



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Rey Saldaña

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to City Council

SUBJECT: "Don't Block the Box" Ordinance and Campaign

DATE: May 6, 2016

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

In an effort to enhance mobility and safety at critical intersections in San Antonio, I am requesting the City of San Antonio Transportation and Capital Improvement Department and San Antonio Police Department launch a new local campaign and enforcement initiative, "Don't Block the Box."

Brief Background

Cities across the United States have initiated similar campaigns to enhance safety and mobility at intersections. Our program should be designed to positively impact some of the busiest intersections throughout San Antonio by installing strategically-placed signage and utilizing dedicated enforcement. SAPD officers should look for behaviors that interrupt traffic flow, such as blocking intersections and failure to yield to pedestrians and stop at the designated location. Signage should alert drivers to avoid blocking the box by waiting to enter an intersection until it is clear to proceed all the way through, in accordance with Texas law. Drivers should wait behind the stop bar, not in the crosswalk, and look to see if the vehicles in front of them on the other side of the intersection have left enough room for them to make it through. The initiative should work in the spirit of and along the same guidelines as Vision Zero, which was recently launched in San Antonio. The goal of the Don't Block the Box enforcement campaign is to communicate to drivers that when they enter an intersection and are unable to travel all the way through, they prevent cross traffic movement and endanger others by blocking oncoming vehicles, crosswalks and bike lanes. Blocking the box is unsafe, illegal and causes traffic congestion.

Submitted for Council consideration
by:

Councilman Rey Saldaña, District 4

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Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)

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