City of San Antonio

Minutes
Governance Committee

2021 – 2023 Council Members
Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Chair
Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, Dist. 4 | Melissa Cabello Havrda, Dist. 6
Manny Pelaez, Dist. 8 |John Courage, Dist. 9

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 **1:00 PM** **City Hall Complex**

Members Present: None
Members Absent: Ron Nirenberg *Mayor, Chair*, Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia *Member*, Melissa Cabello Havrda *Member*, Manny Pelaez *Member*, John Courage *Member*

Approval of Minutes

1. Governance Committee meeting on October 19, 2022.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia moved to Approve. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Nirenberg, Rocha Garcia, Cabello Havrda, Pelaez, Courage

Briefing and Possible Action on

2. Briefing and possible action on consideration of sunsetting the City Bond Oversight Commission and Neighborhood Improvements Advisory Board related to the 2017 Bond Program and approving the establishment of a new 11-member Streets, Bridges, and Sidewalks Advisory

Committee. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Director, Public Works]

Assistant City Manager Rod Sanchez provided an overview of the history of the City Bond Oversight Commission and the Neighborhood Improvements Advisory Committee and recommended sunset of the two boards and realign the oversight of future Bond Programs to existing boards that align with their mission but to create two new advisory boards to oversee: 1) Stormwater / Drainage and 2) Streets, Bridges, and Sidewalks. The two new committees would also assist with prioritizing projects for implementation and for future bond development.

Councilmember Pelaez commented that he authored a Council Consideration Request (CCR) that created City Bond Oversight Commission to provide guidance over the 2017 Bond, but supported the staff recommendation to sunset the two boards and create new boards to ensure oversight and meaningful public participation for every proposition in the Bond as well as for general oversight.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda recommended the new Streets, Bridges and Sidewalks Board to help with feedback to and from the community relating to infrastructure needs.

Mayor Nirenberg supported said that the new boards to allow more guidance to Council for pedestrian mobility and Neighborhood Accessibility Mobility Project priorities and provide consistency.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Nirenberg, Rocha Garcia, Cabello Havrda, Pelaez, Courage

3. Council Consideration Request by Councilmember Manny Peláez (District 8) regarding overnight parking regulations for oversized commercial vehicles. [María Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Deputy City Manager Maria Villagomez provided an overview of the Council Consideration Request (CCR) and listed the various applicable laws including State Transportation Code Section 545.307 and UDC Sections 35-383 and 19-194(a). She explained that the state law focused on drivers and restriction of parking in residential subdivisions between 10:00 PM and 6:00 PM. SAPD was able to provide citations for the street parking violations.

Villagomez provided a comparison chart of the restrictions in different peer cities in Texas. Staff recommended referral to the Public Safety Committee for further considertion.

Councilmember Pelaez invited Robert “Abe” Abraham, member of District 8 Oakland Heights

Homeowner's Association, to address the committee and list the issues and concerns related to parking of oversized commercial vehicles in his area which caused safety concerns and other hazards. Councilmember Pelaez wanted to ensure there was a consideration of where truckers could park their vehicles.

Councilmember Courage added that there was a particular street in District 9 but wanted to make sure there were opportunities for parking for truckers including potentially requiring on-site parking by hotels where the truckers often stayed the night.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda noted that there was a state law requiring long haul truck drivers to stop and rest after a certain number of driving hours. She asked about the restrictions related to residential. Villagomez restricted from parking in front of any lot, parcel or street used solely for residential in a residential district.

Councilmember Pelaez moved to Refer to Committee. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Nirenberg, Rocha Garcia, Cabello Havrda, Pelaez, Courage

4. Council Consideration Request by Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez (District 2) regarding establishment of an Office of Crime & Recidivism Prevention. [María Villagómez, Deputy City Manager]

Deputy City Manager Maria Villagomez provided an overview of the Council Consideration Request (CCR) and provided background on several City initiatives that overlapped with the goals of the CCR including the SA Forward Plan by Metro Health, a San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) partnership with UTSA to develop a Violent Crime Reduction Plan, and the FY2023 adopted budget reallocated a position in Metro Health focused on crime and recidivism. Villagomez said that the City continued efforts to prevent violence using a Public Health Approach, created a multidisciplinary team to develop a Multisectoral Strategic Violence Prevention Plan which was expected to be completed by fall 2023 with updates being presented to the Public Safety Committee. Villagomez said that staff did not recommend creation of a separate Office of Crime & Recidivism Prevention.

Mayor Nirenberg invited Councilmember McKee- Rodriguez acknowledged that the City was off to a great start to help address crime and noted that violent crime was not the only type of crime affecting residents. Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez commented that the staff proposal did not meet all of the facets of the CCR including the creation of a central office and coordinator for ongoing research, analysis, clearinghouse for grant opportunities, tracking crime prevention efforts throughout the City and development of innovative solutions. Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez

recommended the full CCR to be considered at the Public Safety Committee.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda thanked staff and Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez for their presentations. She supported approaching crime as a public health issue and said she would like to have a discussion within the Public Safety Committee beyond policing. Councilmember Cabello HAvrda

Councilmember Courage asked if there was a study planned to analyze the needs for additional staffing at SAPD. Villagomez explained that there were 2 UTSA studies currently underway, one for Violent Crime and the other for Staffing. Councilmember Courage recommended more integration of the studies and the solutions and suggested the oversight was appropriate with the Public Safety Committee.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked if the creation of an Office of Crime and Recidivism was not recommended because of funding. Walsh said that the issue was not funding but was more related to structure and responsibility for the program which needed to be balanced between the different departments including SAPD and Metro Health. Walsh supported that the Public Safety Committee could further define how to implement the intent of the CCR along with the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia recommended that the Department of Justice might have a grant to help with funding to support justice for crime victims and asked who should apply for those grants. Walsh replied that Bexar County was responsible for prevention and recidivism, not the City as SAPD was responsible for enforcement. Councilmember Rocha Garcia recommended the creation of a joint committee with Bexar County to address civil rights and equity as well as crime. Villagomez added there was a similar collaborative group working on Domestic Violence in partnership with Bexar County and other non-profit organizations.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda mentioned that there was a Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs but cautioned that for joint committees there needed to be a specific goal in mind. Walsh said that a task force had been created about 10 years ago but failed because it was too broad and suggested more conversations between

Mayor Nirenberg commented that crime and recidivism prevention was the work of many City departments and programs. He noted that creating a new Office might not meet the broad goals and recommended focusing on policy outcomes of reduced violent and property crimes and less recidivism. Mayor Nirenberg commented that there needed to be a liaison in the least but perhaps more was needed in collaboration with Bexar County and supported referral of the CCR to the Public Safety Committee to help determine next steps and review the results of the UTSA report and the SA Forward Plan.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 2:00 PM.

APPROVED

Ron Nirenberg, Mayor

Debbie Racca-Sittre
City Clerk