

# City of San Antonio



## AGENDA Governance Committee

City Hall Complex  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

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**Wednesday, April 16, 2014**

**1:00 PM**

**Media Briefing Room**

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A MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD AT THE MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL, 100 MILITARY PLAZA, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205 ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014 AT 1:00 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Approval of minutes from the March 19, 2014, March 27, 2014 and March 31, 2014 Governance Committee meetings.

### **Individual Briefings**

2. Briefing and possible action on a request from Councilman Cris Medina, District 7, regarding Environmental Policy Updates. [David W. McCary, Solid Waste Management; Roderick Sanchez, Development Services; Edward Benavides, Chief of Staff, Office of the City Manager]
3. Briefing and possible action on a request from Councilman Ron Nirenberg, District 8, regarding a Comprehensive Water Policy Study and Report. [John Dugan, Director, Planning and Community Development]

### **Consideration for Future Meetings**

4. Next Meeting Scheduled: May 21, 2014

### **Adjournment**

At any time during the Governance Committee Meeting, the committee may meet in executive session regarding any of the matters posted above in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT**

**CITY HALL, 100 Military Plaza, is wheelchair accessible. Accessible entry ramp on west side of building. Accessible visitor parking on north side of building. Auxiliary aids and services, including Deaf interpreters, must be requested forty-eight [48] hours prior to the meeting. For assistance, call (210) 207-7268 or 711 Texas Relay Service for the Deaf.**

**Governance Council Committee Members**

**Mayor Julian Castro, Chair**

**Diego Bernal, Dist. 1 | Rebecca Viagran, Dist. 3 | Rey Saldana, Dist. 4**

**Ron Nirenberg, Dist. 8**

**\* Other members of City Council may attend to observe, but not vote, on matters before the Committee.**

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014  
1:00 PM  
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Diego Bernal, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Robbie Greenblum, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Erik Walsh, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Kathy Bruck, <i>CEO, Pre-K 4 SA</i> ; Andrés Andujar, <i>CEO, Hemisfair Park</i> ; Carlos Contreras, <i>Asst. City Manager</i> ; Mike Frisbie, <i>Transportation and Capital Improvements, Director</i> ; Razi Hosseini, <i>Transportation and Capital Improvements, Asst. Director</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Liaison, Mayor's Office</i> ; Tim Salas, <i>District 4</i> ; Lincoln Avant, <i>District 1</i> ; Eloy LaQue, <i>District 8</i> ; Ray Rodriguez, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Special Projects Manager, City Manager's Office</i> ; Rebekah Jamison, <i>Sr. Executive Secretary, Office of the City Clerk</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of minutes from the February 19, 2014 Governance Committee Meeting.**

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2014 Governance Committee Meeting as submitted. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. Motion carried by those present.

**Individual Briefings**

**2. Pre-K 4 SA Board of Directors Appointments for Even Numbered City Council Districts.** Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; Kathy Bruck, Pre-K 4 SA CEO

Peter Zanoni reported that the Pre-K 4 SA Board of Directors was comprised of 11 Board Members. In accordance with the Pre-K 4 SA Bylaws, the Board of Directors are appointed by the Mayor and City Council. Each City Council Member and the Mayor appoint one Director to the Board. The Mayor's Appointee serves as the Chairperson of the Board. District appointees do not have to reside in the specific City Council District.

Mr. Zaroni added that the Board Members serve two-year staggered terms. Appointees of even-numbered City Council Districts served an initial term of one year beginning in 2013 and ending on May 31, 2014. Mr. Zaroni noted that successors would serve a two-year term beginning June 1, 2014 and ending May 31, 2016. He stated that the Chairperson and odd-numbered City Council Districts appointments serve an initial two-year term that would end on May 31, 2015.

Mr. Zaroni reported that the Council Members for City Council Districts 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 have each selected appointees to serve their respective Districts on the Pre-K 4 SA Board of Directors. The new term for the appointees of Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 would begin on June 1, 2014 and last through May 31, 2016. Nominees for the aforementioned five City Council Districts will be presented to the full City Council on April 3, 2014.

Mr. Zaroni stated that three re-appointments were District 2, Pamela E. Rey; District 4, Richard Perez; and District 10, Dr. Linda Foster.

He reported that the two recommended nominees were:

- District 6 - Lucy Hall
  - Served as Executive Director of Edgewood ISD Elementary Schools
  - Master's Degree in Education from Our Lady of the Lake University
  - Professional affiliations include: Alamo Area Alliance of Black School Educators and Coalition of 100 Black Women.
  
- District 8 – Dr. Shari Albright
  - Norine R. Murchison Distinguished Professor of Practice and Chair of the Department of Education at Trinity University
  - Bachelor's Degree in Education and Master's Degree in School Psychology and Educational Administration from Trinity University
  - Formerly served as: Project Director at SBC Foundation; Fellow in the Kellogg National Leadership Program; Principal at International School of the Americas; Director of Special Projects at North East ISD; CEO of Asia Society International Studies Schools Network

Mr. Zaroni stated that Pre-K 4 SA Board requests that the Governance Council Committee approve the recommended appointees for Council Districts 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 and forward to the full City Council for Consideration at the April 3, 2014 Meeting.

Mayor Castro thanked the returning Pre-K 4 SA Board Members for a job well done and stated he looked forward to working with the new recommended appointments.

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to forward said item to the full City Council as recommended by staff. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## **2. Briefing on updates to the design and construction schedules at Hemisfair.** Lori Houston, Director, Center City Development Office

Andrés Andujar reported that the creation of Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation (HPARC) had led to several important milestones towards achieving the mission to expand the park and improve its quality. Those milestones include the City Council approval of the Framework Plan in May 2011 and Master Plan in February 2012; the inclusion and passage of \$30 million of public investment in the 2012 Bond Program; and the clarity of dedicated parkland and creation of the Hemisfair Public Facilities Corporation in December 2013. These activities allow for the design and construction of Phase 1 of the Park Improvements at the Southwest Corner (currently referred to as Play Escape) and Phase 2 at the Northwest corner (currently referred to as Civic Park) of Hemisfair.

Mr. Andujar showed a video relating to the following updates:

- The Southwest Corner: Play Escape is a 4-acre park under design with construction anticipated to start in July 2014. Improvements to the public spaces were designed for all ages and abilities and include a water splash pad, climbing structures, interactive public art, a sand dig, and a central pergola structure that provides shade and access to these amenities. Existing historic structures within this park are currently under design for structural repairs and stabilization. These structures will serve as park amenities and are planned to offer such uses as cafes, bookstores, galleries, retail as well as food and beverage facilities. Construction completion is planned for Spring 2015.
- Northwest Corner: With the placeholder name of “Civic Park” this site will be the most iconic park within Hemisfair. The design was funded through 2012 Bond dollars and the design contract is on the March 20, 2014 City Council Agenda. The scheduling of the design of the Civic Park would involve an iterative process that includes design of underground parking and adjacent mixed-use vertical structures. Construction will commence in the Summer of 2016 once the demolition of the northwest corner of the Convention Center is complete. The Civic Park will be substantially complete in 2017. Finding sources for the various Projects include public, private and philanthropy. Fundraising will be required to construct all of the intended improvements.
- Complete Streets: Access to the Parks at Hemisfair will be through a network of “Complete Streets” that are designed for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, wheelchair users and vehicles. The internal streets that will allow circulation within Hemisfair are designed to be slow-speed, multi-purpose, shared roads with wide sidewalks, and park landscape that provide storm water retention and drainage. South Alamo Street (between Cesar Chavez Boulevard and Commerce Street), Goliad (an extension to Nueva Street), and Water Street (between Cesar

Chavez and Goliad) are currently under design with construction expected to start this Fall.

- Fundraising: Hemisfair Conservancy will serve as a powerful conduit of philanthropy to elevate San Antonio by ensuring exceptional quality and longevity of the Hemisfair public spaces and their amenities for generations. An Executive Director was hired in February 2014 who started donor cultivation. A major fundraising push for the Play Escape is expected to begin in Fall 2014.

Mr. Andujar reported that HPARC continues to work closely with the Center City Development Office, Transportation & Capital Improvements (TCI), the Convention Center Expansion Team, Parks and Recreation, other City Departments and many stakeholders to ensure a coordinated design and construction effort.

Mayor Castro thanked Andrés Andujar and Lori Houston for all their work on HPARC and added that it was the Centerpiece of the Decade of Downtown. He added that it was good to hear the progress being made on the physical revitalization of the space.

Mayor Castro asked of the status in terms of prospects of fundraising efforts. Mr. Andujar stated that it was a combination of private fundraising, naming rights and other tools that could be developed such as sponsorships that families could take over and provide funding.

Mayor Castro excused himself from the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Bernal stated that overall the City was taking parks more seriously and to keep encouraging in some way good work and faith. No action was required for said item.

#### **4. Next Meeting Scheduled: March 27, 2014**

Mayor Pro-Tem Viagran announced that the next Governance Council Committee Meeting was scheduled for March 27, 2014.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Viagran adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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*Julián Castro*  
*Mayor*

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*Leticia Vacek, TRMC/MMC*  
*City Clerk*

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2014  
1:30 PM  
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, Chair Councilmember Diego Bernal, District 1 Councilmember Rey Saldaña, District 4 Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, District 8
Council Absent:	Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, District 3
Staff Present:	Robbie Greenblum, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Judge Bull, <i>Municipal Court Judge</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Liaison, Mayor's Office</i> ; Veronica Zertuche, <i>Asst. City Attorney</i> ; Leslie Haby, <i>Asst. City Attorney</i> ; Tim Salas, <i>District 4</i> , Ruben Lizarde, <i>District 3</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Special Projects Manager, City Manager's Office</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

**Individual Briefings**

- 1. A Briefing on the Appointment Process for Municipal Court Judges.**  
John Bull, Presiding Judge; Fred Garcia, Municipal Court Clerk

Judge Bull provided a briefing and presentation of Municipal Court Judges Eligibility and Appointment Process as an overview to include the following:

- Minimum for Appointment Requirements
  - Must be a U.S. Citizen and Texas Resident
  - Must have two or more years experience in the practice of law in Texas
  - Must be a resident of the City of San Antonio for at least three years immediately preceding the judicial appointment
- Role of City Council
  - Appoints full-time and part-time Municipal Court Judges
  - Appointment is by full City Council action at an open meeting and by Ordinance.
  - Establishes the salary and benefits of each full-time Judge by Ordinance at the time of appointment
    - Salary of Full time Judges is currently \$101,290.00
    - Salary and benefits cannot be diminished during the Judge's term of office
    - Salary and benefits cannot be based directly, or indirectly, on fines, fees or costs collected

- The Presiding Judge is appointed by the City Council from among the associate full-time Judges
- Update
  - Presiding Judge advised the Mayor's Office of 2 vacancies and 7 Full Time Judges whose terms expire April 30, 2014
  - Vacancies were advertised and applications were due February 28, 2014
  - 32 Applications were received
- Governance Committee and Council Action
  - All applicants meet minimum qualifications
  - City Council appoints 2 Judges for the vacancies and reappoints current Judges, tentatively set for April 10 City Council Meeting

Mayor Castro recessed the Governance Committee Meeting into executive session at 1:48 pm pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (personnel matters).

Mayor Castro reconvened the meeting at 2:10 pm and announced that no action was taken in executive session.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to interview the following applicants: Lisa M. Gonzales, Mary Catherine Hayes, Branden Rey Lopez, Margarita S. Pol, Savita Rai and Veronica Rodriguez. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

## **2. Next Meeting Scheduled: April 16, 2014**

Mayor Castro announced that the next Special Governance Council Committee Meeting was scheduled for March 31, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. for interviews.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Castro adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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*Julián Castro*  
*Mayor*

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*Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC/MMC*  
*City Clerk*

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2014  
3:30 PM  
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, Chair Councilmember Diego Bernal, District 1 Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, District 3 Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, District 8
Council Absent:	Councilmember Rey Saldaña, District 4
Staff Present:	Robbie Greenblum, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Liaison, Mayor's Office</i> ; Veronica Zertuche, <i>Asst. City Attorney</i> ; Leslie Haby, <i>Asst. City Attorney</i> ; Tim Salas, <i>District 4</i> , Ruben Lizarde, <i>District 3</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Special Projects Manager, City Manager's Office</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

**Individual Briefings**

**1. Deliberation and action regarding the appointment of Municipal Court Judges**

Mayor Castro announced that the Governance Council Committee would interview applicants selected at the March 27, 2014 Meeting. He recessed the meeting into executive session at 3:40 pm pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters).

Mayor Castro reconvened the meeting at 4:53 pm and stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Councilmember Nirenberg moved to forward Lisa M. Gonzales and Margarita S. Pol to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Councilmember Bernal moved to forward for re-appointment Judges Clarissa Chavarria, Linda H. Conley, Daniel Guerrero, James Daniel Kassahn, Christine Dauphin Lacy, Carla Obledo and Peter Andrew Zamora to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried by those present.

Councilmember Viagran moved to appoint Judge Alfredo M. Tavera to serve as Part-time Judge. Councilmember Nirenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**2. Next Meeting Scheduled: April 16, 2014**

Mayor Castro announced that the next Governance Council Committee Meeting was scheduled for April 16, 2014.

**Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Castro adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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*Julían Castro*  
*Mayor*

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*Leticia Vacek, TRMC/MMC*  
*City Clerk*



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**14-925

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**Agenda Item Number:** 2.

**Agenda Date:** 4/16/2014

**In Control:** Governance Committee

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**TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

**FROM:** Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager

**COPIES TO:** Mayor Julian Castro; Councilman Diego Bernal, City Council District 1; Councilwoman Rebecca Viagran, City Council District 3; Councilman Rey Saldana, City Council District 4; Councilman Ron Nirenberg, City Council District 8; File

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Policy Updates CCR

**DATE:** April 16, 2014

In a Council Consideration Request (CCR) dated November 7, 2013, Councilman Cris Medina of City Council District 7 requested an update on environmental policies within the City of San Antonio. These initiatives include:

1. Prohibition of single-use carryout bags as recommended by the Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee within 90 days.
2. Updating the current Unified Development Code to reflect the 2012 International Electric Conservation Code within 90 days.
3. Evaluate the potential cost savings and elimination of waste by adopting a paperless system for all Council and Committee meetings. Should the staff's evaluation of costs produce a net savings to the City, a paperless system should be employed within 60 days.

### Single-use Carryout Bags

The Solid Waste Management Service Department last presented to the Governance Committee in February 2013 on the issue of single use plastic bags. Since then, staff presented to the Infrastructure and Growth Committee on March 20, 2013 and presented to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) on April 5, 2013. Staff also completed research on comparative cities single-use bag restriction policies (fees and bans) in Texas cities such as Austin, Brownsville, Ft. Stockton and South Padre Island as well as cities across the nation such as Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, and Washington D.C. In addition, comparative cities were contacted to discuss effectiveness of bans and fees within the communities and the legislative issues associated with each policy.

Since the issuance of the November 7, 2013 CCR from Council District 7, Councilman Medina has had an opportunity to speak with local retail businesses in a roundtable format on February 11, 2014 to discuss single-use plastic bags and litter within San Antonio. After the roundtable, Councilman Medina asked that the Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) compile a listing of approaches to the issue of single use bags that City Council could consider and provide that information to the Governance Committee. Additionally, the Councilman asked that staff recommend a single approach that could be further evaluated by the full City Council.

The most prominent approaches to addressing the issue of single use plastic bags in San Antonio for City Council consideration are:

- Allow the business community to do their own education and outreach program regarding single-use plastic bags. This will allow for the retailers to continue protecting their independent brand while also allowing them to each focus on their independent strengths. The City would not coordinate any of the educational or outreach efforts.
- Institute a fee for all distributed bags, both paper and plastic, by commercial businesses.
- Institute a ban on all single-use plastic and paper carry-out bags at the point of sale.
- Approve and implement a City ordinance requiring business retailers to require incentives for the usage of reusable bags.
- Maintain the current status and continue focusing on outreach to the San Antonio residents who receive SWMD services informing them that beginning August 1, 2014 bundled single-use plastic bags can be recycled in the blue cart program.

The recommendation on this issue is for staff to present additional information on a ban of single-use plastic and paper carry-out bags to the Governance Committee or to the full City Council during an upcoming City Council “B” Session.

### **Updating Unified Development Code**

With respect to updating the Unified Development Code to reflect the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (2012 IECC), Development Services and the Office of Sustainability are implementing the Sustainable Building Ordinance approved by City Council on March 12, 2009. This ordinance requires the Stakeholder Sustainable Building Committee (SSBC) meet to review the progress of energy code adoption and to offer recommendations on how to achieve the goal of net-zero carbon construction by 2030. The SSBC held several meetings in 2013, which included discussions on adopting a newer code. Prior to adopting a new energy code, Development Services recommends the City, the Building-Related & Fire Code Board of Appeals and Advisory Board, and the SSBC have the opportunity to study the 2015 IECC and to make a recommendation to City Council on which code would be best for San Antonio. The 2015 IECC is expected to be published this year.

### **Investigate Paperless System for Council and Committee Meetings**

The City Manager’s Office and the City Attorney’s Office have examined and implemented improvements to reduce paper and print consumption:

- In September of 2011 the Office of the City Manager began electronic delivery of City Council Agenda packets. City Council Members began using iPads for agenda review.
- Electronic Delivery of the City Council Committee Agenda packets would reduce the number of printed agenda packets. Consuming and estimate of 22,000 sheets of paper and approximately \$3,000 in supplies and paper cost annually. Currently agenda packets are produced for each of the Committees and distributed on the posting day. Electronic delivery of City Council Committee Agenda packets is already in place.
- Paper copies of the City Council agenda packets will be distributed to the Library and the City Clerk's Office for archiving purposes.

On December 2013, the Office of Sustainability (OOS) launched the "Think Before You Print" employee campaign. All Departments received a memorandum from OOS informing them of their department's average monthly paper/printing consumption with the goal of reducing paper/print consumption by ten percent. The City Manager has declared this initiative as a city-wide goal for FY14. Since January of 2014, OOS staff has provided technical assistance to each department to assist in meeting their print/paper reduction goal.

Based on an analysis of print and paper costs in 2012, the City expended \$5.5 million in printing costs and \$272,000 in paper. Through this organizational effort, staff anticipates an approximate savings of \$527,000 in printing costs and \$137,000 in paper costs. The Office of Sustainability will monitor and provide progress to Departments on a quarterly basis on this sustainability initiative.

The first quarterly performance report reflecting all departments' print reduction indicates that sixty percent of all departments have met or exceeded their target goals or are on track to meet their annual target goal. Additionally, Office of Sustainability staff is providing one-on-one assistance with departments to meet their targeted goals. Staff is providing those departments the print management employee outreach and solutions to ensure all departments are on track to print reduction progress for the next quarterly report in July 2014.

### **Summary of Recommendations**

1. The recommendation on this issue is for staff to present additional information on a ban of single-use plastic and paper carry-out bags to the Governance Committee or to the full City Council during an upcoming City Council "B" Session.
2. Development Services recommends the City, the Building-Related & Fire Code Board of Appeals and Advisory Board, and the SSBC have the opportunity to study the 2015 IECC and to make a recommendation to City Council on which code would be best for San Antonio. The 2015 IECC is expected to be published this year.
3. Staff recommends the electronic delivery of City council Committee agenda packets. City staff will continue the "Think Before You Print" initiative as a part of the FY 2014 City of San Antonio organization goal.



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

RECEIVED  
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
CITY CLERK  
2013 NOV 12 AM 7:50

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Edward Benavides, Chief of Staff; Chris Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Michael Bernard, City Attorney; John Peterek, Interim Management Services Administrator

SUBJECT: Environmental Policy Updates

DATE: November 7, 2013

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the City Council:

I, Councilman Cris Medina, along with the undersigned Councilmembers, request for the City Manager and appropriate city departments to develop standards that enhance the city's current environmental policy in order to enhance the quality of life and save both taxpayers and ratepayers money. Initiatives should include;

- 1) Prohibition of Single-Use Carryout Bags as recommended by the Citizen's Environmental Advocacy Committee within 90 days.
- 2) Updating the current Unified Development Code to reflect the 2012 International Electric Conservation Code within 90 days.
- 3) Evaluate the potential cost savings and elimination of waste by adopting a paperless system for all Council and Committee meetings. Should the staff's evaluation of costs produce a net savings to the city a paperless system should be employed within 60 days.

Brief Background

1) Single-Use Carryout Bags

Texas spends approximately \$25 Million per year, and San Antonio spends nearly \$1.3 Million per year in controlling single-use carryout bag pollution. Single-use carryout bag pollution threatens our infrastructure, costs small businesses money and makes our city less attractive to visitors. Austin, Brownsville, Laredo, Seattle, and Los Angeles have all successfully implemented this policy. Chicago, Dallas and New York City are currently considering a similar ban.

2) Updating San Antonio's UDC to 2012 IECC Standards

Currently, the City's UDC reflects the 2009 standard of the IECC. This standard regulates

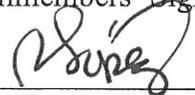
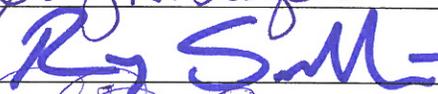
minimum energy conservation requirements for new buildings. The provisions of the 2012 update promote energy efficiency in a building's construction, heating and cooling system, and water heating system. This update aligns with our City's efforts to reduce energy consumption and provides for a more sustainable future. Energy cost savings for a home built with 2012 IECC Standard are estimated at \$252 per year quickly offsetting any initial cost increases of the new construction. By updating the current code to 2012 IECC standards; homeowners will realize in excess of \$7,500 in net energy savings over a 30-year mortgage.

### 3) Paperless Council

Philadelphia, Sacramento and cities across the nation are going paperless. Switching to a paperless system will save tax dollars by cutting printing costs, saving staff time as well as reducing environmental waste.

Submitted for Council consideration  
by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)	District No.
1. 	6
2. 	2
3. 	5
4. 	5

RECEIVED  
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
CITY CLERK  
2013 NOV 12 AM 7:50



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**14-633

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**Agenda Item Number:** 3.

**Agenda Date:** 4/16/2014

**In Control:** Governance Committee

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**DEPARTMENT:** Planning and Community Development

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** John Dugan

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** City-wide

### **SUBJECT:**

Briefing and possible action on a Comprehensive Water Policy Study and Report.

### **SUMMARY:**

Briefing and possible action on a Comprehensive Water Policy Study and Report.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

At present, the City's Master Plan adopted in 1997 does not sufficiently address the need for a Comprehensive Water Policy in relation to the City's projected growth.

### **ISSUE:**

On February 6, 2014, Councilman Ron Nirenberg, representing Council District 8, initiated a City Council Communication Request (CCR) to discuss an analysis of policies, procedures and regulations pertaining to long term planning to ensure water security including the provision of adequate and affordable water supplies through the year 2050. That CCR subsequently was clarified through a memorandum from Councilman Nirenberg to the Mayor and City Manager dated April 10, 2014.

In response to both the CCR request and the April 10, 2014 memorandum, a draft scope of work for a Comprehensive Water Policy of the City of San Antonio is proposed for Governance Committee review and input. The comprehensive study, once completed, would be brought forward to City Council for consideration as a component of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

There are three components to developing the Comprehensive Water Policy study as follows: 1) data collection and analysis, 2) policy analysis, and 3) action plan strategies. Each of these phases is detailed below.

1. Data Collection and Analysis Phase - Entails the review of existing studies, reports and data related to local and regional ground and surface water planning, which shall include but not be limited to data available through local, regional and state water planning entities and other agencies such as the Texas Water Development Board, Edwards Aquifer Authority, State Data Center, San Antonio River Authority, and SAWS. Data shall include studies on local and regional population projections, socioeconomic impacts, and water supply and demand. Data shall also be obtained on current planned projects related to surface and ground water.

2. Policy Analysis - Entails the review of San Antonio policies and procedures related to ground and surface water standards and regulations and will provide regulatory, administrative or legislative recommendations to improve local water resource management. The analysis will take into consideration the City's growth policies, annexation plans, and development regulations to ensure these policies support water quality and protect the water supply to meet the demand of residential, commercial, military, and industrial users at affordable rates on a long term basis.

3. Action Plan Strategies - Based on the policy analysis, strategies will be recommended to ensure San Antonio's water security. Strategies should take into consideration the identification of water sources/supply, conservation methods, source diversification (reuse, desalination, importation, etc.) and coordination with neighboring governments and regions concerning mutual interests and shared resources, in order to meet future needs. The costs/benefits of the current policies should be assessed related to alignment with regional and state water plans, future annexation and growth plans, and financial risks to residents and ratepayers.

The Comprehensive Water Policy study, upon completion, would be considered for adoption as a component of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The estimated cost of study is estimated to range between \$60,000 to \$100,000 or greater, when using existing data. The cost possibly could reach up to \$1 million if analysis requires collection of new data sets or updating existing data sets. The study could be undertaken by private consulting firms and/or University water institutes.

Funding sources:

- Possible Council initiative in FY 2015 annual budget
- Possible grant funding through Texas Commission on Environmental Quality through Clean Water Act Section 319(h) funds (60:40 federal/local match) up to \$400,000

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

2014 APR 10 PM 4:05

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8**

TO: Mayor and City Manager  
FROM: Councilman Ron Nirenberg   
SUBJECT: Comprehensive Water Policy Report  
DATE: April 10, 2014

Dear Mayor Castro and City Manager Sculley:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide additional guidance on the report requested in my CCR filed February 10. As stated in the April 2 San Antonio Water System briefing to Council on water management, citywide policy questions need to be addressed to aid planning at SAWS and the city. This report should provide the information necessary for current and future Councilmembers to make informed decisions about our city's future as it relates to the availability and affordability of water.

Specifically, the report on San Antonio policies impacting water supply planning should address the following:

- 1) Historic and projected population growth and water demand;
- 2) Historic and projected costs for supplying and delivering water in the service area;
- 3) Summary of the governing bodies involved in San Antonio's water supply and the authority delegated by each of those bodies;
- 4) City Code provisions and city planning strategies that impact projections for water demand, availability, and costs;
- 5) Summary risk assessment of existing and proposed water sources, including natural, developmental, and potential conflicting interest factors in the region, along with current mitigating activities;
- 6) Overview of next step policy questions that City Council must consider in order articulate a Comprehensive Growth Plan that includes available and affordable water through 2050.

This report will help Council as we consider our long-term growth strategy and strive to maintain an exemplary financial position, provide basic services for residents, strengthen economic development, coordinate planning initiatives, and encourage conservation.



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

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2014 FEB 10 AM 8:36

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Councilman Ron Nirenberg, District 8

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Edward Benavides, Chief of Staff; Chris Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Robbie Greenblum, City Attorney; John Peterek, Senior Management Analyst

SUBJECT: Edwards Aquifer and Water Supply Planning

DATE: February 6, 2014

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for inclusion of the following item on the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

Directing staff to research and publish a comprehensive report on all City policies, procedures, standards, regulations, and initiatives involving the cost, quantity and quality of the water drawn from the Edwards Aquifer. Water security – ensuring affordable, abundant, and clean sources of water for future generations of San Antonians – is the most basic and important element of economic quality and vitality of life for our citizens. Therefore, the goal of this study and report is a long term planning initiative to provide for affordable and adequate supplies of water to support the needs of San Antonians and the economic development of the San Antonio region through the year 2050. This report should include as a minimum, a plan to provide affordable rates and abundant clean water to San Antonians; to determine how the City protects the Edwards Aquifer as its main source of drinking water; and how City growth policies impact the management and operation of the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) and vice versa; and any recommendations for changes or improvements.

As part of this analysis of current city policy, staff should consider and report on the costs and benefits of particular policies as they relate to the cost of our water, the impact of water policies and water supplies on both economic growth and the protection of our water supply, how policies align with the goals of the State and South Central Texas Regional Water Plans (Texas Water Development Board), how policies conflict or complement the City's growth/annexation plans and projected growth of water demand, and how policies impact financial risk and rate inflation borne on City residents and ratepayers.

Over the last several years, the rate structure for SAWS in San Antonio attempts to strike a balance between residential and business rates, and to strengthen conservation pricing for all water users. Despite this policy, San Antonians have seen increases in their costs for water and have seen various restrictions imposed on their usage of water during times of drought and decreased rainfall. The cost and supply for San Antonio's water will become even more critical in the future if we continue to experience drought conditions that are even worse than those on record in the 1950s and if we continue to face new lows for rainfall throughout the year. We must comprehensively address the issues concerning our most valuable resource.

## Brief Background

The Edwards Aquifer sits below thousands of acres across several counties in Central and South Texas, and it serves as the primary water source for the City of San Antonio and neighboring communities. It is composed of three zones: Contributing, Recharge, and Artesian. The Contributing Zone collects rainfall in the Edwards Plateau of the Texas Hill Country, and water flows down through the porous, permeable limestone of the Recharge Zone. Prolific springs and natural wells, caves, sinkholes, and other karst features are characteristic of the Recharge Zone that spans across northern Bexar County. The southern Artesian Zone comprises the largest surface area of the aquifer, and water passes through slowly due to the thick layer of clay and rock in the ground.

The City of San Antonio has experienced, and will continue to experience, rapid growth over the Recharge Zone, leading to local, regional, and statewide efforts to manage development in these sensitive areas and encourage water supply diversification. Nevertheless, the Edwards Aquifer is – and will continue to be – the preeminent source of water for San Antonio and surrounding communities: 90 percent of the water supply for the San Antonio Water System comes from the Edwards Aquifer. And as such, the Edwards Aquifer is a top concern for households in San Antonio because it is the primary source of water for household needs, it is critical for the economic well-being of the San Antonio community; and because businesses depend on it for their operations, keeping Edwards water plentiful grows more critical and more challenging each year. In December of 2013, the Dallas Federal Bank cited water scarcity as “one of the most pressing economic issues facing the state.” Improper planning would have dire consequences for our City as a whole and will cost taxpayers unnecessarily. For decades, there has been a consensus that the City must engage in a delicate balancing act between economic development in sensitive regions and the protection of Aquifer water quality and flow. The San Antonio City Council first adopted the concept of Recharge Zone protection in 1975, instituting by ordinance a zoning overlay for that portion of the aquifer. In 1987, the city council produced a document entitled “The Edwards Aquifer: Perspectives for Local and Regional Action,” endorsing a plan for non-degradation of the aquifer to protect ground water supplies within the city’s jurisdiction. In 1994, the council adopted a more comprehensive approach, “The Edwards Aquifer: San Antonio Mandates for Water Quality Protection (33 Mandates),” which called for various actions in a regional watershed plan that considered federal, state, and local rules.

City residents have recognized the challenge of managing our primary water source and, since 2000, have overwhelmingly approved the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program three times, designating sales tax revenue to purchase conservation easements in the Recharge Zone. This program, which has been held as a model regionally and nationally, has led to the protection of over 100,000 acres of the Recharge Zone, equivalent to over 10 percent of the zone.

These efforts notwithstanding, the City’s policies related to water security and Edwards protection remain scattershot and, at times, inconsistent with our vision for guaranteeing affordable and abundant water for San Antonians and for the growth of San Antonio.

The City designated SAWS as its agent for enforcing environmental regulations. SAWS is committed to a growth policy in order to sustain an expanding population in the City and accompanying revenue requirements.

In 2002, the City Council established an ad hoc Committee on Water Quality to review the

existing aquifer protection ordinance, recognizing the need to not only review regulations periodically, but also that the foundation of our region's economy – and the growth of San Antonio – will ignore increasing threats to the Edwards Aquifer at its own peril. The committee was composed of various stakeholders from neighborhoods, businesses, the development community, and environmental organizations, and it considered impervious cover limits, floodplain buffers, extension of protections within the Contributing Zone, use of water quality basins, sensitive land acquisition, underground storage tanks, research, and public education about aquifer protection. Despite the importance of its charge and the fact that improvements were identified, the committee was unable to reach consensus on recommendations to be adopted in a final report. The city council adopted various intermediary measures in 2006, and the committee dissolved.

The conflict presented by the need for abundant and affordable water, aquifer protection and growth of water utility services in the region underscores the importance of various City policies that affect water security, one of the world's primary long-term natural resource challenges. The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas has confirmed that water scarcity is a threat to long-term economic viability, and while economic growth is a contributing factor to this challenge, it can also be its victim. This threatens every family and every business in our region.

Local governments in Texas have understood this problem and responded through conservation efforts, acquiring water rights, diversifying supplies, and expanding service as a business imperative. SAWS has responded through similar initiatives as well, including a Brackish Groundwater Desalinization Program, acquisition of Edwards Aquifer pumping rights, the Regional Carrizo Water Supply Program, and Aquifer Storage and Recovery. In January, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts heralded SAWS' efforts as models for other municipalities statewide. Yet, while water source diversification is a worthy pursuit, it will not supplant the preeminence of the Edwards Aquifer to the City's water security. Acquisition of water rights and the expansion of service area by providers across the region reaffirm the importance of insuring our water sources. This pursuit is fundamental to our ability to encourage economic growth.

A comprehensive study examining City policy that impacts water costs, quantity, quality, and planning is needed at this critical time in our City's history. Through this analysis, we can better understand the opportunities to secure our water quality and quantity, complement our vision for the growth of the City, and make policy decisions accordingly for the benefit of every citizen and business in San Antonio.

Submitted for Council consideration  
by:

  
Councilman Ron Nirenberg, District 8

Supporting Councilmember's Signatures (4 only)

District No.

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2.		<u>4</u>
3.		<u>1</u>

4.

*[Handwritten signature]*

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