



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 5

Agenda Date: May 2, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Auditor

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Kevin Barthold

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action regarding potential amendments to the City of San Antonio Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes.

SUMMARY:

The Ethics Review Board will present recommended amendments related to the City of San Antonio Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A 2004 amendment of the City Charter established the Ethics Review Board (ERB) as the body with oversight of the Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes, including the authority to recommend changes to the codes.

In April 2022 the Ethics Review Board initiated a review of the Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes to ensure current operating policies and ethical values of the City were reflected, as well as applicable state and federal requirements. The process included a review of questions received since the last updates in 2018, conversations with multiple stakeholders, and

benchmarking of other municipalities and state requirements.

The Ethics Review Board briefed City Council on the initial recommendations at the January 10th, 2024, B Session Meeting. The Ethics Review Board then reconvened on March 25, 2024, to finalize the recommendations.

If approved, this will amend Ordinance No. 2018-06-21-0491, which previously updated the Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes on June 18, 2018.

ISSUE:

The Chair of the Ethics Review Board appointed two panels to conduct the initial assessment. Recommendations from the panels were then presented to the full Ethics Review Board for consideration and approval. The final recommendations are now being presented to City Council for consideration.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council may offer alternate recommendations or current codes may remain in place.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval and adoption of the Ethic Review Board's proposed recommendations.