

**DEPARTMENT:** Public Works

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Razi Hosseini, P.E., R.P.L.S., Director/City Engineer

**COUNCIL DISTRICT IMPACTED:** 1

**SUBJECT:**

Parks Police Headquarters 2017 Bond Project Briefing to the Council's Public Safety Committee

**SUMMARY:**

The Public Works Department and Parks Police will provide a briefing to the City Council Public Safety Committee on the Parks Police Headquarters 2017 Bond Project.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The San Antonio Park Police is responsible for providing law enforcement and security to more than 16,000 acres of park lands which make up over 250+ City-owned parks as well as 27 recreational centers, 28 City pools, numerous City sports complexes, fields and facilities as well as other City Parks & Recreation facilities and properties throughout the City of San Antonio. The other facilities include the Botanical Gardens, Hemisfair Park, Tower of the Americas, and historic facilities such as La Villita, the Spanish Governor's Palace, Market Square, and the San Antonio Riverwalk. Park Police Officers are also responsible for patrolling over 80+ miles of City trails on bicycles and all-terrain vehicles. In addition to providing proactive patrol of the parks and assigned areas, Park Police Officers respond to several calls for service in the parks and on the San Antonio Riverwalk. Park Police patrol their assigned areas on foot, in cars, trucks, SUVs, and on bicycles, ATVs, and patrol boats.

The location of Park Police Headquarters is critical in ensuring adequate access and support of the Central Business District and throughout the City. The current Park Police Headquarters facility is located at 600 Hemisfair Plaza Way, Building 337 and has been occupied since 1981. In addition to the lack of sufficient physical space, this facility's mechanical, plumbing, and air-conditioning has exceeded its service life resulting in poor and inconsistent performance. This aged facility no longer provides the department the adequate space needed to store equipment, support assigned staff and is not equipped to accommodate for future growth.

On May 6, 2017, San Antonio voters approved the 2017 Bond Program totaling \$850 million and as part of the Public Safety Facilities Improvements Proposition, funds in the amount of \$20,567,000.00 was approved for Police Department Substation and Park Police Headquarters. An additional \$2,454,000.00 was approved as part of the FY 2020 Adopted Budget for a total of

\$23,021,000.00 for these facilities. Of this amount a total of \$4,779,277.00 will fund the renovation for the Park Police Headquarters project.

On April 16, 2021, the Public Works Department issued a Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal for the Park Police Headquarters, Building 277, located in Hemisfair Park. The Park Police Headquarters project, at Building 277 in Hemisfair Park, will remodel approximately 24,000 square feet of the existing two-story building. The newly renovated facility located across from the existing Park Police Headquarters will result in a more cohesive Park Police department. The project will consolidate the current headquarters, also located in Hemisfair Park, with Park Police operations in various other locations. The completed project will provide necessary functions and security to enable the Park Police to effectively serve and protect both citizens and visitors in the Downtown and central City areas.

**ISSUE:**

The Public Works Department and Parks Police will provide a briefing to the City Council Public Safety Committee on the Parks Police Headquarters 2017 Bond Project.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This is a briefing only.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This is a briefing only.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff will brief City Council Public Safety Committee to obtain the Committee's approval to proceed with post-solicitation process for Park Police Headquarters 2017 Bond Project.