

LGBTQ+ ADVISORY BOARD


City Council A Session
March 21, 2024

Samantha Smith, Civil Rights Manager
DEIA Department



LGBTQ+ Advisory Board History



Credit: @Ron_Nirenberg (June 1, 2023) 

2013 Non-Discrimination Ordinance Passes

Mayor Julian Castro appoints Mayoral LGBTQ+ Advisor

2017 Pride Center San Antonio opens

2018 Mayor Ron Nirenberg creates LGBTQ+ Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

2020 Largest ever survey of LGBTQ+ individuals in San Antonio Conducted

2018-Now

Consistently earn 100 pts on Municipal Equality Index (MEI) by Human Rights Commission

LGBTQ+ Advisory Board

Board Members

- 13 Total
- 3 Mayoral Appointments
- 10 Council District Appointments

Categories of Membership

- Reflects the challenges and concerns of LGBTQ+ communities
- Encourages broadly diverse membership
- Includes members who are reflective of and sensitive to the needs of LGBTQ+ communities' diverse populations





LGBTQ+ Advisory Board cont.

Purpose

- Advisory to Council and City
- Recommends measures to improve life for LGBTQ+ San Antonians
- Coordinates and participates in educational programs
- Works with other commissions to address intersectionality
- Creates, guides, and supports initiatives

Structure

- Requires Chair and Vice-Chair elected by committee
- Otherwise follows guidelines of City Charter



THANK YOU!

Samantha M. Smith, JD

Civil Rights Manager

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

