



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

2008 FEB - 6 PM 3: 17
RECEIVED
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
CITY CLERK

TO: Mayor & City Council
 FROM: Councilman Justin Rodriguez, District 7
 COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Erik J. Walsh, Assistant City Manager; Christopher D. Callanen, Assistant to City Council
 SUBJECT: Request for Placement of Item on Governance Committee Meeting Agenda
 DATE: February 6, 2008

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:

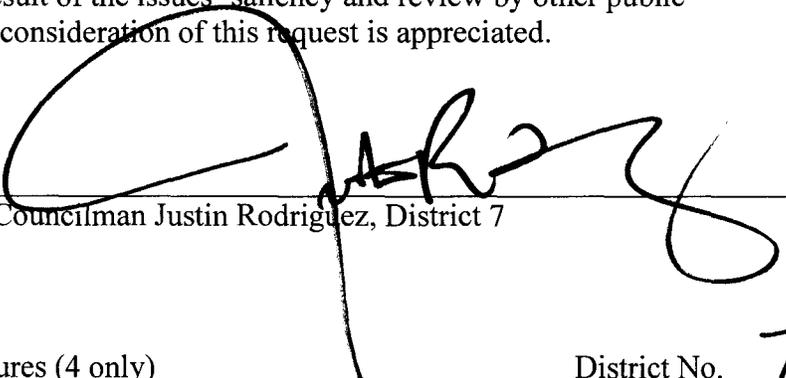
To direct Public Works staff to initiate the steps necessary to ban the use of hand held cellular phones in school zones throughout San Antonio. The ban of such communication devices as drivers navigate through school zones is intended to improve field of vision awareness and general attention behavior of motor vehicle operators. Such a ban will allow for a heightened sense of safety and attentiveness in an effort to be proactive in reducing the risk of accidents due to distractions caused by the use of hand held cell phones in school zones.

Brief Background

Communities throughout Texas have begun the ban on hand held cellular phone use in school zones as a measure toward improved public safety. The Flower Mound, Texas Town Council approved an ordinance February 4, 2008 prohibiting drivers from using hand held cell phones in school zones. Flower Mound follows Highland Park, Texas and University Park, Texas which passed similar measures in late 2007. The Flower Mound's measure, which will fine violators as much as \$200, goes into effect in March, 2008.

The city of Dallas is also considering a similar cell phone ban. The Dallas City Council's public safety committee reviewed the matter February 4, 2008 and is scheduled to vote on the issue in two weeks. Current public commentary and traffic engineering/public safety studies should be readily available as a result of the issues' saliency and review by other public offices in Texas. Your favorable consideration of this request is appreciated.

Submitted for Council consideration by:


Councilman Justin Rodriguez, District 7

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)

District No. 7

1.	<i>DAVID</i>	4
2.	<i>Mary Ann P. Cisneros</i>	1
3.	<i>[Signature]</i>	10
4.	<i>[Signature]</i>	6

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