



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
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**Agenda Item Number:** 4

**Agenda Date:** April 17, 2024

**In Control:** Governance Committee Meeting

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**DEPARTMENT:** Police Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** William McManus, Chief of Police

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

A Just Transition from Horse-Drawn Carriages

**SUMMARY:**

On November 28, 2022, Councilmember Jalen McKee-Rodriguez (District 2) and Councilmember Phyliss Viagran (District 3) submitted a Council Consideration Request (CCR) asking for City staff to establish a plan to phase out the horse-drawn carriages in San Antonio.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City has issued permits to the horse carriage industry since 1865. Horse Carriage operations are governed by Chapter 33 of the City Code. Currently, there are five (5) permitted horse-drawn carriage companies in the City, and each company has five (5) permits, for a total of twenty-five (25) horse-drawn carriages.

The Council Consideration Request (CCR) asked for City staff to establish a plan to phase out the

horse-drawn carriages in San Antonio. The plan should include:

1. Determination feasibility and establishment of a program to support a workforce transition from horse drawn carriages to electric carriages and pedicabs
2. The establishment of a prohibition of the use of horses with carriage rides; and  
Immediate cessation of the issuance of all new horse drawn carriage permits, medallions, and/or Special Event Permits, so that eventually all valid permits, medallions, and/or Special Event Permits have expired.

**ISSUE:**

The CCR requests the development of a plan to phase out the use of horse-drawn carriages, including the removal of permitting equine-drawn carriages from Chapter 33.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the CCR is referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.