



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: April 16, 2025

In Control: Governance Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Development Services Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Michael Shannon

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Council Consideration Request from Councilmember Cabello Havrda (District 6) on Reduced Fees for Garage and Yard Sales for Seniors and Veterans.

SUMMARY:

On January 30, 2025, Councilwoman Cabello Havdra submitted a formal Council Consideration Request (CCR) to reduce permitting fees for garage and yard sales for seniors and veterans in the City of San Antonio. The CCR recommends the City to implement the following items:

1. Implement a reduced fee program for garage and yard sale permits for seniors aged 55 and older and veterans.
 - Eligibility will require proof of age or veteran status (e.g., government-issued ID, DD-214, veteran ID).
 - The reduced fee will be set at \$8, representing a 50% reduction from the current \$16 fee.
 - Permits would be limited to two per-quarter.

2. Direct the Development Services Department (DSD) to update the permit application process to include a checkbox for eligibility and document upload functionality.
3. Launch a public outreach campaign to raise awareness about the program, targeting senior centers, veterans' organizations, and community groups.
4. Evaluate the program's impact after one year and present findings and recommendations to the City Council.

This initiative aligns with the City of San Antonio's commitment to equity, inclusivity, and support for vulnerable populations while promoting community engagement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As described by the submitted CCR, garage and yard sales provide residents an opportunity to declutter, earn additional income, and foster community connections. Currently, San Antonio requires a permit for these sales, with a nominal fee of \$16 for residential properties. However, even small fees can be a financial burden for seniors and veterans living on fixed incomes.

Recognizing the service and contributions of these groups, the proposed CCR seeks to ease financial strain and encourage broader participation in community activities. The program aims to reduce permitting fees by 50% for eligible seniors (aged 65 and older) and veterans with proof of service.

ISSUE:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends consideration in the next budget goal setting process.