

**CITY OF SELMA
WORKSHOP/PRE-COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2005**

The workshop/pre-council meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. in the Council chambers. Council members answering roll call were: Avalos, Mayor Pro Tem Lujan, and Mayor Tow. Council members Derr and Niswander were absent.

Also present were City Manager Heusser, City Attorney Hargrove, City Clerk Carter, the press, and interested citizens.

The agenda for this meeting was duly posted in a location visible at all times by the general public seventy-two hours prior to this meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Tow recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 5:06 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. The meeting reconvened at 6:14 p.m. with no action to be declared in the open session of the meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Division Chief Kestly reviewed for the Council the new Fire Explorer program and introduced its first participants. All were welcomed by the Council.

Police Chief Whiteside introduced the department's newest Police Officer and Safety Dispatcher. Mr. Benjamin Gonzales and Ms. Laura Ramirez were welcomed by the Council.

UPDATE ON NORTHEAST AREA SPECIFIC PLAN: Community Development Director Pirnejad reviewed for the Council the progress of the Northeast Area Specific Plan. He reported that a Notice of Preparation has been prepared and that the State Clearing House has issued a project number.

Mr. Brian Smith and Mr. Jeff Rice, representing URS Corporation and consultants on the specific plan project, stepped forward to review the information gathered and the steps to be taken during the remainder of the study.

Project developers who were present were then invited to comment on the project. Mr. Brad Erikson, Mr. Larry Raven, and Mr. Ken Crabtree then expressed their concerns over the hold-up of the approvals on their subdivisions.

Mayor Tow then announced that this workshop would continue into the 7:00 p.m. start time for the regular meeting and he apologized for the inconvenience.

Community Development Director Pirnejad then read the new State law regarding cumulative effects of development on a City. He reported that because of the volume of projects and their cumulative effects the necessary reports and studies might have to be completed prior to project approvals being granted.

The developers then reminded the Council that they had been promised that there would be no hold-up on their subdivisions due to the initiation of the Northeast Area Specific Plan project.

Mayor Pro Tem Lujan stated that he does not feel these developers should have to wait because their projects and plans were submitted prior to the new law taking effect.

Mayor Tow then stated that due to the lateness of this meeting discussion would continue after the completion of the regular meeting. The meeting recessed at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

General discussion then continued with the developers present and staff reported that they would continue to research the legalities to try to work out a solution to the problem. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Carter, CMC
City Clerk

Don Tow
Mayor of the City of Selma