



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: November 27, 2023

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing by Metro Health on the collaborative development of a communitywide Violence Prevention Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) led a collaborative effort to develop the first Violence Prevention Strategic Plan for the San Antonio / Bexar County area.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In April 2022, Metro Health launched its SA Forward plan that provides the strategic direction for the department to protect and improve the health of the San Antonio community. This plan focuses on six priority areas including, among others, violence prevention. Metro Health is currently undergoing a quality improvement effort to enhance its infrastructure and renew its public health mission following an extended mobilization to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City continues its efforts to address violence prevention utilizing a public health approach, and Metro Health used the momentum of several converging opportunities to plan long-term, evidence-based strategies to shift the landscape of health in the community. Representatives from Metro Health, the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD), St. John Baptist Church, and the University of San Antonio participated in a national public health leadership training program which involved coordinating development of the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. Together, these organizations engaged stakeholders and community residents to provide input and participate in the development of the plan.

A briefing to the Public Safety Committee laying out the strategy to develop the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan was provided by Metro Health in February 2023.

The Violence Prevention Strategic Plan identifies and defines strategies to prevent and intervene in violence along a continuum and throughout the lifespan. This plan updates the 2019 City of San Antonio Domestic Violence Plan and incorporates prevention strategies for other community violence issues such as shootings, child abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, and acts of mass violence. This plan is also complementary to SAPD's Violent Crime Reduction Plan. Using a public health approach to prevent violence and work collaboratively with stakeholders, the multisectoral strategic plan can combine and amplify resources to increase positive outcomes in the community.

This presentation to the Public Safety Committee will summarize the development process and highlight the strategies and projected outcomes of the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. The briefing to the Public Safety Committee serves as the first public release of the completed plan.

Using a public health approach to prevent violence and work collaboratively with stakeholders, the multisectoral violence prevention strategic plan combines and amplifies resources to increase positive outcomes in the community. The plan:

- Identifies and defines strategies to prevent and intervene in violence along a continuum and throughout the lifespan.
- Updates the 2019 City of San Antonio Domestic Violence Plan.
- Incorporates prevention strategies for other community violence issues such as shootings, child abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, and acts of mass violence.
- Complements the SAPD's Violent Crime Reduction Plan.

ISSUE:

Metro Health led a collaborative effort to develop the first community-wide Violence Prevention Strategic Plan for San Antonio/Bexar County. This plan will provide a road map to implement evidence-based strategies to prevent violence.

This presentation to the Public Safety Committee will summarize the development process and highlight the strategies and projected outcomes of the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan.

The briefing to the Public Safety Committee serves as the first public release of the completed plan. After receiving feedback from the Public Safety Committee, the plan will be presented to the

full City Council at a “B” Session.

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.