

**CULTURE & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, May 4, 2021  
10:00 AM  
VIDEOCONFERENCE**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Councilmember Roberto Treviño, <i>Chair, District 1</i> Councilmember Jada Andrews-Sullivan, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember John Courage, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i>
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Lori Houston, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; William McManus, <i>SAPD Chief</i> ; Michael Shannon; <i>Director, Development Services</i> ; Veronica Soto, <i>Director, Neighborhood &amp; Housing Services</i> ; Melody Woosley, <i>Director, Human Services</i> ; Anthony Chukwudolue; <i>Deputy Director, Public Works</i> ; Edward Gonzales, <i>Assistant Director, Neighborhood &amp; Housing Services</i> ; Amin Tohmaz; <i>Deputy Development Services Director</i> ; Jameene Williams; <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Sara Wamsley, <i>Housing Policy Manager, Neighborhood &amp; Housing Services</i> ; Ian Benavidez, <i>Assistant Director, Neighborhood &amp; Housing Services</i> ; Patrick Steck; <i>Assistant Director, Human Services</i> ; Amanda Reyna; <i>Human Services</i> ; Venessa Rodriguez; <i>City Attorney's Office</i> ; Alma Martinez Jimenez; <i>Development Services</i> ; Diana Hidalgo; <i>Arts &amp; Culture</i> ; Ross Hosea, <i>Parks</i> ; Danny Liguez; <i>Development Services</i> ; Roger Gonzales, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Denise Luckey, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
<b>Others Present:</b>	Elizabeth Lutz, <i>Executive Director, Health Collaborative</i>

**Call to Order**

Chairman Treviño called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of the minutes from the April 5, 2021, Culture & Neighborhood Services Council Committee Meeting.**

Councilmember Courage moved to approve the Minutes from the April 5, 2021, Culture & Neighborhood Services Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comments have been submitted through the eComment system and are attached to the Minutes.

**2. Culture and Neighborhood Services Committee Dashboard Overview.**

Assistant City Manager Lori Houston provided a brief overview of the Dashboard. She stated that tree planting is behind on the goal due to inclement weather.

Councilmember Treviño asked out of the 199 demolitions permits filed since October, if 26 had resulted in actual demolitions. Mr. Michael Shannon replied that 26 total demolitions by the City, and the 16 were due to emergencies such as fire and were voluntary by the owner of the property.

Councilmember Trevino asked for the number of default judgments that had been issued since October 1, 2020. Ms. Sara Wamsley stated that she would get with staff and provide the information.

Councilmember Viagran questioned the average time that projects had been pending on the Under One Roof Program. Ms. Veronica Soto stated that it depended on how long the client took to return the information, however the average time was about 2 weeks.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the process if the resident did not know how to get a title clearance. Ms. Soto stated that the client was provided assistance through a third party.

Councilmember Trevino asked if there had been issues with residents that were behind on their property taxes not qualifying for the Under One Roof Program. Ms. Soto stated residents could still qualify for the program even if they were behind on their taxes. They could get assistance with a payment plan through the program.

Councilmember Courage questioned what the 2,760 estimated demolition commercial permits were based on. Mr. Shannon stated that they had predicted a drop in both commercial and residential permits, however, no real drop in either occurred. There had been big project and the recession did not make an impact as had been expected.

Councilmember Courage questioned the 447,000 yearly average meals that were served at the senior centers. He also asked how the service affected the budget and if there had been any funding for the program through COVID relief. Ms. Woosley stated that the average was actually more than normally served due to citizens that had used the drive-thru service and picked up food. She also stated that additional funding had been received through the CARES-Act and did not affect the City's Budget.

### **3. Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) Moratorium Update.** [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Veronica R. Soto, FAICP,, Director, Neighborhood & Housing Services]

Edward Gonzales provided a briefing of the Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) Moratorium Update. Mr. Gonzales presented the program eligibility, assistance provided, Dashboard, assistance by Council District, Budget, funding for County residents, average assistance per household, DHS benefits, moratorium extension, and eviction filings.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of number families that did not receive a payment to prevent eviction. Mr. Gonzales stated that information was not readily available. He would tell residents that their application was being processed and that they were working with the landlord, the resident would move out, then that would cause withhold of payment. Ian Benavides stated that the EHAP team and the courts communicated with one another and tried to get the applicants in sync through the eviction diversion program.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of how many evictions had been deferred. She also questioned the number of payments that were issued to landlords and families that had been evicted based on different issues other than non-payment of rent. Mr. Benavides stated that 1,576 cases had been dismissed. Ms. Soto stated that at the current time they did not track the data on evictions for other reasons other than non-payment of rent.

Councilmember Andrew-Sullivan asked how many residents had been assisted with relocation services. Mr. Benavides stated that the data was not readily available, however, most landlords were willing to wait for payment rather than evict.

Councilmember Trevino questioned if time remaining on the lease was taken into account when staff reviewed an EHAP application along with a lease renewal. Mr. Gonzales replied that the months that rent was being paid were part of the current lease, and future rental was stated in a lease renewal.

**4. Briefing on a Professional Services Agreement with the Health Collaborative for the Emergency Housing Assistance Program in the amount of up to \$400,000 funded from the U.S. Treasury Federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program.** [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Veronica R. Soto, FAICP, Director, Neighborhood and Housing Services]

Veronica R. Soto, Director of Neighborhood and Housing Services gave a briefing on the Professional Services Agreement with the Health Collaborative for the Emergency Housing Assistance Program in the amount of up to \$400,000 funded from the U.S. Treasury Federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

Councilmember Viagran asked if the community organizations were set in stone or were more to be brought in. Ms. Soto stated that there had been interest expressed, and if the need arose, new organization would be sought after.

Councilmember Viagran asked how many partners the collaborative could manage. Elizabeth Lutz stated that data to demonstrate the capacity of each organization is not currently available.

Councilmember Perry asked what the budget was for the contract, and where the funding was coming from. He also questioned the amount that would be spent on administration. Ms. Soto stated that the budget for the contract was \$400,000 and it was coming from Phase 4 of the EHAP.

Councilmember Trevino questioned the use of EHAP funds to build out operations for other organizations. He asked that if more staff resources were needed, would funding come from the \$80,000 in administrative fees. Ms. Soto replied that the contract was for the administration of the health collaborative to be able to provide case management services with the agencies.

Councilmember Trevino asked if the EHAP application could be more accessible and less onerous, and if the community had any input. Ms. Soto replied that the application had been streamlined, and that certain information was requested due to the U.S. Treasury requirements. Ms. Houston stated that a survey of tenants and landlords asked for more technical assistance when applying for the EHAP.

**5. Briefing and discussion of a Council Consideration Request (CCR) to review and potentially bring forward amendments to Chapter 21 Article III of the San Antonio Code that allow SAPD to enforce noise violations.**

Michael Shannon provided a briefing of a Council Consideration Request (CCR) to review and potentially bring forward amendments to Chapter 21, Article III of the San Antonio Code that allowed SAPD to enforce noise violations. He gave an overview of how it currently worked, breakdown of violation numbers, creation of the task force, Governance Committee recommendations, next steps, and recommendation.

Councilmember Perry asked of when the first noise ordinance was passed. Mr. Shannon stated that the original ordinance had been initially passed in 2001.

Councilmember Courage asked how many code officers are employed to handle violations. Mr. Shannon stated that there are 110 code officers currently.

Councilmember Courage questioned if every code officer was trained in all violation or specific areas of compliance. Mr. Shannon stated that every officer had to go through a general training, then becomes a licensed officer through code enforcement, and then others could go on to achieve specialty training, certification, and designations.

Councilmember Courage asked how many code officers worked during the night. Mr. Shannon replied none, and that officers generally work 8am -5pm, Monday through Saturday.

Councilmember Viagran asked if the code officers were trained in de-escalation. Mr. Shannon stated that code officers were not trained for de-escalation, as they were not licensed peace officers and did not carry weapons.

Councilmember Andrew-Sullivan asked if there would be any overlap where the city could establish quiet zones and would there be any designated signage for noise freeze down. Mr. Shannon replied that the task force would be given those charges specifically.

Councilmember Viagran asked if the Governance Committee approved the makeup taskforce, and how long the taskforce would be in operation. Mr. Shannon stated that the Governance Committee had previously approved the makeup of the proposed taskforce, and that they would be in operation for three months.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

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***Roberto Treviño, Chair***

***Respectfully Submitted,***

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***Denise Luckey, Office of the City Clerk***