



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

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2017 NOV 21 AM 10:45

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Councilwoman Ana E. Sandoval and Councilman William "Cruz" Shaw  
COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to City Council  
SUBJECT: Initiate Viewshed Protection  
DATE: November 17, 2017

Issue Proposed for Consideration

We ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available Governance Committee:

We respectfully request your support to initiate the process to include additional San Antonio Historic Landmarks for Viewshed Protection, and to enable the establishment of Viewshed Protection Districts. We further request the Office of Historic Preservation be directed to conduct a study of additional views and vistas of historic places, landmark buildings, and other sites of cultural importance for Viewshed Protection.

Brief Background

San Antonio's landmarks are an essential part of its rich cultural fabric. Preservation of the views and vistas of these landmarks by consideration of their surrounding environment ensures future development does not encroach on or prevent their celebration. Two such landmarks are Hays Street Bridge and Woodlawn Lake Park.

The Hays Street Bridge is comprised of 2 sections both relocated to San Antonio in 1910 to serve as a viaduct from downtown to the Eastside. The 225-ft long Whipple-Phoenix trusses section is joined to a 129-ft long Pratt trussed bridge together forming the Hays Street Bridge. The City declared the bridge a landmark in 1987. In 2001 the bridge was designated a Texas Historical Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Investments in restoration and hard work by many have led to the bridge being restored. Today, the bridge continues to connect the Eastside with Downtown and be a community gathering place for events, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Woodlawn Lake Park's land was deeded to the City of San Antonio in 1918. The park's centennial celebration will coincide with the City's year-long Tri-Centennial. The neighborhood which surrounds Woodlawn Lake Park was one of the first subdivisions built outside the city limits by the West End Town Company. The 80-acre park was created when a dam was built across the Alazan Creek in 1889. From 1915 to 1929, the lake was leased by Mr. W.H. Suden.



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He provided rowboats, free movies, ran a hotel and built an island at the lake. Between 1924 and 1928, the City acquired land for a playground and built the pool and community center. The jogging path was added in 1981 when the depth of the lake was dredged to six feet. Now as it was then, it is a primary gathering place for celebration and recreation for westside communities.

Candidates for Viewshed Protection are as follows:


- Woodlawn Lake Park
- San Antonio Landmarked Bridges
- Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center
- Hays Street Bridge
- Comanche Look Out Park
- Japanese Tea Gardens

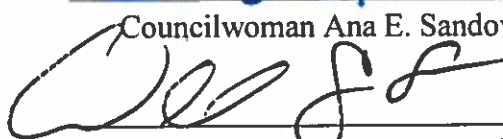
The specific purposes of Viewshed Protection are as follows.

- To safeguard San Antonio's heritage by preventing the despoliation of views of areas and buildings that reflect important elements of the city's cultural, natural, historic, and economic fabric.
- To create favorable impressions of San Antonio as well as provide environmental enrichment for the citizens of the city.
- To enhance San Antonio's image as a scenic and livable city and to provide appropriate measures to maintain the existing ambiance of certain historic and cultural sites.
- To preserve, protect, and enhance visually those areas of high visitor interest.
- To reduce visual distractions and enhance the photographic quality and opportunities of important historic and cultural sites and landscapes.

These views are amenities and assets of great value to the city, its people, and its economy. Please join us in protecting the City of San Antonio's historic fabric for the next 300 years.

Submitted for Council consideration by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilwoman Ana E. Sandoval, District 7

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman William "Cruz" Shaw, District 2

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Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures

District

1.

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2.

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