



Council District 8
Manny Peláez

Federal & State Government Relations Working Group – COVID Response
Co-Chairs: Commissioner Kevin Wolff, Councilman Manny Peláez

Meeting Summary
April 3, 2020

Contact Information:

Chief of Staff, Lauren Mandel - 713-859-2487, lauren.mandel@bexar.org
Chief of Staff, Pat Wallace - 210-454-1474, pat.wallace@bexar.org

Five Strategic Goals:

- Identify existing City/County revenue streams that have new “added” dollars
- Identify newly established revenue streams that don’t have an existing pipeline
- Categorize dollars based on the other committees
- Track all revenue streams to include dollar amounts and destination of allocations
- Create a communications system with other committees in order to best disseminate information

Overall Goal: To acquire as much funding as possible for San Antonio/Bexar County and have a solid plan in place for distribution.

Ground Rules: For the sake of expediency, it’s important to allow our city and county staffs to focus on the work at hand as well as managing the lobbyists and reporting to our group with updates or challenges. If you have ideas or suggestions, please send them to our Chiefs of Staff (Lauren Mandel or Pat Wallace).

Update from the County & COSA:

- County (Melissa Shannon): tasked her team with scrubbing the CARES Act. Her team will research how the CARES Act affects funding for the county and internal and external agencies that the county supports. (Melissa is in contact with 5 other metro counties and El Paso).
- COSA (Sally Basurto): there are national efforts underway now for cities and counties.
- COSA has already started a “Stimulus Funding Tracker” which helps identify current funding streams and new funding streams per the CARES Act.
- Specific funding resources have already been identified for Transit, JAG, HUD and the Airports.
- The City is in contact with federal agencies and pushing for expediency on their part to support state and local relief funds.
- The City will work on stage 2 of this coordination which will be to pressure the federal delegation/elected officials to steer state and local funding our way.
- Sally’s team is scrubbing the CARES Act daily.

- Per Carlos Contreras, they will also populate fields in the funding tracker with monies being chased for non-profit organizations and this information will be shared with other working groups.

Next Steps:

- Co-Chairs will continue to talk to local leaders and lobbyists to gain support for this committee and combine efforts to direct funding to San Antonio.
- COSA & County staff – monitor funding streams, share the Stimulus Funding Tracker information with this committee.
- COSA & County Staff – develop a list of funding priorities for the lobbyists
- COSA & County Staff – develop clear messaging for the lobbyists to take with them to state and federal agencies.
- Walter Serna - keep the City's Stimulus Funding Tracker spreadsheet internal and make it the central working point for all lobbyists.
- Walter Serna – there's a 4th Stimulus package under consideration
- COSA & County staff should develop a list of “asks” and prepare the language for the Bill.
- Carlos Contreras – other committees should identify gaps in funding and provide a list of “asks” as well.
- Media – No one should release information to the media unless it's pre-approved by this committee. The goal is to provide information about the funding we manage to bring home and avoid false hope.
- Committee members - All information relevant to these efforts, additional contacts to include in our meetings, ideas, suggestions or concerns, please forward this information to our Chiefs, Lauren Mandel and Pat Wallace.

Next Meeting: TBD

Summaries will be sent after every meeting.