

State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio



Meeting Minutes  
Public Comment Session

City Hall Complex  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

2021 – 2023 Council Members

Mayor Ron Nirenberg

Mario Bravo, Dist. 1 | Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, Dist. 2  
Phyllis Viagran, Dist. 3 | Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, Dist. 4  
Teri Castillo, Dist. 5 | Melissa Cabello Havrda, Dist. 6  
Ana Sandoval, Dist. 7 | Manny Pelaez, Dist. 8  
John Courage, Dist. 9 | Clayton Perry, Dist. 10

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

5:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council convened a regular meeting in the Norma S. Rodriguez Council Chamber in the Municipal Plaza Building beginning at 5:03 PM. Interim City Clerk Debbie Racca-Sittre took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Council Members present:

**PRESENT:** 6 - Mayor Nirenberg, Bravo, McKee-Rodriguez, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda

**ABSENT:** 5 - Viagran, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, Perry

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Public Comment is your opportunity to address your City of San Antonio elected officials directly about issues that are important to you and your community. To sign up to speak, please go to [www.sanantonio.gov/agenda](http://www.sanantonio.gov/agenda) and click on the eComment link for instructions. Members of the public are given up to three minutes to speak, and groups are given up to

nine minutes.

Marina Gavito stated that the City could no longer ignore the lack of internet access which affected 20% of households.

Debra Montez Felder spoke in support of the alternative response program and noted that it was inappropriate for the San Antonio Police Department personnel to respond to a mental health crisis incident.

Olen Sluder urged the use of ARPA funds to respond to mental health crises and noted that outcomes should include compassion by trained professionals.

Myra D. (last name not provided) expressed support for an alternative response program to mental health crisis incidents.

Kimiya Factory spoke in remembrance of the life of Damian Daniels and noted that police interaction could trigger violence, especially in someone with mental health issues.

Missy Peoples reported that 60% of cases filled in Bexar County were for family violence. Peoples stated that family violence started with coercive control and was a non-physical abusive behavior that was psychological, emotional, intentional and calculated. Peoples asked to start a conversation with Senator Donna Campbell to get ahead of the massive storm of domestic violence.

Ananda Thomas asked the City to establish an alternative response program with use of ARPA funds to allow those that need help to receive not only crisis intervention, but comprehensive services.

Brendan Daniels, brother of Damian Daniels whose life was taken in 2020, requested the establishment of a mental health program that did not involve Police Officers with weapons.

Annette Watkins, mother of Damian Daniels, stated that Damian's life was taken for no reason and it was frustrating that this call for help ended with the death of her son.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 5:32 pm.

**Approved**

**Ron Nirenberg**  
**Mayor**

Attest: **Debbie Racca-Sittre**  
**Interim City Clerk**