



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Councilwoman Marina Alderete Gavito, District 7
COPIES TO: Erik Walsh, City Manager; Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk; Andrew Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Emily McGinn, Assistant to City Council
SUBJECT: Prioritization of Outreach Services and Abatements in Sensitive Community Locations Regarding the Unsheltered Population
DATE: 11/13/23

Issue Proposed for Consideration

A strategy to enhance the prioritization for connecting the unsheltered population to city and partner resources, while delineating sensitive areas which pose a health and safety risk to the unsheltered, our residents, and the environment. The intent of this request is to prioritize the abatement of urban encampments in, or near, sensitive areas while simultaneously connecting our unsheltered population with the resources and expertise our city and community partners provide. The life-safety of the unsheltered population is a growing, and pressing concern.

Brief Background

During the last few years, the proliferation of urban encampments within our community has demonstrated a need to ensure the unsheltered population are more actively connected with significant outreach. In the city’s Budget Priorities Survey, Fiscal Year 2024, residents identified “Homeless Outreach and Encampments” as their top concern. The City Council and Mayor followed through in the budget for Fiscal Year 2024 by adding more outreach coordinators to increase support to the unsheltered population, supplying additional low-barrier shelter space, and allocating \$500,000 for abatements – therefore increasing the number of annual encampment abatements to 700.

The purpose of this request is to prioritize abatements and to shape the way allocated funds should be utilized. Setting limitations and preventing the formation of urban encampments in sensitive areas, and expediting such abatements, would prevent health and safety risks – such as hazards associated with the accumulation of debris.

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The goal of this CCR is to:

- Prioritize abatements of encampments in areas deemed sensitive;
- Ensure the city is enhancing efforts to provide outreach plus wrap around services to the unsheltered population on a consistent basis to connect these individuals to the help and support they need;
- Review of the Absentee Property Registration Program.

Sensitive areas are to include, but are not limited to:

- Residential neighborhoods
- Areas In Proximity to Schools
- Public Parks
- Areas In Proximity to Linear Creekway Trails
- Drainage Easements
- Flood Plains
- Dilapidated Homes
- Dilapidated Businesses

By enacting these measures, we can ensure the safety of the unsheltered population, students, educators, park patrons, and residents are met while also addressing the needs of those experiencing being unsheltered.

Outreach workers should be directed to prioritize outreach services to the unsheltered population who reside in these areas in order to offer resources and transportation services to intake facilities that are able to provide shelter, housing and human services.



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Marina Alderete Gavito

Submitted for Council consideration by: _____

Councilwoman Marina Alderete Gavito, District 7

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only) District

District:

1. *Manny Peltre* _____
2. *[Signature]* _____
3. *M. Kaye* _____
4. *Sukh Kaur* _____

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