chamber staff Doug Croft; Precinct One County Commissioner David Fuentes; Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council President/CEO Ron Garza; and citizens and others.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted October 20, 2017.

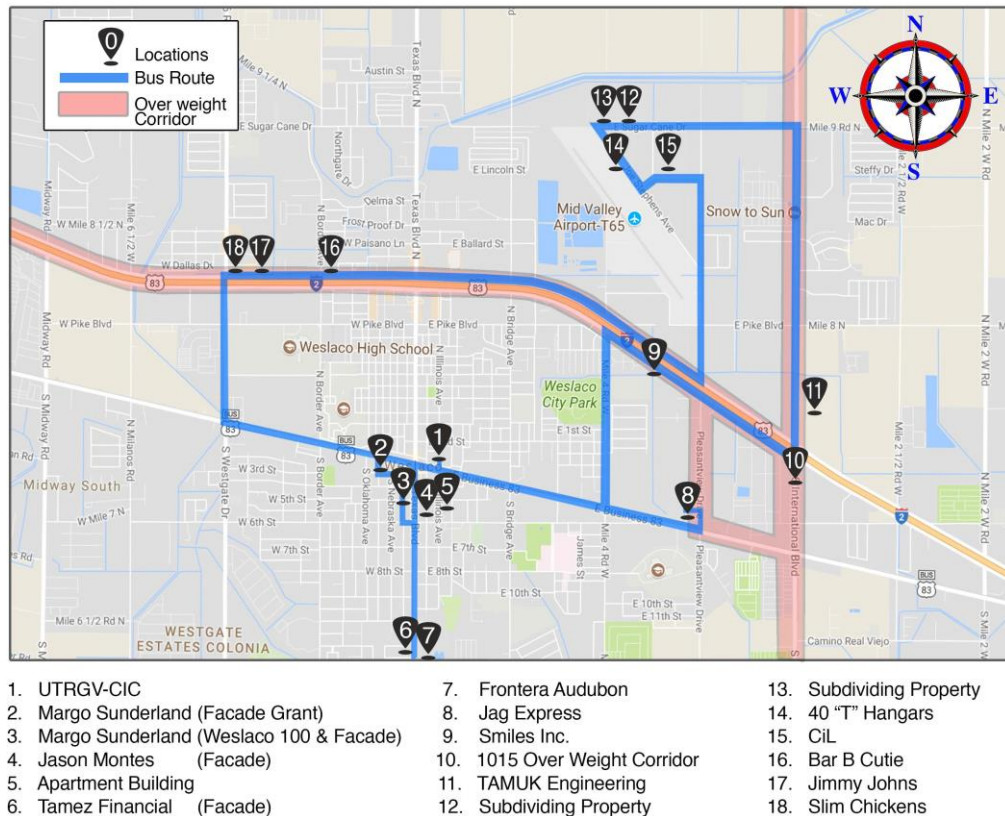
B. Roll Call.

The City Secretary recorded the absences of Commissioners Munoz, Noriega, Lopez and Pedraza.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of the Weslaco Economic Development Corporation workplan with site visits to the following:

The bus departed City Hall at 10:15 a.m., conducting a “windshield tour” with no stops in duration. Ms. Marie McDermott noted 293 jobs added last year with \$15 million in capital investment. Mr. Steve Valdez narrated the tour, noting the following:



1. UTRGV-CIC - \$2.7 million investment in partnership among City, EDC, and Economic Development Administration for higher education facility to house business incubator space and doctoral programs
2. Margo Sunderland (Façade grant) - \$6,952 grant to renovate exterior of fire damaged building for new business, a cryotherapy facility
3. Margo Sunderland (Weslaco 100 & Façade) – \$10,828 interior and exterior grant to build out for local coffee shop
4. Jason Montes - \$1,950 grant to prepare vacant building for prospective tenant
5. Apartment Building – 40-unit, two-story complex to complement UTRGV-CIC with student housing
6. Tamez Financial (Façade) - \$13,000 to improve downtown business
7. Frontera Audubon - \$19,261 last year, following three years of support, toward renovation of dilapidated historic Skaggs House
8. Jag Express - \$39,000 grant to subsidize local bus route, connected into network of 70 buses across five counties; 75 employees at Weslaco headquarters
9. Smiles Inc. - \$15,000 incentive for job creation through business expansion
10. 1015 Over Weight Corridor – from Progreso Bridge to Industrial Park and Pleasantview Drive
11. TAMUK Engineering - \$30,000 incentive to expand higher education engineering program at Weslaco campus
12. Subdividing Property – 10-acres in negotiation for sale or lease to prospect with 75 jobs
13. Subdividing Property – 10-acres in negotiation for sale or lease to prospect with 30 jobs
14. 40 "T" Hangars – construction of new hangar space for rent

15. CiLogistics – \$250,000 incentive cotton company expanding exports into Asia market to bring 72 new jobs to Weslaco with 770,000 square feet of distribution space
16. Bar B Cutie - \$160,000 incentive for infrastructure improvements for \$1.5 million capital construction
17. Jimmy Johns – recruited by EDC from ICSC Conference
18. Slim Chickens - recruited by EDC from ICSC Conference

EDC Chair Rick Talbert noted need to explore additional industrial space as current complex is approaching capacity.

III. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business before the Commission this workshop stood adjourned at 11:40 a.m. on October 26, 2017.

CITY OF WESLACO

MAYOR, David Suarez

ATTEST:

CITY SECRETARY, Elizabeth Walker