

AN ORDINANCE 2007-02-01-0135

APPROVING AN ADDENDUM TO THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO'S LEGISLATIVE PLAN FOR THE 80TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE THAT WAS ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 19, 2006.

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WHEREAS, prior to the convening of each regular state Legislative Session, the City of San Antonio identifies policy priorities that it would like the Texas Legislature to address and in August 2006, the City's Governmental Affairs Team began working with the City Council Intergovernmental Relations Committee, City Departments and agencies, the Texas Municipal League and the community to identify issues for the upcoming session; and

WHEREAS, the City's State Legislative Plan for the 80th Regular Session ("Plan") was reviewed by the City's Management Team on October 13, 2006 and the City Council Intergovernmental Relations Committee on October 18, 2006 and was adopted by the full City Council on October 19, 2006 by the passage of Ordinance No. 2006-10-19-1203; and

WHEREAS, this proposed addendum consists of a legislative endorsement seeking \$6.1 million in funding from the State of Texas for the construction, operation and maintenance of a Public Safety Triage Detox Unit; and

WHEREAS, in the greater San Antonio area, the indigent, uninsured and underinsured populations have insufficient access to detoxification and crisis mental health services and research indicates that at a minimum, 50 percent of homeless populations are dually diagnosed, having both mental illnesses and substance abuse;

WHEREAS, the City's 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness recommends development of a comprehensive homeless campus and the ability to provide a public safety triage and detoxification center in the close proximity to the campus will strengthen this comprehensive environment; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Council approves an addendum to the City of San Antonio's Legislative Plan for the 80th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature. A copy of the addendum to the Plan is attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit I.

SECTION 2. Staff is directed to inform the Bexar County Legislative Delegation of the addendum to the Plan and to undertake such steps as are reasonably necessary to obtain passage of the Plan during the upcoming 80th Legislative Session.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective on and after the tenth day after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 1st day of February, 2007.

ATTEST:


City Clerk


MAYOR

PHIL HARDBERGER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


City Attorney

Agenda Voting Results

Name: 26.

Date: 02/01/07

Time: 09:55:24 AM

Vote Type: Multiple selection

Description: An Ordinance approving an addendum to the City of San Antonio's Legislative Plan for the 80th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature that was adopted on October 19, 2006. [Presented by Andrew Smith, Director, Intergovernmental Relations; Erik J. Walsh, Assistant City Manager]

Voter	Group	Status	Yes	No	Abstain
ROGER O. FLORES	DISTRICT 1		x		
SHEILA D. MCNEIL	DISTRICT 2		x		
ROLAND GUTIERREZ	DISTRICT 3		x		
RICHARD PEREZ	DISTRICT 4	Not present			
PATTI RADLE	DISTRICT 5		x		
DELICIA HERRERA	DISTRICT 6		x		
ELENA K. GUAJARDO	DISTRICT 7		x		
ART A. HALL	DISTRICT 8		x		
KEVIN A. WOLFF	DISTRICT 9		x		
CHIP HAASS	DISTRICT_10	Not present			
MAYOR PHIL HARDBERGER	MAYOR		x		

Exhibit
I

Public Safety Triage and Detox Units

Background:

In the course of our work to build the Haven for Hope center serving the homeless, a very serious problem has become apparent: the large number of people with mental illness or substance abuse problems being "treated" through incarceration rather than through less-expensive options. The Bexar County Jail routinely has 450-550 inmates who have persistent mental illnesses and/or a substance addiction, and of the 11,179 inmates screened, approximately 60% showed signs of mental health disorders compounded by a substance addiction. These people often are in jail for misdemeanors such as public intoxication, panhandling, or vagrancy.

Beyond the significant costs associated with jail/prison overcrowding, it's significantly more expensive to house mentally ill or addicted inmates than general population inmates. But since law enforcement officials have no other alternatives, they frequently either arrest such people or take them to emergency rooms -- another costly option.

There are also significant systemic costs associated with processing these people through the criminal justice system, like extended processing times for law enforcement officers and extra court services. And because such inmates rarely receive the treatment they need, they're more likely to be arrested again once they're released.

Current Efforts and the Gap:

In 2005, several agencies within Bexar County developed the Crisis Care Center at the downtown campus of the University Health System to reduce costs to law enforcement, wasted time in emergency rooms and inappropriate incarcerations. This jail diversion program has been so successful that it has won awards in the last year from the National Council of Community Behavioral Health Centers and the Gold Award of the American Psychiatric Association.

Unfortunately, there are very few resources available to address the problem. Furthermore, mental health treatment is limited to three "single diagnosis" disorders (severe depression, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder). As a result, over half of these individuals receive no treatment of any kind.

Specifically, there is no facility where a person can be assessed and provided with immediate treatment. We propose to build such a facility. It would be connected to the new \$21 million University Health Center, adjacent to the Haven for Hope and Bexar County Jail.

Request:

Provide funding for a pilot project:

- > \$3.8 million for construction of a public safety triage unit and 60-bed detox unit
- > \$1.6 million for detox operations (5,475 inpatient and 2,125 outpatient)
- > \$0.7 million for public safety triage unit operations
- > Allow funding for dual diagnosis and substance abuse.

This initiative would combine assessment resources, mental health crisis services and behavioral health treatment services. It would also give law enforcement agencies and courts a place to bring people, diverting individuals from jails/prisons, emergency rooms and publicly funded hospitals.

Funding Options:

Option #1:

Earmark funding from the existing Department of State Health Services *Mental Health Community Services* line item exceptional request (redirecting of the currently requested funds).

Option #2:

Add earmarked funding to the Department of State Health Services *Mental Health Community Services* line item exceptional request (augmentation of the current request).

Option #3:

Fund a dedicated pilot project (stand-alone funding).

Option #4:

Add earmarked funding to the Department of State Health Services *Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment* line item exceptional request (augmentation of the current request).

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ALAMODOME
ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
ASSET MANAGEMENT
AVIATION
BUDGET & PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT
BUILDING INSPECTIONS
HOUSE NUMBERING
CITY ATTORNEY
MUNICIPAL COURT
REAL ESTATE (FASSNIDGE)
REAL ESTATE (WOOD)
RISK MANAGEMENT
CITY MANAGER
SPECIAL PROJECTS
CITY PUBLIC SERVICE - GENERAL MANAGER
CITY PUBLIC SERVICE - MAPS AND RECORDS
CODE COMPLIANCE
COMMERCIAL RECORDER
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS
PUBLIC INFORMATION
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
CONVENTION CENTER EXPANSION OFFICE
CONVENTION FACILITIES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE - DIRECTOR
FINANCE - ASSESSOR
FINANCE - CONTROLLER
FINANCE - GRANTS
FINANCE - TREASURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
HUMAN RESOURCES (PERSONNEL)
INFORMATION SERVICES
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
INTERNAL REVIEW
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
LIBRARY
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT
MUNICIPAL CODE CORPORATION
MUNICIPAL COURT
PARKS AND RECREATION
MARKET SQUARE
YOUTH INITIATIVES
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
DISABILITY ACCESS OFFICE
LAND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
POLICE DEPARTMENT
GROUND TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
CAPITAL PROJECTS
CENTRAL MAPPING
ENGINEERING
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
PARKING DIVISION
REAL ESTATE DIVISION
SOLID WASTE
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING
PURCHASING AND GENERAL SERVICES
SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEMS (SAWS)

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 26

DATE: FEB 01 2007

MOTION: Radle/Herrera

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 2007-02-01-0135

RESOLUTION NUMBER: _____

ZONING CASE NUMBER: _____

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION: _____

ROGER S. FLORES District 1			
SHEILA D. MURRELL District 2			
ROLAND GUTIERREZ District 3			
RICHARD FERRIS District 4		<i>absent</i>	
PATTI LARSON District 5			
DELORES BROWN District 6			
ELENA GUALTERO District 7			
ART A. HALL District 8			
KEVIN A. WELBY District 9			
CHRISTOPHER HAASS District 10		<i>absent</i>	
PHIL HARDENBERG Mayor			

VIA

CONSENT AGENDA