

**State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio**



**Meeting Minutes
City Council Special Meeting**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Thursday, January 30, 2020

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Plaza Building.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: Mayor Nirenberg, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, and Courage.

ABSENT: Treviño and Perry.

- 1.** Briefing on the FY 2021 - 2022 Consolidated Funding Process for Human and Workforce Development Services. [Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Mayor Nirenberg stated that Item 1 would be postponed to another date.

- 2.** Briefing on the post-solicitation of request for proposals from non-profit agencies to reduce and prevent domestic violence in San Antonio. [Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Melody Woosley stated that on October 30, 2019, Dr. Colleen Bridger provided a detailed presentation regarding the status of domestic violence in San Antonio, the development of the City’s first Comprehensive Domestic Violence Plan (CDVP), and the creation of the Collaborative Commission on Domestic Violence (CCDV). She noted that the rate of homicide for women doubled between 2015 and 2018. She stated that while family violence calls to the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) have been stable; felony family violence arrests increased by 6% per year from 2014-2018. She noted that Family Violence Prevention Services reported the highest average monthly census ever in May 2019.

Ms. Woosley stated that in the summer of 2019, Metro Health and the Human Services Department conducted an assessment of domestic violence related services and partnered with the community to develop the City’s CDVP. She noted that in August 2019, the CCDV was launched. She stated that the Commission’s Work Group prioritized gaps identified in the CDVP which led to the development of the Request for Proposals (RFPs). She noted that Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 funding for domestic violence included: 1) \$250,000 for the Triple P Parenting Program; 2) \$80,000 for School Based Violence Prevention; 3) \$170,000 for the DV Communications Campaign; and 4) \$500,000 annually for the competitive RFP. She stated that the RFP requested proposals from non-profit agencies to support a community-wide effort to reduce and prevent domestic violence in San Antonio through the following seven priorities identified by the Commission:

1. Referral system and 24-hour hotline
2. Pro-Bono legal representation
3. Domestic Violence High Risk Teams
4. School Based Education
5. Forensic Nurse Examiner Program
6. Blueprint for safety for protective order enforcement
7. Lethality Assessment Training for first responders

Ms. Woosley reported that the RFP was issued on November 1, 2019 and in December 2019; proposals for eight projects were submitted by five agencies. She stated that in early January 2020, the Evaluation Committee met and conducted interviews, evaluated, and scored the proposals. She noted that staff would request City Council consideration and approval of the contracts in February 2020. She stated that there were no findings from the minimum requirements and diligence reviews. She reviewed the members of the Evaluation Committee, evaluation criteria, and evaluation scores and noted that the top five ranked programs were recommended for funding. She stated that the five recommended projects included:

Rank Order	Organization	RFP Focus Category	Requested Funding	Funding Recommendation (FY 2020 and FY 2021)
1.	YWCA	School Based Education	\$272,222	\$272,222
2.	Bexar County Family Justice Center Foundation	Domestic Violence High Risk Teams	\$430,553	\$330,552
3.	Texas Rio Grande Legal	Pro-Bono	\$338,987	\$226,726

	Aid	representation		
4.	Family Violence Prevention Services	Forensic Nurse Examiners	\$125,500	\$125,500
5.	Family Violence Prevention Services	Lethality Assessment Training	\$45,000	\$45,000

Ms. Woosley stated that these programs would expand the scope to include more prevention of violence and richer survivor services. She noted that the amount of the award was over a 19-month period from March 2020 through September 2021. She provided details on each of the recommended projects and stated that staff would request approval of the contracts with the four agencies. She noted that the contracts would begin on March 1, 2020 and would end on September 30, 2021. She stated that the Human Services Department would monitor and evaluate the progress of the programs throughout the contract period. She noted that the contracts included an option for a one-year renewal for FY 2022.

Mayor Nirenberg asked of the progress of the CDVP. Ms. Woosley stated that the community campaign had been implemented. Dr. Dawn Emerick noted that training for community provider agencies would begin next week. Mayor Nirenberg stated that addressing domestic violence was a top priority and the City Council was dedicated to making a difference.

Councilmember Gonzales asked why the Batterers Intervention Program was not included in the Plan. Ms. Woosley replied that no applications were received for that program. Dr. Emerick stated that the program was not included in the priorities as the priorities were developed based on the Commission's recommendations. Dr. Bridger noted that this was year one of a five-year plan and other priorities would be addressed in the coming years.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of housing in relation to the Plan. Ms. Woosley stated that providing housing for survivors was not included in the Plan but was included in other plans such as the Homeless Strategic Plan.

Councilmember Pelaez stated that the most effective tool in combating domestic violence was the Batterers Intervention Program.

Councilmember Viagran asked how the San Antonio and Edgewood Independent School Districts were chosen to receive school-based education on domestic violence. Ms. Woosley stated that these school districts dealt with the issue of domestic violence every day.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if staff partnered with Region 20 to market the School Based Education to other school districts. Ms. Woosley replied that staff, along with SAPD, presented the Handle with Care Program to the Region 20 Superintendents.

Mayor Nirenberg spoke of the willingness of some associations such as hoteliers to become part of the solution. He expressed support for making domestic violence part of the agenda of trade and business associations.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 3:17 pm.

APPROVED

**RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR**

Attest:

LETICIA M. VACEK TRMC/CMC/MMC
City Clerk

DRAFT