



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:16-4846

Agenda Item Number: 4G.

Agenda Date: 9/15/2016

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of Historic Preservation

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Shanon Miller

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City-Wide

SUBJECT:

Expanding the Vacant Building Registration Program Area

SUMMARY:

This item will amend Chapter 12 of the City Code by expanding the Vacant Building Registration Program area from its initial 35 square mile program area to 109 Sq. Miles. This program expansion was endorsed by the Neighborhoods & Livability Council Committee in May and was then presented to the full City Council at the June 16, 2016, A Session.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Staff presented the results of the pilot program along with recommended program changes to City Council at B Session on April 13, 2016. During that briefing, City Council provided direction to grow the program by expanding the program area. In response, staff created a phased expansion plan that would allow the program to grow and be effective as it expands. This expansion plan was endorsed by the Neighborhoods & Livability Council Committee in April and was then presented to the full City Council on June 16, 2016.

ISSUE:

The initial program area consisted of the Central Business District, Historic Districts, the area within ½ mile of our active military bases, and all vacant historic landmarks. This amendment will incorporate Phase I of the expansion plan by adding all vacant properties within the following areas:

- The addition of a half-mile buffer around the Central Business District and Historic Districts
- Neighborhood Conservation Districts and a half-mile buffer from their boundary

- City-Initiated TIRZ and a half-mile buffer from their boundary
- The East Point and Choice Neighborhoods
- A half-mile buffer around Defense Base Authorities (Brooks City Base and Port San Antonio)

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council could choose not to expand the Vacant Building Registration Program. Alternatively, City Council could alter the recommended expansion plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Two Senior Management Analysts are included in the proposed budget to staff the expansion. Staff also anticipates a small increase in program revenues from registration fees and inspection fees for properties located within the newly incorporated program areas. Any increased revenue will be deposited into the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council expand the program consistent with the expansion plan endorsed by the Neighborhoods & Livability Council Committee.