

AN ORDINANCE 2009-03-12-0180

APPROVING AN ADDENDUM TO THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 81ST REGULAR SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE THAT WAS ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 16, 2008.

* * * * *

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 2008, the City's intergovernmental Relations staff began working with City Departments and agencies, the City's legislative consultants and the Texas Municipal League to identify issues for the upcoming session; and

WHEREAS, the City's State Legislative Program for the 81st Regular Session ("Program") was reviewed by the City Council Intergovernmental Relations Committee in September 2008 and the full Council in B Session on October 8, 2008 and City Council approved the Program on October 16, 2008; and

WHEREAS, this proposed addendum to the Program consists of one legislative initiative concerning the Texas Municipal Retirement System ("TMRS") and the ability for municipalities to provide retirees with a thirteenth check, one legislative endorsement concerning the elimination of the TMRS retroactivity of cost of living adjustment, one amendment to the Program eliminating the City's legislative initiative providing for a mechanism to opt out of TMRS and one legislative endorsement concerning vicious dogs; and

WHEREAS, this proposed addendum was considered by the City Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee on March 11, 2009 and it is now being brought forward to the full City Council for approval; 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 Program for the 81st Regular Session of the Texas Legislature. A copy of the addendum to the Program 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 Program and to undertake such steps as are reasonably necessary to obtain passage of the Program during the 81st Legislative Session.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon the passage of eight (8) affirmative votes. If it is not passed by (8) affirmative votes, this Ordinance shall be effective on and after the tenth day after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of March, 2009.

ATTEST:

Julie D. [Signature]
City Clerk

[Signature]
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
for City Attorney

Exhibit
I

Texas Municipal Retirement System ***(TMRS) ****

Proposal:

Initiate/Support legislation that would provide eligible cities the ability to grant an additional payment (13th check) in an amount equal to 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% of a retiree's full monthly check.

In addition, the City supports the following:

- TMRS Proposed legislative Packet which includes the following primary changes:
 - Guarantee an annual interest credit of at least 5% to member accounts and set the annuity purchase rate for retirees at a minimum of 5%;
 - Allow the crediting of realized and unrealized income to the City accounts;
 - Allow City accounts to receive an annual interest rate at a different rate from the member rate, including negative interest;
- Proposed legislation which provides for an additional option to Cities to elect Cost of Living Adjustments for retirees which are not subject to current retroactivity provisions;

The City's legislative program is also being amended to remove a proposal to initiate legislation in 2009 to provide the City flexibility to exit TMRS and establish a separate plan for San Antonio's civilian employees and retirees. Due to the substantial complexity associated with this option, the City will continue to study this option. If it is determined that this option is most beneficial, then it would pursue legislation allowing the City to exit in the 2011 legislative session.

Background:

The City provides pension benefits for its full-time civilian employees through TMRS. TMRS is a statewide agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system created by state law in 1948. The plan is described as a nontraditional, joint contributory, hybrid defined benefit plan.

In December 2007, TMRS adopted revised actuarial assumptions and a change in actuarial funding method from "Unit Credit" to "Projected Unit Credit" to provide for the advance funding of certain benefits which are adopted on an annually repeating basis. These changes had a significant impact on the Plan's UAAL and funded position as well as the City's contribution requirements. After adoption of these changes, the City's Plan had a UAAL of \$317.7 million with a funded ratio of 60.1% as of December 31, 2007. For comparison purposes, as of December 31, 2006, the City's Plan had a UAAL of \$178.5 million with a funded ratio of 72.2%.

Under TMRS provisions, San Antonio has adopted a 2 to 1 plan provision with employees contributing 6% of covered payroll and the City double matching at approximately 12%. With the aforementioned actuarial changes, the City's contribution rate increased from 12.5% to 16.7%, or approximately \$10.0 million annually. Due to the significant increase in contribution requirements, TMRS is allowing cities to adopt an eight year phase-in of required contributions which San Antonio has selected. Under the phase-in provisions, San Antonio's contribution rate is projected to increase from 12.5% to 17.49% after phase-in, an almost 3 to 1 match of employee contributions.

Due to the significant increase in required contributions and the change in the funded status of City's plan under TMRS, the City has been analyzing and evaluating a variety of options. The aforementioned proposed legislation the City is seeking and/or supporting will provide additional flexibility and options for addressing the significant challenges associated with the current TMRS plan.

Fiscal Impact:

The City's Full Rate Contribution for 2009 is 16.64% as calculated by TMRS. The cost associated with paying the full rate in 2009 would be approximately \$10.0M. Due to the significant increase in the contribution rate, the increase in contributions will be phased-in over an eight year period.

If no changes are made to the plan, the City's contribution would increase over the eight year phase-in period to a projected 17.49% of covered payroll. Under conservative assumptions of no payroll growth, the City's cumulative increase over the eight year period as compared to its 2008 rate of 12.54% (approximate 2 to 1 match) is projected to be \$52.8 million.



81st State Legislative Session

City of San Antonio

Legislative Program Summary

3/12/2009

KEY DATES/INFORMATION

- The 81st session of the Texas Legislature convened on Tuesday, January 13, 2009.
- The Session will last 140 days, ending June 1, 2009.
- The 60 day mark, which is the deadline for filing bills and joint resolutions other than local bills or emergency appropriations, is Friday, March 13, 2009.
- Sunday, June 21, 2009 is the last day Governor can sign or veto bills passed during the 81st regular legislative session

CITY'S LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

1. Military Installation Protection Act*

- HB 143 by Rep. McClendon this bill has not been scheduled for a committee hearing yet and we understand that Rep. McClendon will file a substitute when the bill is considered at the committee hearing. City staff has provided input into the draft of her substitute legislation.
- Senator Van de Putte's bill. City staff, including the Office of Military Affairs, provided comments to a draft of Sen. Van de Putte's. Her bill is a state-wide bill which would allow for the creation of a regional military sustainability commission (RSMC). The RSMCs could be formed in areas surrounding military installations and would have powers similar to zoning commissions. The ultimate decision on a zoning case would lie with the city or county in which the property is located.

2. Transportation*

- **Local option funding legislation**
 - SB 855, by Sen. Carona, is statewide Local Option Transportation Act (LOTA) and currently includes Bexar County. The bill is scheduled for a committee hearing on Wednesday, March 18th.
 - Sen. Wentworth has filed SB 942, a statewide local option bill.
 - Rep. Villarreal has filed HB 1674, a local option bill for Bexar County and is currently considering a substitute which would allow the following funding options: a County motor vehicle registration fee - not to exceed \$100; new resident vehicle registration fee - not to exceed \$250; drivers license fee - not to exceed \$50; vehicle mileage fee - not to exceed one cent per mile; environmental mitigation fee (based on vehicle emission rating) - not to exceed \$250 and a county motor vehicle fuel tax - not to exceed 10 cents per gallon.
 - Rep. Truitt has filed HB 9, a companion bill to SB 855.

- **Reduce diversions of state gasoline tax revenue**
 - SB 216 (Carona) – Clarifies that money in the state highway fund may be used only to improve the state highway system. Removes authorization to fund the Department of Public Safety.
 - SJR 9 (Carona) – Provides that three-fourths of net revenue derived from motor fuels shall be used for the sole purpose of constructing and maintaining public highways; one-fourth shall be allocated to the available school fund.
 - HB 644 (Zerwas) – Amends the Transportation Code to restrict use of the State Highway Fund to fund the Department of Public Safety and twelve other state agencies.

- **Proposition 12 enabling legislation**
 - SB 263 (Carona) – Authorizes issuance by the Texas Transportation Commission of general obligation bonds for highway improvement projects. \$5 billion in potential new revenue.

- **Indexing state gasoline tax**
 - SB 217 (Carona) – Indexes state gasoline tax to the “Producer price index” for highway and street construction, not to exceed five percent per year.
 - SJR 8 (Carona) – Proposes amendment to the Texas Constitution to direct the use of 75 percent of the net proceeds of motor fuels tax revenue to highway maintenance and construction and to direct the Legislature by general law to authorize the Comptroller to automatically adjust the rates of taxes imposed on motor fuels.

- **Capitalize Texas Rail Relocation Fund**
 - SB 383 (Carona) – Allocates \$200 million in motor vehicle sales taxes to the Rail Relocation Fund.
 - HB 564 (McClendon) – Companion bill to SB 383.

3. Graffiti*

- Next Monday, March 16, 2009, the House Criminal Jurisprudence will hear HB 1558 (by Martinez-Fischer) , HB 1633 and HB 2126. David Garza, Housing and Neighborhood Services Director will provide testimony supporting the City’s position on graffiti.
 - HB 1558 (Rep. Martinez-Fischer) relating to certain criminal penalties and civil consequences for defendants convicted of an offense of graffiti and for juveniles adjudicated as having engaged in conduct involving graffiti.
 - HB 1633 (Rep. Walle) would impose on defendants convicted of an offense of graffiti or juveniles adjudicated as having engaged in conduct involving graffiti additional community service hours based on the dollar value of the offense.
 - HB 2126 (Rep. Kent) would decrease the dollar value of property damages which qualify for Class A and B misdemeanors.

4. Extension of the Diabetes Mellitus Pilot Program

- **HB 1363** by Representative Gutierrez, relating to a voluntary statewide diabetes mellitus registry.
- Metro-Health staff has submitted final language that will be acceptable to Representative Gutierrez, Senator Van de Putte and the City.

5. Meet and Confer for Civilian Employees

- Sen. Uresti has requested the opportunity to carry this bill and Sen. Van de Putte has agreed. Her office provided the draft bill prepared by legislative council which was reviewed by City staff, including our comments to the draft to Sen. Uresti. We have been told that he intends to file that bill. Staff will continue to monitor this bill to ensure it is consistent with Council approved language and will report to Council if there are any changes.

6. Extension of the MRSA (Staph infections) Pilot Program

- **HB 1362** by Representative Gutierrez, relating to the reporting of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus.
- Metro-Health staff has submitted final language that will be acceptable to Representative Gutierrez, Senator Van de Putte and the City.

7. Regulate the sale of Salvia divinorum to minors

- On March 4, 2009, **HB 126** was heard in the House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee and was left pending further action. City staff indicated its support for this legislation.

8. Fire Department –“Engineer” Designation

- **HB 1065** by Rep. Farias, Relating to the use of the term "engineer" by certain fire department employees. This bill is set for a hearing on Wednesday, March 18th. City staff will attend and present testimony in support of this legislation.

9. Fire Department Personnel Improvements

- **HB 1064** by Rep. Farias, Relating to the length of time an eligibility list remains in effect for beginning positions in a fire department in certain municipalities under municipal civil service. City staff is working with Rep. Farias on this bill that has been referred to committee on Urban Affairs.

10. Sports Event Trust Fund*

- **HB 398** by Representative Ortiz, would promote major athletic, motor sports racing and other special events. This bill has been referred to Committee on House Technology, Economic Development and Workforce.

11. Impact Fees

- City staff is preparing responses to questions related to HB 403 and will share them with Rep. Villarreal. City staff provided oral testimony in the House State Affairs Committee on March 3, 2009 in support of HB 403 by Rep. Villarreal, which would provide for the collection of impact fees for the construction of new fire stations near newly developed communities.

NO CHANGE IN STATUS FROM LAST REPORT.

1. DEAAG*

- Senate Finance is currently deliberating on SB 1. Hearing has been set for SB 1 on March 5th and 6th and March 9th. We believe that Rep. Corte continues to support DEAAG funding at \$5 million. Given the state's current budget shortfall, securing a \$30 million appropriation, will be difficult. The good news is we have worked closely with the Governor's Office on the matter and their Legislative Appropriations Request did contain flat line funding for DEAAG at \$5 million. One possible downside is that the \$5 million could be stricken to balance the

budget in conference. Work with The Texas Defense, Aviation and Aerospace Alliance (TDAAA) continues and they are currently trying to update the jobs created and funds leveraged metrics from grants given over the last several years. Also, the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) Sunset legislation will include language that would authorize DEAAAG funds for “retained” jobs, instead of the current “net new jobs” requirement.

2. Economic Development*

- HB 733 by Rep. Oliveira, relating to extending the expiration date of the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act has been filed. This bill has been referred to the Committee on House Transportation.

3. Clean Air Funding

- \$5.075 million for the biennium is contemplated in SB 1 by Sen. Ogden, the LBB base line budget, which was worked through the Legislative Appropriations Request process of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). However, Rider #8 also expands the eligible communities to include Waco, El Paso and Beaumont and directs TCEQ to allocate funds for projects most useful for meeting the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The addition of new cities and SIP criteria might limit San Antonio access to funding, so additional advocacy and review is needed. Staff is working with TCEQ on their exceptional items to increase funding so the principle participants funding is not diluted as a result of new cities being added.

4. Haven for Hope Funding

- Staff is working with the Big City Mayors’ initiative to secure funding for this legislation.

5. Rezoning Public Hearing Publication Notification Requirements

- Rep. Corte filed HB 45. HB 45 would allow the City to post rezoning notifications on the City's official website. This bill has been referred to referred to the Committee on House Land and Resource Management

6. Preservation of Court Records

- Rep. Corte has requested a draft from legislative council and has been informed this legislation will be a local bill and, as such, notification must be posted in the media that Rep. Corte intends to file a bill. Rep. Corte has requested the City take appropriate steps regarding this notice. Rep. Corte will provide the language for the caption for the notice.

7. Public Information Act Amendments

- Sen. Wentworth will file the bill this week.

8. Agricultural Operations*

- City Attorney’s Office has provided comments to Representative Villarreal’s office on this draft bill. It will be filed this week.

PROTECTION OF MUNICIPAL INTERESTS

1. Eminent Domain

- To date, over 75 bills have been filed on the subject of eminent domain. City staff is closely reviewing these bills.

- **HB 4** by Representative Orr and **SB 18** by Senator Estes are the major omnibus eminent domain bills for the session but the others need to be monitored as well. HB 4 has been referred to the House Land and Resource Management Committee and SB 18 has been referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee.

2. **Appraisal Reform**

- Currently, there have been 175 bills related to property tax appraisals. Most of these bills will be referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee.
- House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Rep. Oliveira stated on Wednesday, February 25th that appraisal reform would be the first subject addressed by the committee and bills related to appraisals may be heard as soon as the week after next.
- These bills range from:
 - lowering the limit on the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for ad valorem taxation purposes (HB 2 by Rep. Otto; HB 147 by Rep. Callegari; HB 711 by Rep. Rose; HJR 12 by Rep. Leibowitz and SJR 10 by Sen. Nichols).
 - the appeal of certain ad valorem determinations through binding arbitration (HB 500 by Rep. Kolkhorst, HB 986 by Rep. Villarreal; SB 1117 by Sen. Nichols and SB 721 by Sen. Hegar).
 - the determination of the value of property for ad valorem tax purposes (HB 133 by Rep. Villarreal; HB 209 by Rep. Bohac and SB 771 by Sen. Williams).
 - the local option election in a county to set a limit on the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for ad valorem tax (HB 46, by Rep. Riddle; and HB 1546, by Rep. Creighton).
- The IGR Committee will continue to monitor this and other bills and will oppose any which may have a negative impact on municipal interests.

OTHER ISSUES

1. **Texas A&M University – San Antonio**

- Two bills have been filed; HB 993 (by Rep. Farias) and SB 607 (By Sen. Uresti) are companion bills which would allow the campus to begin establishing their independence and accreditation from TAMU- Kingsville with 1,000 FTEs. Please note these bills do not lower the amount of 1,500 FTEs required to receive Texas Revenue Bonds (TRBs).
- Another bill, HB 1967 (by Rep. Aycock) would repeal the 1,500 FTE requirements to receive Texas Revenue Bonds.

NEW ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

1. **Dangerous Dogs**

- The IGR Committee met yesterday and recommends the endorsement of HB 1982 (Rep. Martinez-Fischer) relating to the regulation of dangerous and vicious dogs for inclusion in the City's State Legislative Program. Please see attached memo for additional information.

2. **Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS)**

- The IGR Committee is also recommending that Council modify the City's current legislative agenda to include an endorsement of SB 1358 by Sen. Seliger the elimination of retroactivity for opting out of and then back in of COLAs. Sen. Seliger's bill allows a city to opt out of providing COLA and in the future opting back in.

- The Committee also supports new legislation to provide an option for cities which do opt out of COLA to provide a 13th check.
- Finally, the Committee recommends that the City's legislative agenda be modified to exclude the option to leave TMRS. Staff recommends further study of this issue and possible in the next legislative session.

FUTURE ACTIONS

All of our legislative bills which are noted as a priority have either been initially drafted or have been sent to Legislative Council for drafting. IGR staff and our legislative consultants are busy reviewing bills and working with our delegation and their staff members to educate them on our legislative priorities.

There have been more than 5,000 bills filed thus far. Last session, 6,829 bills were filed, so roughly 73% of bills that will be filed have been filed. IGR staff will be working closely with city staff to review and analyze bills that have a municipal impact. If historic trends remain, approximately 20-25 percent of the total number of bill filed will have a municipal impact or anywhere from 1,200-1,700 bills will be monitored by City staff.

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
Animal Care Services
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Carlos Contreras, Director of IGR

FROM: Vincent Medley, Interim Director, Animal Care Services

COPIES TO: Councilman Justin Rodriguez; Councilman Philip Cortez; Councilwoman Delicia Herrera; Councilman John Clamp; A.J. Rodriguez, Deputy City Manager; Erik J. Walsh, Assistant City Manager; Carlos Contreras, Intergovernmental Relations Director

SUBJECT: 2009 Proposed Public Safety Legislative Endorsements

DATE: March 11, 2009

SUMMARY:

Local and State representatives have proposed a list of legislative proposals that will help ensure the safety of the residents of the State as well as those of San Antonio. Animal Care Services shares many of these same goals. A summary of House Bill 1982, Relating to the Regulation of Dangerous and vicious dogs, is contained below.

BACKGROUND:

Currently the state law only addresses dangerous dogs. House Bill 1982 would enhance Texas Health and Safety Code 822.001, .005, .042 to include a definition of vicious dog to the statute.

The amendment also redefines circumstances in which the court may not order a dog destroyed as follows: injured person was at least (15) fifteen years old and the person was trespassing in the enclosure where the incident occurred. The current age is (8) eight years old; injured person was at least (15) fifteen years old and the dog's enclosure was reasonably certain to keep a person, younger than (15) fifteen years old from entering the enclosure.

Furthermore, the penalty is raised from a 3rd degree felony to a 2nd degree felony if: the attack causes death; the victim of the attack is younger than 15 years of age; the victim of the attack is a person 65 years of age or older.

Lastly, Section (h) Prohibits a person younger than 21 years of age from owning a vicious or dangerous dog; Section (i) Prohibits a dangerous or vicious dog from entering a public park or the grounds of a primary or secondary school, regardless of whether the dog is on a leash; 822.0424 prohibits tethering of any dog, over 40lbs, which conflicts with our Chapter (5) five ordinance that addresses "Tethering."; and 822.044 Attack by Dangerous or Vicious dog makes it an offense for a person who owns or keeps custody or control of a dog weighing 40 pounds or more to violate 822.0424, which applies to cities with a population of more than one million.

Fiscal Impact

The department estimates the fiscal impact to be minimal because ACS currently enforces a similar vicious dog law. Additional impact would include preparing the case for review by district attorney's office and officer/witness testimony, in the event of a trial.

RECOMMENDATION:

The department supports this bill with the following exception:

- a. Section 822.0424 prohibits tethering of any dog, over 40lbs
 - i. Conflicts with our Chapter (5) five ordinance that addresses "Tethering."

Vincent Medley
Interim Director, Animal Care Services



111th Congress, 1st Session
City of San Antonio
Legislative Program Summary
March 12, 2009

FY 2009 Appropriations

Congress passed the FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill, H.R. 1105 on March 10, 2009. President Obama signed that legislation on March 11, 2009. This bill provides \$410 billion in funding for all government agencies except Defense, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs, which were past last year, for the remainder of fiscal year 2009.

This legislation contains a total of \$12,565,000 earmarked funds for City initiatives including:

1. San Antonio River Improvements - \$10,000,000
(Reimbursement Language included)
 - Sponsor – Rep. Gonzalez, Rep. Rodriguez, Rep. Smith, Sen. Hutchison and Sen. Cornyn and Reps. Edwards,
 - Source -Army Corps of Engineers/Construction
 - Original request was for \$15 million

2. Rittiman/Harry Wurzbach Corridor Improvements - \$950,000
 - Sponsor – Rep. Smith, L; Rep. Gonzalez
 - Source - Federal Lands (Public Lands Highways)
 - Original request was for \$1.5 million

3. Fort Sam Houston Access - \$427,500
 - Sponsor – Rep. Rodriguez; Rep. Gonzalez
 - Source - Surface Transportation Priorities
 - Original request was for \$3 million

4. San Antonio International Airport, Various Airfield Improvements - \$1,187,500
 - Sponsor –Rep. Rodriguez; Rep. Smith and Sen. Hutchison
 - Source -Airport Improvement Program
 - Original request was for \$1.95 million

Projects not funded

1. Diabetes Research and Prevention
 - Requested - \$1,000,000

2. Derailment Safety Training Site
 - Requested - \$1,000,000
 - \$392,000 in funding was secured in FY2008
3. San Antonio Police Technology Improvements
 - Requested - \$1.87 million

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

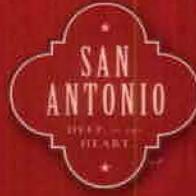
Pursuant to ARRA, Federal dollars are beginning to flow from different sources including the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Transportation, Commerce, Energy and HUD. City staff is keeping up with developments by communicating with state and federal agencies and by monitoring the www.recovery.gov website. There has been some talk about a second stimulus bill and we are monitoring that as well.

FY 2010 Appropriations

The FY 2010 appropriations process is well under way. The City's earmark requests have been submitted to the San Antonio delegation. The next step in this process requires those Members to prioritize those projects they receive and forward them to the appropriate subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee by April 3. The IGR Department has drafted an official request letter for the Mayor's signature. This letter will be sent to the delegation. The City will draft letters of support for our earmark requests and seek support from other non-city organizations where possible. Earmark requests will be even more carefully scrutinized this year than they were in past years since so much public attention has focused on abuses in the process. Members are now required to list their projects on their websites and they have been informed by the Leadership that the number and dollar amount of the earmarks will be reduced by one half in the 2010 bill.

City of San Antonio's Funding Requests

1. River Improvements Project (SARA) - \$70 million,
2. Airport Improvements (Airport) - \$2 million,
3. Rail Safety (SAFD) - \$600,000,
4. SAPD Technology Improvements (SAPD) - \$1.87 million,
5. Base Development Office (OMA) - \$600,000

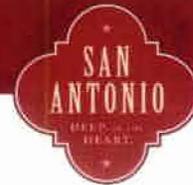


CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

State and Federal Legislative Plans Update

**Carlos Contreras, Director
Intergovernmental Relations Department**

**Agenda Item # 5
March 12, 2009**



State Legislative Initiatives

State Legislative Plan



General Information/Key Information

- Legislature has been in Session for 57 days,
- 5,000 bills have been filed to date,
- Statewide bill filing deadline is Friday, March 13, 2009
- 6829 bills filed last Session,
- June 1, 2009

State Legislative Plan



City's Legislative Initiatives

Military Installation Protection Act*

- HB 143 by Rep. McClendon has not been scheduled for a committee hearing yet
 - Will file a substitute.
- Senator Van de Putte's Bill
 - **Creation of a regional military sustainability commission (RSMC),**
 - Formed in areas surrounding military installations,
 - Powers similar to zoning commissions.

State Legislative Plan



Transportation*

- **SB 855, by Sen. Carona, statewide Local Option Transportation Act (LOTA)**
 - **Scheduled for a committee hearing on Wednesday, March 18th.**
- **SB 942 by Sen. Wentworth**
- **Rep. Villarreal has filed HB 1674, a local option bill for Bexar County**
 - **Currently considering a substitute.**

State Legislative Plan



Graffiti*

- **HB 1558 (by Martinez-Fischer)**
 - **Will be heard on March 16, 2009.**
- **HB 1633 (Rep. Walle)**
 - **Additional community service hours based on the dollar value of the offense.**
- **HB 2126 (Rep. Kent)**
 - **Decrease the dollar value of property damages which qualify for Class A and B misdemeanors.**

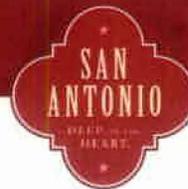
State Legislative Plan



Fire Department –“Engineer” Designation

- HB 1065 (by Rep. Farias)
 - Relating to the use of the term "engineer" by certain fire department employees,
 - Is set for a hearing on Wednesday, March 18th.

State Legislative Plan



Meet and Confer for Civilian Employees

- Sen. Uresti will sponsor bill.
- Representative McClendon will sponsor in the House.

State Legislative Plan



Texas A&M University – San Antonio

- **Two bills have been filed; HB 993 (by Rep. Farias) and SB 607 (By Sen. Uresti)**
 - **Would allow the campus to begin establishing their independence and accreditation once it reaches 1,000.**
- **HB 1967 (by Rep. Aycock)**
 - **Would repeal the 1,500 FTE requirements to receive Texas Revenue Bonds.**

State Legislative Plan



New Issues

Dangerous Dogs

- **The IGR Committee met yesterday and recommends the endorsement of HB 1982 (Rep. Martinez-Fischer) relating to the regulation of dangerous and vicious dogs for inclusion in the City's State Legislative Program.**

State Legislative Plan



Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS)

- SB 1358 by Sen. Seliger - allows a city to opt out of providing COLA and in the future opt back in without retroactivity issue.
- Support new legislation to provide an option for cities which do opt out of COLA to provide a 13th check.
- City's legislative agenda to be modified to exclude the option to leave TMRS. Staff recommends further study of this issue and possible in the next legislative session.



Federal Legislative Initiatives

Federal Legislative Plan



FY 2009 Appropriations

- H.R 1105, Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill provided \$410 billion in funding.



HIGHLIGHT

Federal Legislative Plan



In H.R. 1105, the City secured \$12,565,000 in funding for the following projects:

- **San Antonio River Improvements - \$10,000,000 (Reimbursement Language included)**
- **Rittiman/Harry Wurzbach Corridor Improvements - \$950,000**
- **Fort Sam Houston Access - \$427,500**
- **San Antonio International Airport, Various Airfield Improvements - \$1,187,500**

Federal Legislative Plan



FY 2010 Appropriations

- The FY 2010 appropriations process is well under way.
- The City's earmark requests have been submitted to the San Antonio congressional delegation.

Federal Legislative Plan



1. River Improvements Project (SARA) - \$70 million,
2. Airport Improvements (Airport) - \$2 million,
3. Rail Safety (SAFD) - \$600,000,
4. SAPD Technology Improvements (SAPD) - \$1.87 million,
5. Base Development Office (OMA) - \$600,000



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

State and Federal Legislative Plans Update

**Carlos Contreras, Director
Intergovernmental Relations Department**

**Agenda Item # 5
March 12, 2009**