

**MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL
BRIEFING SESSION
MINUTES
March 22, 2022**



The City Council convened in briefing session in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Midland, Texas, at 9:30 a.m., March 22, 2022.

Council Members present: Dan Corrales, Robin Poole, Lori Blong, Patrick Payton, Scott Dufford, Jack Ladd

Council Members absent: John Norman

Staff members present: City Attorney John Ohnemiller, City Manager Robert Patrick, Deputy City Manager Morris Williams Jr, Assistant City Manager Tina Jauz

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

The following matter(s), and any matter listed on the agenda for this meeting, may be discussed by the City Council:

1. **RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REGARDING THE PROPOSED CULTURAL ARTS DISTRICT**

Planning Division Manager Elizabeth Shaughnessy gave an overview of the proposed downtown Cultural Arts District and the work that has taken place regarding the Tall City Tomorrow plan. More entertainment has been incorporated downtown at Centennial Park with festivals and markets. The State of Texas awards five million dollars per year to districts across the state. If the City of Midland gets awarded, it will be the first city in West Texas to receive such a grant.

While analyzing the area, Ms. Shaughnessy found that Indiana Island Park would be a good location and provided different ideas of designs that could be used for the park.

On January 31st a letter of intent was submitted to the Texas Commission of the Arts. The application due date is the 15th of June. Prior to this date, the City would need to create their own cultural district management entity, policies for the district, a five-year budget plan, develop branding and marketing strategies and a website. We would not need to hire any staff by this date but we would need a committee.

Development Services Director Chuck Harrington reported that at least eight other cities are submitting applications. We were told not to be disappointed if we do not get selected

the first year. We will get feedback and can submit an application again next year.

Mayor Payton asked what would be the challenge of adding bicycle paths. Engineering Director Jose Ortiz reported that the challenge would be incorporating bicycle facilities on roadways since we don't have paths already built in. In some cases, it's as simple as overlaying paint and in other cases, it's a bit more involved.

City Manager Robert Patrick mentioned the Wayfinding signs will be able to help.

All the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED April 12, 2022.

Patrick Payton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy M. Turner, City Secretary