



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

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; John Petereck, Chief of Staff; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney

SUBJECT: Faith-Based Community Liaison

DATE: March 30, 2016

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 Governance Committee:

Faith-based communities represent a significant and integral part of the larger San Antonio community-- one responsible for bringing and keeping people together, and offering support through their developed gifts of humility, compassion and sense of duty to creating a better, stronger community. Faith-based communities often have a keen awareness of some of the most basic struggles in our communities, and as such can play a key role in helping direct the efforts of human services efforts in our city. Therefore, I request a plan to establish a Faith-Based Community Liaison. Duties of the said liaison will include: the consolidation of efforts of both faith-based and secular organizations in order to address issues within San Antonio neighborhoods and communities, the creation of partnerships to address issues such as: economic recovery, poverty, support for women, children, and families, teen pregnancy, getting young men and women off the streets, job growth, as well as serving as a bridge between government and faith groups.

Brief Background

The facilitation of dialogue and collaboration with faith-based organizations has been identified as a priority at the Federal level by the issuance of an Executive Order by President Obama which created the White House Office of Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships within the Domestic Policy Council. San Antonio has several faith-based organizations, including Church organizations and non-profits, which aim specifically to improve communities through the uplifting of those in needs, whether by material or other means. Faith-based non-profits understand community needs and are often able to address these needs through organizational outreach and spiritual guidance programs. Examples of cities that have implemented a faith-based initiative include: Philadelphia, Phoenix, Montgomery, and Anchorage.

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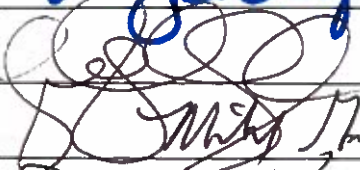

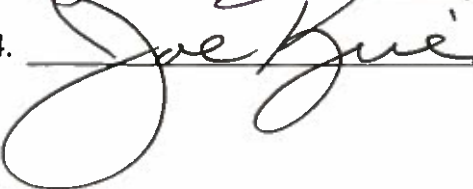


Submitted for Council Consideration
by:


Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

Supporting Councilmember's Signatures (4 only)

District No.

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