

**GOVERNANCE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 at 10:00 AM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Committee Present:	Mayor Ron Nirenberg, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Adriana Rocha Garcia, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember John Courage, <i>District 9</i>
Committee Absent:	Councilmember Ana Sandoval, <i>District 7</i>
Staff Present:	Councilmembers Andrews-Sullivan and Pelaez; Erik Walsh, <i>City Manager</i> ; Andy Segovia, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Maria Villagómez, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Rod Sanchez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Michael Shannon, <i>Development Services Dept. Director</i> ; Razi Hosseini & Art Reinhardt, <i>Transportation &amp; Capital Improvements Dept.</i> ; Chief William McManus & Joe Frank Picazo, <i>San Antonio Police Dept.</i> ; Jim Greenwood & Ivalis Meza, <i>Mayor's Staff</i> ; Caitlin Krobot & Stephanie Flores, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; William Trynoski, <i>District 2 Staff</i> ; Tim Salas, <i>District 4 Staff</i> ; Bianca Maldonado, <i>District 7 Staff</i> ; Lina Rodriguez, <i>Executive Assistant to the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Erin Bley, <i>Kaufman-Killen</i> ; Rich Acosta, <i>Citizen</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Nirenberg called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of the Minutes from the Governance Council Committee Meeting of August 28, 2019.**

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the Minutes from the Governance Council Committee Meeting of August 28, 2019. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by those present.

**2. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilman Manny Pelaez to develop options to enhance protection and security to tenants at apartment complexes surrounding university and college campuses. [María Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]**

Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez briefed the Committee on the CCR brought forth by Councilmember Pelaez regarding the development of options to enhance protection and security to tenants at apartment complexes surrounding university and college campuses. She noted that the coordination of services between SAPD, University Law Enforcement, and Apartment Management is paramount to reducing the likelihood of criminal activity. She stated the CCR also identified the creation of minimum standards for apartments related to security cameras, archiving of recorded video, entry gate maintenance, and lighting in parking lots/common areas to promote student safety.

Ms. Villagómez stated that SAPD met with UTSA Police to discuss concerns associated with criminal activity at the student housing complexes immediately surrounding the 1604 Campus. She noted that it was determined

that the development of a comprehensive strategy between SAPD, UTSA PD, and Apartment Complex Managers would minimize the likelihood of victimization for student tenants and enhance response to reported criminal activity. She reported that as a result of these meetings SAPD and UTSA agreed to the following three-pronged strategy to ensure student safety throughout the year:

<b>Parent/Student Interaction</b>	<b>Apartment Outreach</b>	<b>SAPD &amp; UTSA PD Coordination</b>
Move-in Days	Meet with Apartment Managers and Personnel	Combined SAPD/UTSA Police Calls and Response
Roadrunner Days	Discuss needs/public safety concerns	Information Sharing: Student Related Crimes
SGA presentation	Schedule seminars, training etc.	SAPD Access to Live Scan
National Night Out	Establish clear lines of communication	Coordination of COP classes

Ms. Villagómez noted that SAPD would present the strategy coordinated with UTSA to other local colleges and universities based on a crime analysis of multi-family developments within a one mile radius of local colleges and universities to identify areas with high concentration of crime. She stated staff recommended that SAPD in coordination with UTSA PD implement and monitor the three-pronged strategy. The results of this strategy will be presented to the Public Safety Council Committee in early 2020.

Ms. Villagómez stated that the Development Services Department recommended expanding the stakeholder group to include the development community, neighborhood groups, and the San Antonio Apartment Association (SAAA) to discuss whether potential code changes could provide improved protection and security to tenants at apartment complexes surrounding university and college campuses. She noted that any potential Building Code amendments would be presented to the Planning and Community Development Council Committee and possibly incorporated in the 2020 Building Code update process.

Councilmember Pelaez stated that he drafted this CCR due to several major homicides and crimes in the surrounding areas of UTSA. He noted that he had already spoken to the SAAA regarding this issue and their organization volunteered to assist in making their properties safer.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia inquired of the timeline regarding meetings with the SAAA and the stakeholder group. Michael Shannon responded that they had begun preliminary meetings with SAAA regarding this topic. He noted that the stakeholder group would be expanded within the month and meetings would begin immediately upon expansion. Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if the app that UTSA created to report crimes on campus would be shared with other local universities and colleges. Ms. Villagómez stated that they would suggest this to UTSA.

Councilmember Courage inquired of the information gathered through the UTSA app and how it integrated into SAPD reporting or dispatching. Chief William McManus stated that the app was a great tool for data sharing between local universities and colleges, but he stressed the importance of reporting all criminal activity to 911 and not just the UTSA app.

Mayor Nirenberg noted his support for the CCR and requested that any potential Building Code updates be in line with the SA Tomorrow Plan. He stated that he brought forth an initiative when he was a Councilmember addressing the growing criminal activity surrounding the UTSA 1604 Campus and he welcomed more discussion and action regarding the issue.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia moved to approve the staff recommendation and commence the stakeholder group initiative. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**3. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilman Courage to amend Section 21-52 (a) (6) of the Local Government Code to prohibit construction during specific times when near residential properties [Roderick J. Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Michael Shannon, Director, Development Services]**

Director Michael Shannon briefed the Committee on the CCR brought forth by Councilmember Courage to amend the Noise Ordinance – Section 21-52 (a) (6) of the Local Government Code to prohibit construction within 300 feet of an inhabited residential property between the hours of 7:00 pm and 7:00 am from Monday through Friday and 7:00 pm and 9:00 am on Saturday and Sunday. He stated that currently the City Code does not define specific hours of construction when this activity takes place near residential properties. He stated that staff recommended creating a task force of construction, development, and neighborhood groups to discuss and develop potential code changes to provide improved noise protections for existing residential areas, while ensuring no negative impact to development activity with the city.

Councilmember Courage stated that he drafted the CCR in response to calls he received regarding excessively loud construction late at night; primarily commercial construction and apartment complexes. He mentioned that his intent was not to impede development or construction and that certain exception may be warranted; but noted the need for more specific parameters.

Councilmember Gonzales inquired of the noise regulations for City mandated street work and how it might be affected by this potential code change. Mr. Shannon responded that most City street work occurs at night as to not impede the flow of traffic and that this would not be affected by these potential code changes. Mr. Rod Sanchez noted that the City employs robust communication and notification to all surrounding areas when beginning any major street work project.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia noted her interest in protecting the construction workers who may be affected by these time constraints and for staff to be wary of the heat conditions. She suggested that staff work with the San Antonio Builders Association and San Antonio Manufacturers Association regarding these code changes.

Councilmember Courage noted that the City provides plenty of notice and communication regarding future construction projects to those in the area, but added that there is not the same level of consistency with commercial construction and that is where the issue lies.

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the staff recommendation to begin the creation of the taskforce and provide an update to the Planning and Community Development Council Committee. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**4. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, District 5, requesting to immediately develop and implement a formal, year-round, sustained training program that focuses on innovative best practices for fully implementing the City's Complete Streets and Vision Zero policies for all transportation and SA Tomorrow planning, projects, and programs. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Interim Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements]**

Interim Deputy Director Art Reinhardt briefed the Committee on the CCR brought forth by Councilmember Gonzales requesting implementation of a sustained training program that focuses on innovative best practices for fully implementing the City's Complete Streets and Vision Zero policies for all transportation and SA Tomorrow Plan projects and programs. He stated that the CCR outlined 8 items and that he would briefly discuss with more in depth discussion to be brought before the Transportation and Mobility Council Committee.

Mr. Reinhardt focused on the implementation of training programs. He noted that the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Vision Zero Network have provided the City and its external consultants with trainings since 2017. He added that TCI had dedicated budget resources to implement additional training.

Mr. Reinhardt stated that there are a variety of guides and manuals that assist the transportation engineering industry in implementing the safest and most effective projects. He noted that TCI uses the resources found in the American Association of State Highway Transportation and Officials (AASHTO) design standards, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), and the City's Uniform Development Code (UDC). He noted that the City's Design Guidance Manual (DGM) was most recently revised in 2017 to include updated information for the delivery of the 2017 Bond Projects, which provided an outline of required deliverables that must be provided to TCI when engineering designs or studies are completed.

Mr. Reinhardt noted that it can be determined how many pedestrian fatalities occurred; however, the pedestrian lives saved are difficult metrics to define. He recommended providing updates regarding their progress implementing these principles to the Transportation and Mobility Council Committee.

Councilmember Gonzales stated that this CCR was an extension of the Vision Zero Plan to implement more institutionalized training and principles. She added that she would be attending the Vision Zero Conference in New York this year and suggested that TCI learn from other cities who are implementing Vision Zero Plans. She mentioned her interest in training all of the City's Contractors and Designers in these principles.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia inquired of the micro-mobility policy document and the timeline for its production. Mr. Reinhardt stated that it would be produced in FY 2020 and updates would be provided to the Transportation and Mobility Council Committee. Councilmember Rocha Garcia requested a copy of the DGM.

Mayor Nirenberg requested that updates be brought before the full City Council periodically at B Session.

Councilmember Gonzales moved to forward updates on this CCR to the Transportation and Mobility Council Committee. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**5. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request (CCR) from Councilwoman Jada Andrews-Sullivan and Councilman John Courage to develop and implement a voluntary gun buyback program in the City of San Antonio. [María Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]**

Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez briefed the Committee on the CCR brought forth by Councilmembers Andrews-Sullivan and Courage regarding the development and implementation of a Voluntary Gun Buyback Program in the City of San Antonio. She noted that the CCR suggested that the program allow individuals to anonymously turn in firearms without fear of legal repercussions while also developing a public awareness campaign to appeal to residents in communities with a high concentration of gun violence. She stated that the goal of the program was to reduce gun violence by reducing the number of firearms in the community. She noted the staff recommendation was to provide updates and discuss other possible alternatives with the Public Safety Council Committee.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan noted that when drafting the CCR, she discussed with Chief McManus how this program could be different from others. She stated that this program would not alleviate all gun violence within the City, but that this voluntary program could be a start.

Councilmember Courage stated that he welcomed the collaboration on this program with Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan and reiterated that this was a small step for public safety to possibly prevent accidental gun deaths, suicide deaths, and domestic violence deaths. He noted that this program could also assist those that wish to dispose of their guns, but might not know how to do so properly.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia noted her support of the program and mentioned any step to save lives was worth the effort; she cited the Stop the Bleed initiative as an example of those steps. She inquired if funding for this program was available. Ms. Villagómez responded that funds for this program are currently used for equipment and training for SAPD. Councilmember Rocha Garcia requested a cost-benefit analysis for this program.

Councilmember Gonzales inquired of the legality of the program. City Attorney Andy Segovia responded that the program was strictly voluntary and thus legal.

Mayor Nirenberg noted the resolution passed by the City Council to reduce gun violence and stated that any step is better than none. He suggested possible inclusion of this initiative in the next City's Legislative Agenda.

Councilmember Gonzales moved to forward this CCR to the Public Safety Council Committee. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

City Manager Erik Walsh directed staff to include the CCR regarding Pay for City Council Staff on the next Governance Council Committee Agenda in October. He added that the staff recommendation was to initiate a classification and compensation analysis regarding that CCR.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 11:14 am.

**ATTEST:**

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*Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC/CMC/MMC  
City Clerk*

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*Ron Nirenberg, Mayor*