



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: January 19, 2023

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action related to the 2023 Property Tax Help Campaign

SUMMARY:

Update on the 2023 Property Tax Help Campaign

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In September 2022, City Council approved a \$250,000 budget for a 2023 Property Tax Help Campaign. The goal of the Campaign is to raise awareness for San Antonio residents about processes required to appeal property taxes and apply for homestead exemptions. The Campaign aims to increase access to resources, education and free legal services for homeowners seeking property tax help.

ISSUE:

The City will host 14 free public sessions to help homeowners apply for homestead or other exemptions and learn about how to protest their property tax appraisals. These sessions will be led by Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA) and San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA). Other resources such as the Bexar County Tax Assessor's Office, Bexar County Appraisal District, or trained volunteers will also be on site to provide assistance and answer questions.

Sessions will be free to the public, in-person, and include on-site Spanish language and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation services. The Campaign will also provide access to recorded online sessions and Spanish language information material. Locations for the sessions are throughout all 10 Council Districts from February through September, with most sessions being held before the May 15th tax protest deadline. Residents will be provided onsite assistance to apply for homestead exemptions. In addition, educational sessions will provide information on the property tax protest process and how homeowners can protest their taxes on their own.

Marketing for the Campaign will include a dedicated website through NHSD, video resources, advertising in multiple publications, printed materials, door hangers, and signage at events. The City will also concentrate outreach efforts to homeowners without existing homestead exemptions. Materials will be available to residents in both English and Spanish.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.