

1
2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
3 PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING
4 BEFORE THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

5 - - -
6 Room 400, City Hall
7 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
8 Thursday, 5/24/01
9 8:55 a.m.
10 - - -

11 BILL 010262 - Authorizing transfers in
12 appropriations for Fiscal Year 2001 within the
13 General Fund from the Mayor's Office of
14 Information Services, the Department of Licenses
15 and Inspections, Director of Finance - Fringe
16 Benefits, and the Department of Revenue - Sinking
17 Fund Commission to the Mayor's Office of
18 Information Services, the Managing Director, the
19 Fire Department, the Department of Recreation,
20 Fairmount Park Commission, the Department of Human
21 Services, Philadelphia Prisons, the Department of
22 Revenue, the City Representative, and the Director
23 of Commerce and the Sheriff.

24 BILL 010337 - Authorizing transfers in
25 appropriations for Fiscal Year 2002 within the
Grants Revenue Fund from the Director of Finance -
Provision for Other Grants to the Mayor - Office
of Housing and Community Development.

18 PRESENT: COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI, Chair
19 COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER, Vice Chair
20 COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL
21 COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE
22 COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
23 COUNCILMAN BRIAN O'NEILL
24 COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ

25 - - -
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2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Good morning.

4 The Committee on Appropriations is now in session.

5 We will hear testimony on Bill 010337 and Bill

6 010262. Bill 010231 will be held.

7 Will the clerk please read the title of

8 the bill.

9 THE CLERK: Bill No. 010262, an

10 ordinance authorizing transfers in appropriations

11 for Fiscal Year 2001 within the General Fund from

12 the Mayor's Office of Information Services, the

13 Department of Licenses and Inspections, Director

14 of Finance - Fringe Benefits, and the Department

15 of Revenue - Sinking Fund Commission to the

16 Mayor's Office of Information Services, the

17 Managing Director, the Fire Department, the

18 Department of Recreation, Fairmount Park

19 Commission, the Department of Human Services,

20 Philadelphia Prisons, the Department of Revenue,

21 the City Representative, and the Director of

22 Commerce and the Sheriff.

23 And Bill No. 010337, an ordinance

24 authorizing transfers in appropriations for Fiscal

25 Year 2002 within the Grants Revenue Fund from the

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2 Director of Finance - Provision for Other Grants
3 to the Mayor - Office of Housing and Community
4 Development.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Is there
6 anyone here to testify on Bill 337?

7 (Witness comes forward.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Good morning.

9 MR. WETZEL: Good morning. My name is
10 Herbert Wetzel. I'm Executive Director of the
11 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority.

12 Madam Chairperson and members of the
13 Appropriations Committee, I am here to testify in
14 support of Bill 010337. This bill would transfer
15 funds from the Finance Department to the Office of
16 Housing and Community Development for the purpose
17 of funding an acquisition recycling program. The
18 acquisition recycling program is a result of a
19 City Council hearing jointly conducted in June and
20 November of 1996 by the Finance, Commerce, and
21 Economic Development committees.

22 Very often, the Redevelopment Authority
23 condemns properties where the fair market value is
24 exceeded by the amount of outstanding City tax
25 liens. In this event, the Redevelopment

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2 Authority's payments are essentially forwarded to
3 the City of Philadelphia as satisfaction of those
4 obligations at the time of settlement rather than
5 to the property owner.

6 For the purpose of maximizing
7 Philadelphia's community development block grant
8 funds, the transfer ordinance would be employed to
9 return those funds to OHCD, the funding agency for
10 the Redevelopment Authority, so they can be used
11 for future acquisitions and subsequent recycling.

12 I respectfully request the approval of
13 this bill, along with a suspension of Council
14 rules so as to permit the first reading on today's
15 calendar.

16 I'd be glad to answer any questions the
17 committee may have.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I have a question.

19 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank you very
20 much.

21 Councilman Nutter.

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
23 Chair.

24 Mr. Wetzel, I have read your testimony
25 three times and listened to it closely this

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2 morning; I have no ability to understand what this
3 is about. And I remember those hearings.

4 MR. WETZEL: Okay. What it is, is that
5 when a property is condemned, the Redevelopment
6 Authority is required to pay the fair market value
7 of the property.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Condemned by the
9 Redevelopment Authority?

10 MR. WETZEL: Condemned by the
11 Redevelopment Authority.

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. So why don't
13 you just kind of slowly walk me through the short
14 version of the story.

15 MR. WETZEL: Sure. There's two ways in
16 which settlement occurs. One is that we were able
17 to identify the owner of the property and settle
18 with the owner. In the event that that settlement
19 takes place, the title company will take the City
20 taxes that are owed by that owner and transfer
21 them to the City of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Transfer what?

23 MR. WETZEL: The taxes that are owed on
24 that property. For example, we'll condemn a
25 property that may have a \$5,000 fair market value

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2 and may have 4,000 in City tax liens on it.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Right.

4 MR. WETZEL: So when we settle with the
5 owner, the title company will collect that \$4,000
6 and transmit it to the City of Philadelphia in
7 satisfaction of those liens.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Right.

9 MR. WETZEL: In the event that an owner
10 is not found, in that same case, that \$5,000 would
11 be paid into court, and we notify the City that
12 the funds are in court, and then the Revenue
13 Department collects those funds from the court.

14 So in either case, that --

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: The \$4,000.

16 MR. WETZEL: The \$4,000 in back taxes
17 are -- become a part of the City's revenue at that
18 point in time.

19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay.

20 MR. WETZEL: And the idea here is,
21 essentially, we have not collected this money from
22 a third party; we've actually collected it from
23 ourselves because we're the party that's paying
24 the funds in the court. So the idea here is to
25 take those funds then and recycle them for more

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2 acquisitions. In other words, take that \$4,000,
3 multiply that by --

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Who's paying the
5 \$4,000 at that point?

6 MR. WETZEL: The Redevelopment
7 Authority is paying it from funds it received from
8 the City of Philadelphia.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: From CDBG funds.

10 MR. WETZEL: From CDBG funds.

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay, and so, tell
12 me now what would be different.

13 MR. WETZEL: Well, then this would
14 authorize up to 3.2 million of those collections
15 to be returned to OHCD to fund more acquisitions.
16 So, essentially, it creates a recycling pool of
17 funds to continue to acquire more properties.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Are you
19 anticipating collecting any more of the tax
20 dollars from these owners?

21 MR. WETZEL: No. In many cases, the
22 taxes owed on these properties exceed the fair
23 market value, so we don't even collect 100 percent
24 of the taxes that are owed. A lot of times,
25 there's a fair market value in that same case of

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2 \$5,000, and there's like 12,000 in real-estate
3 taxes, and all we can collect is the \$5,000 at
4 that point.

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. So -- I'm
6 sorry, maybe it's the time of morning. I'm still
7 not understanding what the difference is between
8 what presently happens and what this proposes to
9 do.

10 MR. WETZEL: What presently happens is
11 those funds remain in the City treasury. They are
12 not recycled for future acquisitions.

13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: In the City
14 treasury and just in the General Fund?

15 MR. WETZEL: Yes.

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. And this is
17 the way to segregate those dollars and make sure
18 that you have a pool available?

19 MR. WETZEL: And return them for future
20 acquisitions. So in essence, we're paying
21 ourselves, you know, and --

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: That was the
23 impression I got.

24 MR. WETZEL: Yeah, we are. We're
25 essentially paying ourselves, and the idea here

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2 was if we're going to pay ourselves, at least
3 let's keep that as a resolving fund to continue to
4 do acquisitions.

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Will that help to
6 resolve the problem where, let's say, a neighbor
7 wants a property and we get these assisted and
8 unassisted budgets, and in the unassisted case,
9 the City wants the person to pay upwards of
10 \$25,000 for a property that might be worth 10 that
11 needs about \$25,000 worth of work, and therefore,
12 they never buy it?

13 MR. WETZEL: Yeah, those funds could be
14 recycled for that activity. In other words, we
15 have a fixed amount of money that we can use for
16 acquisitions. This would increase the pool
17 because of the collections being made and then
18 return to the pool itself. So there's the
19 possibility that those properties that you
20 describe could be a part of that program.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay, I appreciate
22 that.

23 Now, are you prepared to commit that
24 I'll actually see some of these dollars recycled
25 for some of the projects that I'm trying to get

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2 done?

3 MR. WETZEL: The City is on board. We
4 are negotiating with the School District. As
5 you're aware, of the real-estate taxes collected,
6 55 percent go to the School District, 45 to the
7 City of Philadelphia.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Right.

9 MR. WETZEL: We've made substantial
10 progress with the School District. And if we
11 can't make it all the way with the School
12 District, we're going to just go ahead and proceed
13 to try to recycle the 45 percent, but would be
14 nice to be able to recycle all of it.

15 And the reality is, this is not new
16 money; we have not created a new dollar in the
17 system by condemnation activities. And we believe
18 we've made significant progress with the School
19 District and I think we're prepared to go ahead
20 even if the School District doesn't sign on.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay, thank you.

22 MR. WETZEL: You're welcome.

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
24 Chair.

25 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Before we

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2 continue, I'd like to note that we do have a
3 quorum. With us is Councilman Ortiz, Councilman
4 Clarke, Councilman Nutter, Councilwoman Miller,
5 and Councilman O'Neill.

6 Are there any other questions?

7 (No further questions.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank you.

9 MR. WETZEL: Thank you very much.

10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Now we'll
11 continue with Bill 010262. Who's here to
12 testify?

13 (Witnesses come forward.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Good morning.

15 MR. DUBOW: Good morning. My name's

16 Rob Dubow. I serve as the City's Budget
17 Director.

18 I read the testimony at the earlier
19 hearing. Would you like me to read it again or do
20 you want to go right to questions?

21 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Are there any
22 questions here from --

23 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Yeah.

24 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Councilman
25 Ortiz.

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2 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Madam Chair, we're
3 going back to the same issue we had before.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Yes.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: I have here the
6 letter from Ken Trujillo.

7 MR. DUBOW: Yes.

8 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: And I don't think
9 the questions we asked, whether if we gave money
10 to NEDA, whether they could hire an executive
11 director. Obviously, they're a corporate entity.
12 If they get money, they can do with that money
13 whatever they want.

14 What we were saying, and I think the
15 thrust of our questioning is that, what type of
16 employees were these? The individuals that we're
17 going to be hired were going to be hired and paid
18 with City general funds, and then they were not
19 going to be City employees. And I think the
20 expectation is that then it would be the money for
21 their salaries and -- would be continuously be
22 appropriated by this Council. I think that's what
23 we were going in our questioning and trying to
24 find answers to that.

25 I think if you give money to NEDA,

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2 obviously, they can hire an executive director,
3 Director which is what Ken Trujillo says here.

4 MR. DUBOW: Right, I understand.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: And I agree with
6 that.

7 The question is, is it the role of this
8 Council to give money, to appropriate money to
9 hire staff for a corporate entity that then has no
10 responsibility to this Council and no
11 accountability to this Council?

12 (No immediate response from anyone.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Councilman?

14 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Yes, those are the
15 questions.

16 MR. DUBOW: I'd like to ask Jim Cuorato
17 to --

18 (Witness comes forward.)

19 MR. CUORATO: Good morning, Madam Chair
20 and members of Council. I'm James Cuorato, City
21 Representative and Director of Commerce.

22 Councilman, in response to the
23 question, NEDA would be established for economic
24 development purposes. So, as the Solicitor
25 outlines in his letter, there would be no legal

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2 restrictions to having the money flow to them for
3 the purposes set forth in the Solicitor's letter.

4 As far as accountability, they
5 certainly would be accountable to us as the
6 department which would be the source of the City
7 funds. I also expect that City Council will have
8 representation on the board of directors of the
9 New Economy Development Alliance, so there would
10 be direct participation be Council in that regard
11 as well.

12 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: The money for this
13 corporation will be appropriated by this Council,
14 right? And this corporation is -- expects to have
15 ongoing funding from this Council. Is that true?

16 MR. CUORATO: Yes, Councilman.

17 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: And we're supposed
18 to, in essence, transfer our authority to PAID.
19 PAID then gives NEDA the money, right?

20 MR. CUORATO: Yes. Well, actually, it
21 would come through Commerce to PAID, and then PAID
22 transfer the money to the New Economy Development
23 Alliance. So there would be a series of contracts
24 with --

25 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: And these

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2 individuals are not City employees.

3 MR. CUORATO: Correct.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Okay. And they do
5 not come under the aegis of the City as such, but
6 they do get monies appropriated from this Council
7 to that corporate entity.

8 MR. CUORATO: Yes.

9 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: And this Council's
10 only role in this whole aspect is to appropriate
11 the money to them.

12 MR. CUORATO: Well, what we're asking
13 Council to do is join with us on an economic
14 development initiative aimed at this sector of the
15 economy.

16 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: But we have a
17 fiduciary responsibility, according to the
18 charter, in the manner in which we appropriate
19 money and to whom we appropriate money to. I
20 mean, we go through hoops trying to get some money
21 for the school system, and here you're asking us
22 to just, in essence, yearly just give money to an
23 entity that we have -- that they have no
24 accountability to us whatsoever. Commerce comes
25 before us, everybody else, but this corporate

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2 entity does not.

3 MR. CUORATO: Well, Councilman, you're
4 correct. Ultimately, the responsibility for the
5 flow of funds would be with Commerce and with me.
6 City Council would be represented on the board of
7 directors of the new corporation, though. So
8 there would be accountability there as well.

9 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: I don't see it.
10 Madam Chair, I don't, I don't. . .

11 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Go ahead.
12 Thank you.

13 Councilman Nutter?

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
15 Chair.

16 Good morning, Mr. Cuorato.

17 MR. CUORATO: Good morning, Councilman.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: First, I apologize
19 for -- I know there was testimony that may have
20 been somewhat brief at the last Appropriations
21 Committee hearing, which I missed. I have gotten
22 updated on that.

23 Let me kind of go back to the
24 beginning. Who is in charge of this
25 organization?

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2 MR. CUORATO: The organization will
3 have a board of directors of approximately 13
4 members that will be comprised of leaders in the
5 region, City officials, as I said, representation
6 from City Council. So it would be a diverse board
7 that represents all of the interests that are
8 involved in this effort.

9 The plan is to hire an executive
10 director --

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Before you go into
12 that, why don't we stay with that for a little
13 bit.

14 Is there some written material about
15 this entity. Where did the 13 members come from,
16 had they been appointed, who appoints them, how do
17 you know that there will be representation from
18 City Council? Where is that material?

19 MR. CUORATO: There is descriptive
20 material about the need for this effort, about the
21 reason why it's being structured this way as a
22 separate entity with a separate board of
23 directors. There is written descriptive material
24 that talks about all of that.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Where is all of

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2 that? Is that a part of our package here today?

3 MR. CUORATO: It is -- a summary of it,
4 Councilman, is contained in the testimony that I
5 submitted for this hearing. This is a summary
6 though.

7 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I understand.

8 MR. CUORATO: I mean, there is more
9 descriptive material that I have.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: All right. Has the
11 entity been incorporated?

12 MR. CUORATO: It is being
13 incorporated. The documents are being drawn up
14 now.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. And have the
16 appointments been made?

17 MR. CUORATO: Only -- I believe only
18 five appointments have been have been made. So
19 there's still a number of other appointments that
20 will be made by the Mayor.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: The Mayor makes all
22 of the appointments?

23 MR. CUORATO: Yes.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. And so the
25 board is responsible for this entity?

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2 MR. CUORATO: Yes.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. And what's
4 the nature of their relationship with the City.

5 MR. CUORATO: Well, for the funding
6 that we're requesting here, there would be a
7 contract between -- as I said, a series of
8 contracts between the City and PAID and PAID and
9 the New Economy Development Alliance that would
10 set forth specific criteria as to how the funding
11 can be used. So I would expect we would have
12 approval rights over the budget and the types of
13 uses that are proposed for the --

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Are those two lease
15 documents coming back here?

16 MR. CUORATO: I'm sorry, the --

17 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: You said that there
18 is going to be a lease between the City and PAID
19 and PAID and NEDA. Are those lease documents
20 coming back here?

21 MR. CUORATO: I wouldn't -- Councilman,
22 I don't believe they will be leases; I believe
23 they'll be funding agreements. And no, I do
24 not --

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: All right, are the

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2 funding agreements coming back here?

3 MR. CUORATO: No, I don't anticipate
4 that they would be coming back here.

5 What we're asking Council to do is
6 provide the money to Commerce for what is an
7 economic development initiative. And, you know,
8 we would then take the responsibility for making
9 sure that the goals of this program are met by the
10 funding being provided to NEDA.

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: All right. So how
12 would a business access these funds? I mean, some
13 of these funds are going to be used for seed money
14 for start-up for businesses in this new economy,
15 however that's defined?

16 MR. CUORATO: Well, we're still in the
17 very formative stages. The funding that we're
18 asking for is really -- there are two purposes
19 that I've outlined. One is just basic start-up
20 costs to get an organization in place, a staff
21 hired, an office location, equipment fit-out, and
22 the normal things associated with starting up a
23 corporation. That's the first half of the
24 request.

25 The second half --

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2 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: That's a little
3 over a million dollars?

4 MR. CUORATO: Yes, sir.

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay.

6 MR. CUORATO: The second portion of the
7 request is to establish basically a separate
8 economic stimulus fund for the New Economy
9 Development Alliance solely targeted at high-
10 technology and biosciences businesses.

11 And what -- the plan that I have
12 outlined that I want to present to the New
13 Economic Development Alliance board when it is
14 fully formed would involve us looking for matching
15 funds from the State and other entities so that we
16 have a fund that we can -- that the alliance is
17 formed and can start to market the City and that
18 there's a separate economic stimulus fund that
19 could be used for whatever -- however it best can
20 be used in a most creative fashion to get these
21 businesses into the City.

22 And the distinction that I make,
23 Councilman, is that in this sector, there likely
24 are going to be ways that those funds can be used
25 to help those businesses which don't apply to the

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2 traditional businesses that we help through the
3 traditional programs that currently have in place.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Well. . . thank
5 you.

6 Let me at least put on the record -- I
7 think you're aware from some brief conversations
8 that we've had and the longer discussions that
9 your staff have participated in, there is a
10 proposal kind of in its embryonic stages, the same
11 as this idea, where, out in the West Parkside
12 industrial park in the Empowerment Zone, there is
13 an interest in some new-economy, high-technology
14 type businesses that may have an interest in
15 something like this. So my interest, quite
16 honestly, is heightened beyond my normal interests
17 in something like this because I do want to know
18 how businesses throughout the City, wherever they
19 may be located, would have an opportunity to
20 access these funds. And so I clearly have an
21 interest in this and I want to register that
22 concern today, as we work through this process and
23 help to ensure that neighborhood businesses are
24 able to participate in this kind of program.

25 I know it's early, I'm not asking for a

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2 commitment at the moment, but I want the concern
3 duly noticed and that we're going to go forward
4 looking at how those business might be able to
5 participate in something like this. If you're
6 asking us to go out a little bit on a limb with
7 you to get something started up, I want to know
8 that there's going to be some return at the end of
9 the day in a couple of areas that many of us might
10 have an interest in.

11 MR. CUORATO: Fully understood,
12 Councilman, and I agree with you.

13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you.
14 Thank you, Madam Chair.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Okay. I would
16 just like to add that for those in attendance on
17 010231, that bill will be held till June the 5th
18 or the 6th. Thank you.

19 Are there any other questions?
20 Councilwoman Miller.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Good morning.
22 Mr. Cuorato, I'd like to know, what is the
23 projected dollar amount for this new economic
24 stimulus fund under this program?

25 MR. CUORATO: Councilwoman, the request

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2 that I submitted was for a total of \$2.5 million.
3 At this point, the way I see that request breaking
4 down is for half of the money to be used to
5 actually start up the corporation from its very
6 basic beginning. The other half would be used as
7 a separate -- as seed money for a separate
8 economic stimulus fund solely devoted to high-tech
9 businesses.

10 And, as I just mentioned in response to
11 Councilman Nutter's question, I think what we're
12 going to have to do with that program is look at
13 some new creative ways to help businesses because
14 the needs of high-tech businesses are somewhat
15 different than the needs of the traditional
16 businesses that we serve. And I would hope that
17 we could take this money and leverage it to build
18 up a larger stimulus fund from other sources so
19 that we really have a basis to help businesses.

20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Okay. And I have
21 one other question. Can you tell me, who are the
22 board members of PAID, who are members of PAID?
23 Is there anyone new since Mayor Street became -- I
24 used to know who it was under Rendell; I'm just
25 not clear about who sits on PAID board or who

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2 makes up PAID at this point.

3 MR. CUORATO: PAID is the Philadelphia
4 Authority for Industrial Development. It's the
5 financing arm of PIDC, if you will.

6 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I know that. I
7 just need to know --

8 MR. CUORATO: There are five members,
9 Councilwoman. I know that I'm one. I believe
10 there's one vacancy. The other members are, I
11 believe, Bill Harvey, Cheryl McKissick (ph.),
12 James McManus (ph.), and I believe there's one
13 vacancy. It had been Councilman Longstreth but he
14 has resigned and I don't believe that fifth
15 position has been filled.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you.

17 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Councilwoman
18 Blackwell?

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
20 Madam Chair.

21 I came to this meeting this morning
22 because I learned about this -- I learned about
23 this issue yesterday in a talk with the Council
24 President and the Chair of this committee. And
25 certainly, I hope that the committee will consider

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2 supporting this, with the caveat that Council is
3 included every step of the way on this and that
4 they do have membership on the committee.

5 We've kind of reached a crisis,
6 Mr. Cuorato, in Council about receiving
7 information. It's creating a big problem for us
8 and we don't want the possibility of losing a
9 great program that could generate or bring
10 businesses and banks, etc., to the City. But by
11 the same token, the Chair of this committee and
12 the committee is concerned about just being a
13 conduit for money and not inclusion.

14 So we are asking that you -- every step
15 of the way, if you would keep the chair of this
16 committee informed and establish through her
17 whatever inclusion on this board that she deems
18 appropriate so that we can feel a part of things.
19 It's a big, big issue for us, and certainly we ask
20 that you please take that into consideration if
21 you really, really want to get these things done.

22 MR. CUORATO: I absolutely will do
23 that, Councilwoman.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
25 thank you.

1 5/24/00 APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 010262

2 Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank you.

4 Are there any other questions?

5 (No further questions.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: There being
7 none, this session is now -- we will go into our
8 public meeting.

9 Yes?

10 MR. DUBOW: I want to ask for a
11 suspension of the rules for consideration at
12 today's meeting.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Yes.

14 MR. DUBOW: Thank you.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank you.

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1 5/24/01 APPROPRIATIONS - PUBLIC MEETING

2 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Now we'll go
3 into our public meeting.

4 Councilman Nutter, for the purpose of
5 voting out Bill 010262.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
7 Chair.

8 Madam Chair, I move that Bill No.
9 010262 be reported out of this committee with a
10 favorable recommendation and a further
11 recommendation that the rules of Council be
12 suspended so as to permit first reading at our
13 next session.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Is there a
16 second?

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All those in
19 favor?

20 Those opposed?

21 Councilman Nutter, Bill 010337.

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam Chair, I move
23 that Bill No. 010337 be reported out of this
24 committee with a favorable recommendation and a
25 further recommendation that the rules of Council

1 5/24/01 APPROPRIATIONS - PUBLIC MEETING

2 be suspended so as to permit first reading at our
3 next session.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Do I hear a
5 second?

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All those in
8 favor?

9 Those opposed?

10 Therefore, Bill 010262 will be reported
11 out of this committee with a favorable
12 recommendation and with a suspension of the rules
13 so as to permit first reading at our next session
14 of Council.

15 And Bill No. 010337 will be reported
16 out of this committee with a favorable
17 recommendation and with a suspension of the rules
18 so as to permit first reading at our next session
19 of Council.

20 Thank you all very much.

21 (Adjourned 9:26 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Thursday, May 24, 2001, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
BILL NO.'S 010262, 010337

_____,
JOSEPHINE CARDILLO,
Registered Professional Reporter