



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 7

Agenda Date: June 28, 2024

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Erik Walsh, City Manager

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Recommendations to implement Phase II of the Violent Crime Reduction Plan

SUMMARY:

A briefing by the Integrated Community Safety Office (ICSO) and the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) on recommendations to implement Phase II of the Violent Crime Reduction Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In April 2022, the SAPD partnered with UTSA Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice to assist in the development of a violent crime reduction plan. Following the evaluation of crime data and existing Department strategies, UTSA provided the SAPD with a three-year violent crime reduction plan.

The Violent Crime Reduction Plan is comprised of three phases founded on evidence-based strategies. Phase I consists of hot spot policing with a short-term focus on substantially increasing

police visibility at locations where violent crime is concentrated and prioritizing street-level deterrence in these areas. Phase II incorporates a mid-term strategy focused on violent places within the city using a Problem-Oriented, Place-Based Policing (POPBP) approach. Finally, for Phase III, the SAPD will lead a focused deterrence strategy to help break the cycle of violence among the small number of repeat and high-risk offenders who are responsible for committing most of the violent crime in San Antonio.

The first phase of implementation began in January 2023. The second phase of implementation began in November 2023 with the evaluation of five locations where violent crime levels were not reduced by the hot spot policing in Phase I. Of the five locations, 1303 Rigsby was selected by UTSA and the Executive POPBP Team (EPT). This team is comprised of Department Directors from Metro Health, Human Services, Housing and Neighborhood Services, Code Enforcement, Solid Waste, Parks, Animal Care Services, Planning, Public Works, City Attorney's Office, Integrated Community Safety, the Assistant Chief of Police, and the Deputy City Manager.

1303 Rigsby is the site of the Rosemont Apartments, a property operated in partnership between Opportunity Home and Beacon Communities.

A working group of subject matter experts (SME's) from the City departments that comprised the EPT developed an action plan tailored to address the underlying conditions that contribute to recurring problems at the Rosemont Apartments. Over the course of several working meetings, this action plan was reviewed and refined by the EPT. The EPT's recommendations are grouped into three categories—Connection to Services, Safety, and Improvements to the Physical Environment. These recommended actions aim to reduce social and physical disorder, remediate urban decay, stimulate guardianship, and reduce the incidence of violence at the Rosemont Apartments.

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The EPT's recommendations are grouped into three categories—Connection to Services, Safety, and Improvements to the Physical Environment. These recommended actions aim to reduce social and physical disorder, remediate urban decay, stimulate guardianship, and reduce the incidence of violence at the Rosemont Apartments. The Public Safety Committee will be presented with the individual recommendations at the June 28 Public Safety Committee meeting.

The majority of the initiatives will be achieved primarily with existing resources and programs.

ISSUE:

A briefing by the Integrated Community Safety Office (ICSO) and the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) on recommendations to implement Phase II of the Violent Crime Reduction Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY 2024 Budget includes a Community Safety reserve in the amount of \$3.5 million to assist in the implementation of strategies related to the Violent Crime Reduction Plan. Staff recommends using \$420,000 for the implementation of Phase II of this plan. The funds will be used for the purchase of security equipment (\$405,000) and to conduct Animal Care Services vaccine clinics (\$15,000). The Security equipment will be rotated to other locations as they are added to phase II of the Violent Crime Reduction plan.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the use of \$420,000 from the FY 2024 Community Safety reserve for phase II of the Violent Crime Prevention Plan: Problem-Oriented, Place-Based Policing (POPBP). This recommendation will be included in a City Council “A” Session Agenda in August 2024.