



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
**{{item.tracking\_number}}**

---

**Agenda Item Number:** 4

**Agenda Date:** October 19, 2022

**In Control:** Governance Committee Meeting

---

**DEPARTMENT:** Office of Military and Veterans Affairs

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Juan Ayala

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Briefing and possible action on an update to the Commission on Veteran Affairs by-laws.

**SUMMARY:**

Requesting the Governance Committee's support for an ordinance to approve an update to the City of San Antonio Commission on Veterans Affairs (VAC) by-laws.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In April 2001, the City of San Antonio activated the Commission on Veterans Affairs (VAC), via Ordinance No. 93743, to include the current by-laws.

This year, VAC members created a subcommittee to review the current by-laws and propose changes to update the 21 year-old document. The subcommittee worked with the Military and Veteran Affairs Department staff liaison to update the by-laws to reflect current mission and objectives, and subsequently presented proposed changes to the Commission. The City Attorney's

Office reviewed the proposed document and provided input which was incorporated by the subcommittee. The VAC unanimously approved new updates.

The 2001 by-laws established the VAC to ‘provide policy guidance to the Council’ and ‘serve as a clearing house for services.’ While the former is still an appropriate VAC function, other organizations in the area are both funded and staffed to perform the resource clearing house function. The VAC serves a vital role in the community by providing representation for their respective districts at various military and veteran engagement events. In this role, the VAC serves their primary propose - serving as the voice and liaison for their district staff on issues of common concern.

The VAC also proposes to modify their name from the Commission on Veteran Affairs to Veterans Advisory Commission to avoid confusion through unintended association to the Federal government’s Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

**ISSUE:**

VAC by-laws require an update to reflect current mission and objectives.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is to have the VAC continue operating as-is under their current name and 21-year old by-laws.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Military and Veterans Affairs Department recommends approval of the updated by-laws and the Commission’s name change.