

City of San Antonio



AGENDA City Council Special Meeting

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Thursday, June 13, 2019

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the "B" Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Hall, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry.

ABSENT: Brockhouse.

1. Briefing on the City's financial policies and potential budget policy issues in preparation for the June 21, 2019 City Council Budget Goal Setting Session for the FY 2020 Budget. (María Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget)

SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

William McManus reported that the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) was comprised of six service areas covering 495 square miles. He noted that there were 115 patrol districts which were staffed 24/7/365 and served 1.5 million residents. He stated that SAPD had 2,447 sworn positions; 183 Park Police positions; 57 Airport Police positions; and 617 civilian positions. He noted SAPD's composition of the Police Operations Bureau, the Operations Support Bureau, and the Administrative Service Bureau. He reviewed the FY 2019 SAPD Budget and noted that the SAPD General Fund was \$456.3 million.

He stated that 2019 SAPD outcomes compared to 2018 reflected that: 1) Homicides were down by 15%; 2) Emergency Response Time was down to 6:29; 3) Use of force incidents was down by 7%; 4) Complaints were down by 29%; and 5) 98.2% of 9-1-1 calls were answered within 10 seconds. He provided an overview of the 2019 SAPD outcomes for the Violent Crimes Task Force. He noted that the Cite and Release Program has been expanded to include all eligible offenses in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure with the exception of graffiti. He stated that the expanded Cite and Release Program allowed Officers to return to the field more quickly than with a custodial arrest and provided for full Officer discretion. He noted that Bexar County would offer Diversion Programs to reduce the number of non-violent offenders which would begin this summer. He reported on the Justice Intake Assessment Annex (JIAA) Pilot Program established in coordination with Bexar County.

Relating to vacancies, he noted that SAPD had 58 vacancies and 115 cadets at this time. He noted that the SAPD Patrol Staffing Model was developed in 2018 by the Innovation Office for Police Patrol and provided for 60% of Officer time on-call and 40% of Officer time on proactive patrol. He stated that said model was evaluated annually and additional staffing needs would be identified based on population and call growth. Staffing priorities included additional Patrol Officers, enhancement of the Crisis Response Team, and the creation of Neighborhood Nightlife Corridors.

SAN ANTONIO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Fire Chief Vance Meade reported that the SAFD Budget was \$328.8 million with 80% of that utilized for Fire Suppression and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). He stated that SAFD resources included 1,762 Uniformed Employees, 122 Civilian Employees, 54 Fire Stations equipped with 54 engines, 21 ladder trucks, and 43 ambulances. He noted that other resources included Hazmat Materials Teams and equipment, Urban-Wildland Interface Team, Technical and Swift Water Rescue Teams, and Airport Crash Rescue Team. He stated that there were over 380,000 unit responses and since 2014 fire suppression has had an average annual growth of 7.9% while EMS has had an average annual growth of 2.1%. He noted that the Insurance Services Office (ISO) recommended that SAFD have 27 ladder trucks. He stated that a ladder truck could be dispatched anywhere in the City in eight minutes or less 90% of the time. He mentioned that resources for EMS included 35 full-time, one full-time peak period, and 7 peak period ambulances. SAFD plans to add one EMS full-time unit in FY 2023. He stated that proposed improvements included adding a Ladder Company in FY 2020 and FY 2021, while adding an EMS Unit in FY 2023. He noted that a Ladder Company and an EMS unit were added in FY 2018.

Mayor Nirenberg asked of the current policy on asset seizures. Chief McManus stated that assets were split equally with Bexar County District Attorney on State Cases; the U.S. Attorney's Office on Federal Cases. He added that once the Court case was disposed any reward funds would have to be utilized for a law enforcement-related purpose. Mayor Nirenberg stated that community conversations include utilizing assets seized to remedy situations which were producing said seizures. Councilmember Viagran requested a more detailed breakdown of the SAPD Budget and Asset Seizures.

Councilmember Perry requested a breakdown of Fire Responses versus EMS Responses and all other responses made by SAFD. He expressed support for increasing the number of EMS Units. He requested that SAPD be benchmarked with other cities regarding crime rates and the number of Officers. Chief McManus replied that the reported criteria reporting were not the same in every city; thus and an accurate comparison could not be made. He added that he would provide a comparison of other cities regarding the number of Officers.

Councilmember Courage requested an assessment of whether any Sworn Personnel could be substituted with Civilian Personnel.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if any changes were recommended to address domestic violence. City Manager Walsh replied that if any changes in policy were enacted they would need to be consistent among all Law Enforcement Agencies.

Councilmember Peláez requested a report on the utilization of proceeds from seizures and spoke of utilizing the proceeds from assets seized for domestic violence and LBGTQ education and policing efforts.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Lori Houston reported that housing was affordable when no more than 30% of a household's income was spent on housing. She reviewed the following housing affordability core issues: 1) Housing costs outpacing income; 2) Growing housing affordability gap; 3) More income spent on housing; 4) Supply-demand mismatch; 5) Decrease in home ownership; and 6) Neighborhood change and displacement.

Mrs. Houston noted that the Mayor created the Mayor's Housing Task Force (Task Force) in 2017 to develop comprehensive housing policy recommendations. She stated that recommendations and priority Budget items were presented to the Mayor and City Council by said Task Force in June of 2018 and in August 2018 an executive report and Implementation Plan was presented to the Mayor and City Council. She noted that the Task Force identified the following five housing policy priorities: 1) Increase City investment in housing; 2) Develop coordinated housing system; 3) Accountability to public; 4) Protect and promote neighborhoods; and 5) Increase affordable housing production, rehabilitation, and preservation. She stated that the Task Force recommended a ten-year funding plan to address housing policy priorities. She noted that the FY 2019 Budget was \$26.1 million and \$23.7 million of that had been allocated. She reviewed the progress for year one of the Business Plan and noted that City Council created a Risk Mitigation Fund to provide financial assistance for rent or relocation costs for individuals facing an adverse event or displacement.

Mrs. Houston reviewed funding for the Coordinated Housing System and risk mitigation. She stated that an additional \$15 million has been requested in FY 2020 for production, rehabilitation and preservation, down payment assistance, risk mitigation fund, and coordinated housing. She noted the following priorities for FY 2020: 1) Increase in housing production; 2) One-Stop Center; 3) Citywide education campaign; 4) Anti-displacement implementation; 5) Accountability dashboard; and 6) Legislative strategy.

STRONG CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Dr. Colleen Bridger reported that the number of women murdered by a male intimate partner tripled between 2012 and 2017. She noted that an estimated 25% of children in San Antonio have experienced two or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and violence against women and trauma in childhood negatively affect mental health with both being a major risk factor for mental health issues and suicide. She stated that these issues were currently being addressed by: 1) Status of Women Report-May 2019; 2) Metro Health Strategic Plan; 3) City-County Mental Health Gap Analysis; 4) Trauma Informed Care Entity Business Plan; 5) Bexar County Domestic Violence Task Force; and 6) South Texas Trauma Informed Care Consortium. She noted that a comprehensive and holistic approach was needed to address Domestic Violence (DV) and ACEs by examining and addressing early risk factors which are low education, high poverty, and being a victim of violence.

Dr. Bridger reviewed the DV prevention framework and noted that primary prevention through early intervention and a population level response was the focus. She stated that the framework would be utilized to define a broader scope for the Comprehensive Domestic Violence Plan. She added that said Plan would chronicle existing work and identify/address gaps and staff would work with the community to fill said gaps. She stated that the Status of Women Council Consideration Request would be reviewed annually and a rubric would be utilized to focus on services and funding.

With regards to Trauma Informed Care; the consortium had 300 active members representing 180 organizations throughout Bexar County. She stated that trauma informed approaches increase resilience and improve school performance. She noted that the Positive Parenting Program would be implemented which provides communities with population-level early intervention to prevent child abuse, mental

illness, and violent behavior. She stated that the City would partner with the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) and implement “Too Good for Violence” curriculum in their middle schools. She noted that said curriculum has been shown to foster healthy relationships, resistance to substance abuse, and reduce violence. She stated that the Plan included the implementation of a Mental Health Urgent Clinic which would provide: 1) Psychiatric Services for children and adults (focus on homeless); 2) Walk-in medication services; and 3) Supportive services for children whose parents have mental illness.

Mayor Nirenberg asked if an update on the Five-Year Strategic Plan would be presented at a Budget meeting. Dr. Bridger replied that it would. Mayor Nirenberg asked of the plan to fill the gap of affordable housing for those with incomes of 30% to 50% AMI. Ms. Houston stated that staff would partner with affordable housing providers to see how they could assist.

Councilmember Viagran asked if information on submitting an appeal for property appraisals and dealing with aggressive solicitors would be included in the educational campaign. Ms. Houston replied that it would.

Councilmember Gonzales requested information on the return on investment and data for programs in the Comprehensive Domestic Violence Plan.

Councilmember Perry asked of the amount of funding provided for delegate agencies, State, and Federal programs. Dr. Bridger replied that the amount of funding was a little over \$18 million annually for domestic violence.

Councilmember Peláez suggested that information be provided to tenants in apartments or homes that could immediately break their lease and would have to vacate the property if they were victims of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Councilmember Courage advocated for affordable housing at 50% AMI in as many, if not all of the projects.

Councilmember Treviño spoke of the Under One Roof Program and noted that said program was endorsed by the Mayor’s Housing Task Force.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

Attest:
LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC
City Clerk