



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: February 21, 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 Metro Health Violence Prevention Strategic Plan.

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) is leading a collaborative effort to develop the first Metro Health Violence Prevention Strategic Plan.

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 is taking advantage 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 are participating in a national public health leadership training program which involves development of the first Metro Health Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. Together, these organizations are engaging stakeholders and community residents to provide input and participate in the development of the plan.

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

This presentation to the Public Safety Committee will provide a timeline for stakeholder and community engagement and plan development. Metro Health will update the Public Safety Committee in the spring and summer prior to the completion of the Metro Health Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. Once the plan is completed, it will be presented to the City Council in the fall of 2023.

ISSUE:

Metro Health is leading a collaborative effort to develop the first Metro Health Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. This plan will provide a road map to implement evidence-based strategies to prevent violence.

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.