



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: September 6, 2024

In Control: Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Government Affairs

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Sally Basurto

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

The City of San Antonio's proposed State Legislative Program for the 89th Texas Legislative Session

SUMMARY:

Briefing and possible action on the development of the City's State Legislative Program for the 89th Texas Legislative Session.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Government Affairs Department will provide a briefing on the proposed State Legislative Program for the 89th Texas Legislative Session.

The Texas Legislature meets every two years in odd numbered years; the 89th Legislative Session is scheduled to begin on January 14, 2025. Prior to the start of each regular Session, the City of San Antonio identifies policy priorities and the legislative initiatives that it will seek to have

addressed by the Legislature. These priorities and initiatives are developed in consultation with the City Council, City departments, state consultants, and community partners to consider recommendations for inclusion in the proposed State Legislative Program. The goal is to develop a legislative program that is strategic and impactful, one that aligns with City Council priorities, protects or increases revenue to the City and promotes enhanced delivery of services. The proposed program for the 89th legislative session includes four pillars that encompass the program's priorities. The four pillars are:

Protection of Community Interests

The City's overarching legislative priority is to preserve the voice of the community and its elected leaders and maintain a fiscally sound and well-managed organization to allow for continued high quality services to our residents and local businesses.

Community Development

The City of San Antonio is prepared for growth in a way that is compatible with the community's vision. This vision includes investments in a strong local economy, an educated and trained workforce.

Public Health & Safety

San Antonio's healthcare mission through the SA Forward Plan is to protect and improve the health of our community so that all people thrive in a healthy and safe environment. The strategic priority areas are access to care, nutrition and food insecurity, violence prevention, health equity and social justice, and mental health.

Infrastructure & Resiliency

Expanding infrastructure is needed to create a resilient future for San Antonio. San Antonio's priorities are to increase affordable housing options, make strategic investments that acknowledge the need for digital inclusion as a necessity in a rapidly changing society; create transportation infrastructure that incorporates safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; and prepare for the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters.

ISSUE:

The State Legislative Program provides City Council direction to staff and its consultants during the upcoming legislative session. Program priorities will be used as the basis for support or opposition of legislation through registering the City's positions, the drafting of legislation and amendments, providing testimony, advocacy with members of the legislature, and other appropriate legislative actions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Development of the State Legislative Program has no immediate fiscal impact to the City.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.