

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

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COPIES TO:

Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Edward Benavides, Chief

of Staff; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Martha G. Sepeda,

Acting City Attorney; John Peterek, Senior Management Analyst

SUBJECT:

Creation of Safe Exchange Zones at Police Substations

DATE:

TO:

FROM:

5.12.2015

Mayor & City Council

City Councilman Mike Gallagher

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: Creation of Safe Exchange Zones at Police Substations to help citizens safely broker transactions with strangers.

Brief Background

The exchange of commerce of legitimate items among individuals has evolved over the years. With the rising popularity of internet commerce, individuals are often put in a position of selling their items or purchasing their items from strangers who may or may not have good intentions. Nationwide, there have been several instances of online transactions between two private parties turning into violent encounters. While the internet may serve as a positive tool to market goods and services, unfortunately in some cases websites make it easier and more anonymous for unsavory individuals to surprise and harm their targets.

The purpose of this CCR is to respectfully request that SAPD explore the benefits of creating a "safe exchange zone" in its 6 sub-stations parking lots to help citizens safely broker transactions with strangers. This extra level of security could help prevent senseless acts of violence and provide legitimate sellers a safe place to conduct their business.

The offering of Police parking lots for these transactions has already successfully occurred in other parts of the country.

Councilman Mike Gallagher, District 10

Supporting Councilmember's Signatures (4 only)	District No.
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