



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 14

Agenda Date: April 16, 2025

In Control: Governance Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Council Consideration Request to Create a Grocery Store Incubator

SUMMARY:

Councilmember Jalen McKee-Rodriguez (District 2), with support from Councilmembers Sukh Kaur (District 1), Phyllis Viagran (District 3), Melissa Cabello Havrda (District 6), and John Courage (District 9) submitted a Council Consideration Request (CCR) to create a Grocery Store Incubator to address food insecurity, and support small, locally owned grocery stores. The initiative will also provide financial assistance, technical support and site selection assistance to entrepreneurs and community-based organizations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On February 6, 2025, Councilmember Jalen McKee-Rodriguez submitted a Council Consideration Request (CCR) to create a Grocery Store Incubator designed to support small, locally owned

grocery stores in food desert areas. The initiative would provide financial assistance, technical support, and site selection assistance to entrepreneurs and community-based organizations committed to opening and sustaining grocery stores in high-need areas.

ISSUE:

Food insecurity continues to be a growing concern for many constituents residing in San Antonio, especially in historically underserved communities. Although Metro Health does not currently offer financial incentives to support a grocery store incubator program, there are current efforts within Metro Health and COSA departments aimed at addressing food insecurity, food waste, access to affordable produce, and providing grants and technical assistance to support local small businesses and organizations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding amount required to implement and sustain a grocery store incubator has not been determined.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends consideration in the next budget goal setting process.