



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: February 8, 2022

In Control: Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee

DEPARTMENT: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Nick Dominguez

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing regarding the City's Disability Access Office

SUMMARY:

Deborah Scharven, Accessibility Compliance Manager, will provide an overview of the Disability Access Office's (DAO) purpose, accomplishments, and partnerships. Generally, the DAO's purpose is to foster an environment where individuals living with disabilities may fully engage in community life.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Disability Access Office's mission is to ensure all City of San Antonio programs, services, facilities, and public rights-of-ways are accessible to, and useable by, people with disabilities so anyone, regardless of ability, may fully engage in community life. The DAO serves as the City's ADA and 504 Coordinator as required by federal law. The DAO is responsible for coordinating

the City's efforts to comply with legislative mandates and leads initiatives focused on removing barriers and reducing disparities experienced by people living with disabilities.

The Disability Access Office was established in 1978 by the City Council as part of San Antonio's efforts to provide accessible services and facilities for residents living with disabilities. The DAO consists of 1 Accessibility Compliance Manager, 2 Accessibility Compliance Specialists, and 1 Administrative Associate, which is currently in process to in-lieu to an Accessibility Compliance Coordinator.

The Disability Access Office uses a comprehensive approach in addressing all parts of the system that directly or indirectly affects people with disabilities and acts as a partner with other City departments, the Disability Access Advisory Committee (DAAC), and community organizations to promote access for people living with disabilities. The DAO supports our partners through a multi-faceted approach that includes systemic change, education and training, and direct services.

ISSUE:

The DAO Manager will provide a briefing to the City Council's Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee on the purpose, accomplishments, and partnerships.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is a briefing only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is a briefing only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is a briefing only.