

City of San Antonio



AGENDA City Council Special Session

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

10:00 AM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Plaza Building with City Clerk Leticia Vacek addressing Roll Call noting a quorum of the following Councilmembers:

PRESENT: Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Peláez, Courage, and Perry.

1. Staff presentation of the FY 2020 Proposed Budget focusing on, but not limited to, the following City Departments or Initiatives: [Erik Walsh, City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management and Budget]

A. Police Department Budget

Chief McManus distributed two pamphlets released by the Department of Justice (DOJ) that identified the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) as one of the top 15 Police Departments in the Nation. He stated that there were 1.5 million residents in the City of San Antonio and 2,463 sworn positions in SAPD. He noted that there were two million calls for service and 1,800 community events covered annually. He stated that SAPD was dedicated to improving the quality of life by creating a safe environment in partnership with the people they serve in three primary areas: 1) Neighborhoods; 2) Schools; and 3) Businesses. He reviewed the performance measures for FY 2020 and data for the Violent Crime Task Force and noted that all measures were positive except for the number of weapons seized. He stated that violent and property crime continues to decrease. He reviewed the number of Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) offenses per 100,000 for the top cities in the Nation in 2017 reported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He noted that the FY 2020 proposed Budget for SAPD was \$511.2 million and included an increase of \$23 million for personnel, a 3% pay increase, clothing allowances, and the Retiree Health Pre-Fund. He stated that progress made in FY 2019 included:

- Implicit Bias Training
- Recruitment strategy
- Handle with Care Program
- Mental Health Unit

Chief McManus reported on FY 2020 enhancements:

- Strategic Plan Development
- Community Engagement Program
- Community Advisory Groups

He stated that in 2016, SAPD was the largest Police Department to participate in the 21st Century Policing Initiative. He noted that the Initiative identified 15 Police Departments across the Nation which were to be replicated or imitated by other Police Departments. He stated that the three areas reviewed in the Initiative were Mental Health, Community Outreach, and Officer Training and Wellness. He noted that the Mental Health Unit (MHU) of SAPD was created in 2008 and forged partnerships with advocacy agencies, fostered trust among the mentally ill and homeless, and provided access to critical services. He noted that there were 112 San Antonio Fear Free Environment (SAFFE) Officers citywide who proactively identify, evaluate, and resolve public safety issues, establish relationships with residents and businesses, and coordinate projects with City departments, schools, and community organizations. He showed a video addressing domestic violence. He stated that the Crisis Response Team handled 11,000 family violence cases annually along with the Special Victims Unit and the Homicide Unit. He noted that the FY 2020 proposed budget included an additional \$1.3 million focused on enhancing family violence services. He stated that family violence enhancements to be made in FY 2020 included: 1) Streamlined Protective Order Process; 2) Community Engagement Outreach; and 3) Handle with Care Program. He noted that the proposed budget also included \$272,000 to address quality of life issues in neighborhoods adjacent to the following major entertainment corridors:

- N. St. Mary's Strip
- N. Main
- The Pearl
- Southtown
- Military Drive

Chief McManus stated that other FY 2020 improvements included:

- Technology Upgrades - \$2.1 million
- Substation Security Upgrade - \$500,000
- Police Facility Study - \$200,000
- Neighborhood Crime Prevention - \$150,000

He noted that 175 acres or 13 trail miles have been added to the Park System and the budget included allocation of funds for 4 new Park Police Officer positions. He reviewed the following FY 2020 efficiencies:

- Reduce District fill overtime - \$2,000,000
- Eliminate four Civilian off duty employment positions - \$249,694
- Eliminate cell phone data service efficiency plans - \$99,182

He also presented the following revenue enhancements for FY 2020:

- Food vendor background checks (\$37.00-\$38.25)
- Application processing fees (\$25.00-\$30.00)

- Record/document fees (\$10.00-\$30.00)
- Notary service fee (\$5.00-\$6.00)

Lastly, Chief McManus stated that the FY 2020 key priorities were: 1) Family Violence; 2) Officer Availability; and 3) Strategic Plan.

B. Fire Department Budget

Chief Hood stated that the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) was dedicated to protecting the community from all hazards with compassion and professionalism and provided the following department overview:

- 1,766 Uniformed Employees
- 123 Civilian Employees
- 54 Fire Stations
- 21 Ladder Trucks
- 2 Hazardous Materials Teams and Equipment
- 2 Technical Rescue Teams and Equipment
- Airport Crash Rescue Team
- 43 Ambulances

He noted that the proposed budget was \$329.1 million with the majority supporting Fire Suppression and Emergency Medical Services. He reviewed the following administrative and support divisions:

- Arson Bureau
- Fire Prevention
- Communications
- Fleet/Logistic Services
- Planning and Analytics
- Human Services
- Fiscal Management
- Public Information Office
- Health and Wellness

Chief Hood reported that in 2017, SAFD was awarded a Class 1 Insurance Service Office (ISO) and that only 0.4% of all Fire Departments in the Nation hold this classification. He stated that in 2019, SAFD was accredited by the Center for Public Safety Excellence until 2024. He noted that SAFD was the second largest metro fire department in the country with Class 1 ISO and accredited. He reviewed the evolution of the SAFD fire-based EMS System, the FY 2018 total number of incidents, and the Standards of Cover. He stated that there were 402,000 unit responses and a response time of 7:48 in FY 2019.

Chief Hood stated that the Threat Assessment Group was represented by law enforcement agencies and schools in Bexar County and focused on sharing information to prevent violence in the community. He noted that through the Whole Blood Program SAFD was the first in the nation to carry and administer whole blood. He stated that SAFD Wellness Programs included: 1) Integrated Cancer Prevention Plan; 2) Fitness Equipment at every fire facility; and 3) One on One counseling and training provided by a Psychologist. He noted that SAFD Cancer Prevention Initiatives included: 1) Quartermaster and second

set of bunker gear: 2) Diesel exhaust capture in all fire station bays; and 3) Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) moved out of cab onto storage brackets. He reported that there were 4 high profile events in 2018:

- Robber Baron Cave (March 8)
- 538 Ceralvo St. (April 4)
- Stoney Brook Apartments (August 3)
- 4711 Desert Poppy (August 26)

He stated that the Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response was an integral part of first responder and public safety and would provide real time monitoring during special events. He noted that SAFD infrastructure included the SAFD Service Division, Public Safety Answering Point, Emergency Operations Center, and the SAFD Training Academy. He listed the most recent fire stations completed and those in progress.

Chief Hood noted that FY 2020 initiatives for Equity included:

- Identify hoarding disorder homes
- Improve outcomes for individuals
- Ensure safer housing

Chief Hood stated that the “Hero Like Her” Event provided training for 50 females by a full female staff. He noted that Fire Station 44 would have an enhanced squad including three Firefighter Positions and SAFD would utilize light weight vehicles with smaller crews to respond to medical calls from that Fire Station. He stated that \$3.4 million was proposed for equipment and vehicles in the FY 2020 Budget.

Mayor Nirenberg requested a comparison of Unified Crime Reporting (UCR) data between previous years and this year. Chief McManus stated that the numbers had increased slightly compared to previous years, notably in robberies and aggravated assault. Mayor Nirenberg asked how Asset Seizure Funds were utilized. Chief McManus replied that the funds were utilized for any number of things such as equipment and training related to law enforcement. Mayor Nirenberg requested an update on the number of Emergency Restraining Orders issued. He asked how the Mobile Command Center would be utilized. Chief Hood provided various examples where the Mobile Command Center would be utilized.

Councilmember Havrda asked if an Emergency Protective Order would be requested in association with a domestic violence arrest. Chief McManus replied that it would. Councilmember Havrda asked of the number of SAFFE Officers to be funded in the FY 2020 Budget. Chief replied that 10 SAFFE Officer Positions would be funded.

Councilmember Peláez asked why not every Officer was issued a Taser. Chief McManus replied that it was due to the cost.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked if the new SAFFE Officer positions would be shared by Council Districts. Chief McManus replied that SAFFE Officers were assigned to substations and not Council Districts.

Councilmember Perry asked how many of the 2,447 authorized positions were filled. Chief McManus replied that 2,423 were filled. Councilmember Perry asked of the number of calls received for

Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Chief Hood stated that there were 20,436 calls received for EMS.

Councilmember Viagran asked if SAFD Wellness Programs were a part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. City Manager Walsh replied that they were not. Councilmember Viagran requested data on the number of SAPD Officers who were out on extended leave and how many were set to retire this year. She also requested a status report of all substations.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if the number of Officers on the Mental Health Unit would increase. Chief McManus replied that it would not.

Councilmember Courage asked of the value of property seized other than cash. Maria Villagómez stated that she would provide that information as compared with the amount funded for the program.

Councilmember Courage asked of data on the reduction of calls attributed to the Mobile Integrated Health. Chief Hood explained that there has been a 60% decrease in calls from high volume utilizers. Councilmember Courage asked of the dollar value of the 60% decrease. Chief Hood stated that he would send out that information.

Mayor Pro Tem Rocha Garcia recessed the San Antonio City Council Special Meeting at 1:33 pm to break for lunch.

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the San Antonio City Council Special Meeting at 2:16 pm and addressed the following budget presentations:

C. Municipal Court Budget

Judge John Bull noted that the San Antonio Municipal Court (Court) was a Court of Record and operated as the judicial branch of the City of San Antonio. He noted that it was committed to administering justice in a fair, efficient, and timely manner. He stated that the Municipal Court sought to provide a legal system based on the principle that an independent, fair, and competent judiciary would interpret and apply the laws governing us; and judges and court personnel promote public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary. He stated that the Court included Judiciary, Magistration, Court Operations, Juvenile Court, and Financial Management. He noted that their proposed FY 2020 Budget was \$14.8 million and stated that the Court collected \$24 million of which 60% was remitted to the State per mandated court fees. He noted that Senate Bill (SB) 346 and House Bill (HB) 2048 consolidated and standardized criminal court costs, fines, and fees for local governments and reclassified and increased fines, costs, and the security fee. He reviewed the following FY 2019 accomplishments:

- Youth re-engagement
- Municipal Traffic Safety Program
- Magistration Services

Judge Bull reviewed the following FY 2020 enhancements for embedding equity in Municipal Court Services:

- Use data to enhance judicial services
- Engage target populations
- Increase outreach initiatives

Judge Bull stated that the goals for FY 2020 included:

- Court Alignment with 86th Legislature Statute changes
- Court Clerk Education Series
- Municipal Court Workflow/Continuous Improvement Team
- Municipal Traffic Safety Program
- Pre-appearance Notification

Mayor Nirenberg confirmed that magistration for all jurisdictions in Bexar County had been provided by Municipal Court since May 2019. Councilmember Sandoval requested data from Courts, specialty dockets, and administrative hearings for FY 2018.

Councilmember Peláez asked where the Municipal Court Kiosks were located. Judge Bull replied that kiosks were located at Loop 1604 and Potranco, in the Nacogdoches/Perrin Beitel Area, and at Brooks City Base.

Councilmember Treviño asked of the progress on the Pilot Program for Mental Health Beds. Judge Bull stated that discussions regarding the Pilot Program with Bexar County were necessary in order to pool resources.

Councilmember Courage asked of the results of improved attendance in school districts. Judge Bull stated that every school district received funding from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) based on attendance. He stated that there are diversion programs in place to help students go back to school and improve their behaviors.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda asked of improvements made in identifying mental health issues in individuals. Judge Bull stated that the Sandra Bland Act required the Magistrate and/or Jail Staff to identify mental health issues in an individual within 12 hours of their arrest. He added that Municipal Court implemented a questionnaire addressing mental health issues.

D. Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage, and Capital Program

Razi Hosseini stated that the mission of the Transportation and Capital Improvements (TCI) Department was “Through innovation and dedication we build and maintain San Antonio’s infrastructure.” He noted the following major programs for TCI:

- Five-Year Infrastructure Management Program (IMP)
- 2017 Bond Program
- Capital Improvement Program
- Multimodal Transportation Planning, Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety
- Underground Storm Water Televising Program
- Neighborhood Access & Mobility (NAMP)
- 3-1-1 responses

He reviewed the proposed FY 2020 Operating & Capital Budgets which totaled \$729.8 million. He stated that the FY 2019 progress in addressing the needs of the City’s most vulnerable roadway users included:

- Targeted investment in Districts with poor pavement conditions
- Established sidewalk project selection and prioritization criteria to improve connectivity
- Community input via project and program meetings
- Translation and interpretation for Spanish language speakers, braille and assisted listening and ASL

Mr. Hosseini reported 4,155 centerline miles in the City of San Antonio and the goal for the Street Maintenance Program was to maintain the roadway network at an average Pavement Condition Index of 70 or above. He noted that 38% of the centerline miles were graded at “A”; 24% were graded at “B”; 14% were graded at “C”; 14% were graded at “D”; and 10% were graded at “F”. He stated that by completion of the FY 2019 SMP in March 2020, all districts were projected to have an average PCI score of 70 or above. He reviewed the equity-based street maintenance funding and noted that the proposed FY 2020 Budget included a \$55 million allocation based on the size and condition of the district’s network.

Mr. Hosseini noted that repairs would be made to alleys which did not receive Solid Waste Trash Collection Services. He stated that this was a two-year project for \$650,000 per year and would address 36 nonservice alleys reported with overgrown vegetation, rutting, and ponding issues. He noted that the FY 2020 Budget for the Advanced Transportation District (ATD) was \$18.1 million and was restricted for transportation and mobility projects. He noted that a seven-member sidewalk repair crew repaired 1.9 miles of deteriorated sidewalks utilizing the Sidewalk Condition Assessment and Sidewalk Prioritization Criteria at a cost of \$506,000. He reviewed the data for Vision Zero from 2015 to 2019. He stated that \$17.3 million was allocated to Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and congestion mitigation. He noted that \$1.2 million was allocated to bicycle facilities. He stated that revenues in the Right of Way (ROW) Management Fund were generated from ROW permit applications, inspection fees, and penalties and funds were restricted to use for ROW, street maintenance, and construction inspections. He noted that revenues in the Storm Water Operating Fund were generated by the monthly Storm Water Utility Fee and funds from same were restricted to use for flood mitigation work and water system maintenance. He added that FY 2020 was the fifth and final year of a rate increase of 2.25% and would generate an estimated \$1.1 million in revenue for capital drainage projects.

Councilmember Viagran asked if Capital Improvement Projects were augmented or leveraged with Bond Funds. Mr. Hosseini replied that they were. Councilmember Viagran requested a map of the proposed locations for the nonservice alley repairs and a report on the progress of addressing sidewalk gaps.

Councilmember Courage asked of the success of Vision Zero. Art. Reinhardt stated that over the last two years there was a decline in the number of fatalities citywide. Councilmember Courage requested the schedule for street sweeping, and channel, creek and vegetation management.

Mayor Nirenberg requested that metrics and outcomes be included in all Budgets.

Councilmember Gonzales asked how drainage requirements were accounted for. Mr. Hosseini replied that drainage pipes were viewed with a camera to assess their condition and if repairs were necessary, a project for repairs would be created. Councilmember Gonzales asked of the cost to address all drainage repairs in the City. Mr. Hosseini stated that it would cost \$2 billion. Councilmember Gonzales requested a report on alley needs.

Councilmember Treviño noted that the work of TCI improved the quality of life for residents and thanked Mr. Hosseini.

Councilmember Perry requested a report on the items identified for the \$1 million from the Storm Water Utility Fund. He also requested a plan for reducing speeding utilizing traffic calming options.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if TCI would be coordinating the Ozone Attainment Master Plan. Mr. Reinhardt replied that Metro Health would coordinate the Ozone Attainment Master Plan.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if the City received the full amount of the Storm Water Utility Fee collected by SAWS. Mr. Hosseini replied that the City received the full amount collected minus the cost for services managing the collection.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan requested a report on sidewalk, street, and alley prioritization in District 2.

E. Debt Plan for FY 2020

Mayor Pro Tem Rocha Garcia recessed the meeting and stated that the budget presentation regarding the Debt Plan would continue on August 21, 2019.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session Items were not addressed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 5:21 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

Attest:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMCMC
City Clerk