

**COMMUNITY HEALTH AND EQUITY
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2017
2:00 P.M.
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM**

Members Present: Councilmember Ana Sandoval, Chair, *District 7*
Councilmember Cruz Shaw, *District 2*
Councilmember Rey Saldaña, *District 4*
Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, *District 6*
Councilmember Manny Pelaez, *District 8*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rod Sanchez, *Assistant City Manager*; Ed Guzman, *Assistant City Attorney*; Denice F. Treviño, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Lance Villers, *Chair, UT Health Science Center at San Antonio*; David Miramontes, *EMS Medical Director*; John Butchkosky, *Community Service Liaison, Texas Alliance for Human Needs*; Meredith McGuire, *Comment Action San Antonio Coalition*; Molly Cox, *Director, SA2020*

Call to order

Chairperson Sandoval called the meeting to order.

Citizens to be Heard

Chairperson Sandoval called upon the citizen registered to speak.

Meredith McGuire spoke of the impact of hurricanes on communities.

Chairperson Sandoval stated that the Committee was charged to provide oversight and policy direction for libraries, parks, climate change, and resiliency.

Briefing and Possible Action on:

Item 3 was addressed at this time.

3. Consideration for the City of San Antonio to be a participant in the United Nations “BreathLife” Campaign. [Rod Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Douglas Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer]

Douglas Melnick stated that the City of San Antonio was invited to join the United Nations “BreathLife” Campaign to become a “BreathLife” City. He noted that the “BreathLife” Campaign was a joint international campaign led by the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Environment, and the Climate & Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to raise awareness of the threat air pollution poses to our health and climate, and to mobilize cities and individuals

to protect our health and planet from the effects of air pollution. He stated that benefits of the Campaign included:

- Increase national and international exposure of our air quality initiatives
- Potential to participate in international assemblies to share best practices

He noted that there were no requirements for participants but participants could voluntarily report on emissions, progress, and success stories. He noted that upon approval, City Staff would submit a letter and complete questionnaire to join the network of cities to demonstrate support for air quality solutions with the goal to meeting the WHO Air Quality Guidelines by 2030. He stated that the City would join a network of 33 cities that included: 1) Santiago, Chile; 2) Greater Manchester, U.K.; and 3) Jalisco State, Mexico. He noted that San Antonio and Washington, DC's membership would be announced in September 2017, as the first U.S. Cities to join the "BreatheLife" Campaign. He stated that the Office of Sustainability and Metro Health would serve as department liaisons for the initiative. He noted that participation in the "BreatheLife" Campaign was consistent with the goals of the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan and the Metro Health Strategic Plan. He stated that both Plans outline numerous strategies to improve air quality, and educate the community on how poor air quality impacts public health and the local economy. He noted that there was no fiscal impact from the "BreatheLife" Campaign.

Councilmember Pelaez asked how the process had been initiated. Mr. Melnick replied that the United Nations contacted his office.

Councilmember Brockhouse asked how long the campaign had been in effect. Mr. Melnick replied that the campaign had existed for over one year.

Councilmember Shaw stated that air and water quality were taken for granted.

Chairperson Sandoval noted that no cost had been associated with the marketing of the campaign.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to recommend and forward participation by the City of San Antonio in the United Nation's "BreatheLife" Campaign. Councilmember Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 4A and 4B were addressed at this time.

- 4. Consideration of Support to Two Grant Applications for the University of Texas at San Antonio and the National League of Cities related to the Advancement of Resilient Grid System for San Antonio.** [Rod Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Douglas Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer]
- 4 A. A Resolution of Support Submitted to Sandia National Laboratories Requested by the University of Texas at San Antonio, in Support of a Grant Application Submitted by Sandia National Laboratories to the U.S. Department of Energy Grid**

Modernization Laboratory Consortium (GMLC) for a Project Titled “Southern Consortium for Storage-Enabled, Cyber-Secure, Urban Resilient Electrical Distribution”.

- 4. B. A Resolution of Support Submitted to the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) in Support of a Joint National League of Cities (NLC) and National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) Grant Application to NREL’s Solar Energy Innovation Network for a Project Titled “Incorporating the Benefits of Solar PV into Community Resiliency Planning Through State and Local Collaboration”. [Rod Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Douglas Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer]**

Mr. Melnick stated that the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) requested a letter from the City of San Antonio supporting a grant application to Sandia National Laboratories for a grant application to the U.S. Department of Energy Grid Modernization Laboratory Consortium (GMLC) for a project titled “Southern Consortium for Storage-Enabled, Cyber-Secure, Urban Resilient Electrical Distribution.” He noted that the application was for a pre-proposal which would be evaluated to determine if it proceeds to the next round for further evaluation. He stated that the National League of Cities (NLC) in collaboration with the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) requested a letter of support for their grant application to NREL’s Solar Energy Innovation Network for a project titled “Incorporating the Benefits of Solar PV into Community Resiliency Planning through State and Local Collaboration.” He noted that if the grant was awarded; NLC and NASEO would convene a network that would consist of the following State and Local Government pairs: 1) The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Energy (DACS-OE); 2) The City of West Palm Beach; The Minnesota Division of Energy and the City of St. Paul; and 3) The Texas State Energy Conservation Organization (SECO) and the City of San Antonio. He stated that the expected outcomes of this collaboration include the alignment of policy and planning strategies at the state and local level, and the creation of a Local Resiliency Action Plan that would collect resources, assess local infrastructure needs and priorities, and make strategic recommendations to direct and inform future resiliency planning efforts. He noted that the adoption of these resolutions was consistent with the goals of the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan, adopted by the City Council in August 2016. He stated that the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan included numerous strategies related to resilience, emergency preparedness, increased deployment of renewables, as well as the piloting of solar with battery storage backup at critical facilities. He outlined the benefits to the City of San Antonio of both grants.

Councilmember Sandoval asked of any money paid to the city as the result of the grants. Mr. Melnik stated that there was no fiscal impact to the city as the result of said grants.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to recommend and forward two resolutions of support for grant submittals by UTSA and the NLC related to the advancement of a resilient grid system for San Antonio to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 1 was addressed at this time.

1. Briefing on the SA2020 Community Health-Related Indicators

Molly Cox stated that in 2010, SA2020 was implemented through a community-wide visioning process. She noted that the process attracted thousands of people from San Antonio to discuss and determine what the future of the city should look like. She stated that the conversations resulted in the following cause areas:

- Arts and culture
- Civic engagement
- Community safety
- Downtown development
- Economic competitiveness
- Education
- Environmental sustainability
- Transportation
- Neighborhoods
- Family wellbeing
- Health and fitness

Ms. Cox noted that through the process, SA2020 defined what the city was and where it was going. She stated that 145 partners were engaged and 39% of indicators had been met or exceeded and the remainder were on schedule to be completed. She outlined the cause areas and the results of same. She presented the results of the 59 indicators which were contained in the cause areas. She stated that the next report would be presented in January 2018.

No action was required for Item 1.

Item 2 was addressed at this time.

2. Briefing on the State of the City's Health. [Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager; Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD, Director, Health]

Colleen Bridger stated that there was an overlap between the areas redlined and the life expectancy by zip code for Bexar County. She spoke of equality, equity, and removing barriers. She stated that health was a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. She noted that teen births and congenital syphilis had decreased from the previous year. She stated that childhood immunizations, Type 2 Diabetes, and ozone levels were similar or worse than state rates which were worse than national rates. She noted that the following public health outcomes were markedly increased:

- Obesity
- Early Prenatal Care
- HIV
- African-American infant deaths

She stated that additional issues/solutions were: 1) Violence; 2) HIV; and 3) Tobacco use, especially with youth. She reviewed the city health rankings and goals.

Councilmember Pelaez asked if Bexar County could raise the smoking age. Dr. Bridger replied that she did not know, but the smoking age could be raised by the city. Councilmember Pelaez asked staff to determine if Bexar County could do same.

Councilmember Brockhouse asked of the viability of SA2020 moving forward past that year. Ms. Cox stated that she would meet with him to discuss same.

Councilmember Saldaña spoke of the high cost of healthy food for families.

Councilmember Shaw spoke of finding the root cause of violence in the community and addressing same.

Chairperson Sandoval spoke of the lack of resources for compiling data. Dr. Bridger stated that the data gathered was too small of a sample size so more resources were required.

Ed Guzman stated that legislation to increase the age for tobacco purchase to 21 was proposed but failed in the Legislature. He stated that he would explore the options for setting policy related to this by the County and the city. Chairperson Sandoval requested an update on same by email. She also requested an update on the progress of healthy food procurement at a future meeting.

Councilmember Saldaña requested that a discussion be held on paid sick leave for city employees at a future meeting.

No action was required for Item 2.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Ana Sandoval, Chair

Respectfully Submitted

Denice F. Trevino, Office of the City Clerk