

District 9 Biweekly



Councilman Joe Krier

In This Issue:

- SAWS approves Vista Ridge Contract

October 3, 2014

Vol. 1, Issue 27

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Dear Friends and Residents,

This newsletter is dedicated to the proposed SAWS Vista Ridge Water Project Contract which the SAWS board approved on September 29, 2014.

The Vista Ridge Pipeline project will pump water from Burlison County to San Antonio, bringing 50K acre feet of water annually from the Carrizo and Simsboro Aquifers.

I support the proposed water contract. SAWS will ask City Council for final approval later this month.

I have been following water issues since I moved here in 1973 and I've been involved in water issues since I was Greater San Antonio Chamber President, starting in 1987.

Since then, I've observed 7 long-term SAWS water plans, none of which were implemented. During that time, I visited with a number of job prospects each of whom was concerned with our ability to ensure their company and employees long-term water supply. None asked about our ability to provide long-term energy.

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Adam Trevino
Chief of Constituency
James Doughty
Communications
Manager

Frances Collins
Council Aide
Justin Renteria
Council Aide
& Communications
Sandra Bagwell
Senior Executive
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For many years I have witnessed the need for a secure long-term water supply in San Antonio. During that same

period, numerous plans for long-term water supplies have failed to materialize and evaporated.

Never have I been more excited about the future of our city than with the recent action by the SAWS Board to approve this contract with Vista Ridge which will secure San Antonio's long-term water future.

Our need for water dates back to the limits placed on the Edwards Aquifer in the 90s following a lawsuit by the Sierra Club. Our access to the Edwards Aquifer has been cut by 42% in the worst drought conditions in order to protect endangered species. That means San Antonio needs alternative supplies to meet future water demands.

Since then, SAWS has taken numerous water planning steps that have been very successful in the short term.

Water conservation, recycled water, and stored water have

proven beneficial and environmentally sound. Other supplies have been acquired in smaller quantities, and desalination will soon become a reality for San Antonio.

For far too long, we have failed to take action to secure an

abundant supply of water we can count on far into the future. Fortunately, that is no longer the case.

The leaders of our utility have been hard at work negotiating a deal for water that is fair for our community.

Berto Guerra and Reed Williams were appointed to the SAWS Board by the City Council and entrusted with the leadership necessary to provide a water supply for our future. I believe they have succeeded through the proposed contract with Vista Ridge.

According to SAWS, the terms of this contract will protect San Antonio ratepayers with a fixed price long-term cost. Furthermore, we will not have to pay for water that is not delivered. And we will not be subject to rising interest

rates because the rate will be capped.

This proposal provides water security for decades and locks in long-term water at today's rates. The agreement

would not diminish the community's commitment to conservation and would not create unbridled growth over the aquifer. Furthermore, it implements a lifeline rate to spare future rate increases for those with limited resources.

In 1976, the City Council voted against the purchase of a similar quantity of water from Canyon Lake. At the time, it

would have cost us \$33 per acre-foot. Today, Canyon Lake water costs us more than \$1,000 per acre-foot.

While Vista Ridge will require future rate increases, we cannot afford to pass up a deal like this, especially when we can avoid future cost increases.

The goal of supply diversity is to help protect the endangered species in our precious Edwards Aquifer, while also providing the needed supplies for San Antonio's long-term health.

Along with other non-Edwards supplies, Vista Ridge is a significant quantity of water that will not have to be pumped from the Edwards in the future. That helps ensure the springs can continue to flow for the benefit of endangered species, which is exactly what the Sierra Club has wanted from the beginning.

Further expansion and development over the Aquifer recharge zone is unlikely, because 90% of the Bexar County recharge zone is already developed, master planned or set aside for conservation.

San Antonians need to continue learning more about the Vista Ridge Pipeline project. I look forward to continued dialogue about the proposed contract, and will ensure that

questions about the deal are thoroughly vetted and answered.

San Antonio's future depends on successfully securing a long-term water supply. Our economic development and quality of life depend on it. At long last, the promise of this new supply cannot be ignored.

A public hearing regarding the proposed SAWS Vista Ridge Water Supply Agreement is set for 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2014 at Council Chambers located at 114 W. Commerce in the Municipal Plaza building.

City Council is in session next week. Click [here](#) for the

current agenda.

As always, if there are topics you would like to see

Working together, we can make District 9 and our City a better place for everyone. Thanks again for the privilege of representing you.

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Krier

Councilman, District 9

in future newsletters, please let me know via email at

district9@sanantonio.gov. You can also follow us on

Twitter: @joekrierD9 or like us on the District 9 public

page: Facebook

www/facebook.com/CouncilmanJoeKrierDistrict9.



Deadline to Register to Vote

October 6 is the Deadline to Register to Vote! Early Voting for the November 4 Election starts Monday, October 20 and ends Friday, Oct. 31, 2014. Voter registration cards are available at the Office of the City Clerk, as well as all Public Libraries. Contact the Bexar County Voter Registration Office at

(210) 335-6625. Click [here](#) to view a complete list of sites.

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with

JOE



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Subject: District 9 Newsletter

Reply: district9@sanantonio.gov

District 9 Biweekly



Councilman Joe Krier



In This Issue:

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Vista Ridge Proposal
Make A Difference Day
National Night Out

October 17, 2014
Vol. 1, Issue 28

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[Charlie Mazuca](#)
Chief of Staff
[Adam Trevino](#)
Chief of Constituency
[James Doughty](#)

Dear Friends and Residents,

On October 30, 2014 City Council will consider the Vista Ridge water proposal. Last week, many residents showed up to speak at a Public Hearing on the issue. Many of you had legitimate questions about the contract, which I believe have been thoroughly answered.

I have been involved with the water issue for more than two decades. After considering all the issues, I intend to support this proposal which will provide San Antonio's largest non-Edwards water supply. This new water supply will help ensure our community's economic future for your children and grandchildren.

Under the contract, San Antonio Water System will buy up to 50,000 acre-feet of water annually for thirty years. That's enough to supply about 170,000 households. Starting in 2019 the water would come from the Carrizo and Simsboro Aquifers in Bureson County.

As San Antonio grows by 20,000 new residents every year, securing water for the future is more important than ever. This is our chance to buy tomorrow's water at today's prices. We can't afford to pass up this opportunity.

You can learn more about the Vista Ridge Pipeline project by clicking [here](#). As always, if there are topics you would like to see in future newsletters, please let me know via email at district9@sanantonio.gov . You can also follow us on Twitter: [@joekrierD9](#) or like us on the District 9 public page: [Facebook Page](#). Working together, we can make District 9 and our City a better place for everyone. Thanks again for the privilege of representing you.

Sincerely,

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Joe Krier

Councilman, District 9

Effort to protect Bat Cave

This week City Council authorized \$10 million towards the purchase of 1,521 acres in the Texas Hill Country. The property is near the Bracken Bat Cave and over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. I'm proud San Antonio could support the effort to preserve space near Bracken Cave. If you want to see one of the most incredible ecological, natural, mother-nature, and faith inspiring experiences you should go to their website and make arrangements to go out there. There are about 50 million of them that come out for about 45 minutes.

It is like somebody is pulling an enormous black sheet of fabric as fast as they can out of the ground. We owe it to the environment to preserve that site and we owe it as a good neighbor. For more information go to www.batcon.org.

Bats! Bats! Bats!

Cody Branch Library at 11441 Vance Jackson will host Fran Hutchins, Director of Bracken Caves. He'll show the mysterious and wonderful world of the Mexican free-tailed bat. Saturday, October 18, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

For more library events go to www.mysapl.org

Make A Difference Day

October 25th is Make A Difference Day. The 24th annual event is a time when millions of volunteers perform community service to improve the quality of life in their area. For more on Make A Difference Day 2014 click [here](#).

Spay-Neuter Workshop

San Antonio has made great progress on achieving its goal to become a no-kill city. There's an upcoming workshop for those in the animal welfare community. The 4th Annual Community Conversation Workshop will focus on spay/neuter efforts. For more information on this October 29th, 2014 event click [here](#).

Councilman Joe Krier welcomes former journalist to serve as District 9 Communications Manager

Former broadcast journalist James Doughty joins District 9 City Councilman

Joe Krier and staff as Communications Manager.

"James Doughty came to us highly recommended and after several interviews we determined he was an outstanding match for our office," said Krier. "I look forward to him being a part of our team and helping us serve the needs of District 9 constituents."

James most recently worked in television news using his mother's maiden name Munoz. Born in Midland, Texas, James graduated from Texas Tech University in 1997 with a BA in Broadcast Journalism. He has worked in TV News for more than 16 years.

James and his wife Angela are members at Churchill Baptist Church where they lead a Sunday morning Bible School Class for Pre-K and Kindergarten aged children. He has two children who study in the N.E.I.S.D.

"I turn 40 this year and more than ever it's important for me to give back to this wonderful community," Doughty said. "Councilman Krier is one of the most respected members of our community and I'll work hard to share his views and values with San Antonio."

James is a 4th generation Texan. He carries the namesake of his 3rd great-grandfather who was the first superintendent of the King Ranch and Sheriff of Refugio county. Another ancestor, John Moses, came to Texas in 1847 and wrote a series of columns for the San Antonio Express News from 1887 to 1890 under the pseudonym Sesom.

"When I look at my family history of public service I know I've made the correct move in joining Councilman Krier at City Hall," said Doughty. "I am here to chronicle what's happening and help others. I'm honored to work with Councilman Krier for all of San Antonio. Fortunately I'm not alone, Councilman Krier is fortunate to have Sandra, Frances, Charles, Adam and Justin on staff."

Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner

Make plans to help the Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner. I knew Raul Jimenez and he had a big heart. Thirty-five years later and his idea is still growing. I enjoyed a live interview with KTSA host Trey Ware Friday morning. Call 210-654-5151 to show your support.

Land Bridge needed at Phil Hardberger Park



Former Mayor Phil Hardberger recently celebrated his 80th Birthday by raising money at a Gala for a much-needed land bridge at Hardberger Park. The land bridge will connect the two sides of Hardberger Park at Wurzbach Parkway. I'd like to thank Mayor Hardberger for his ongoing effort to make this a world-class park for District 9 and all of San Antonio. For more on what's happening at Hardberger Park click [here](#).

National Night Out 2014 a Success!

Thank you to everyone who made National Night Out a huge success. I stopped by 7 events and enjoyed seeing so many District 9 friends. We've got thousand of San Antonians who care about their neighborhood and they turn out for National Night Out. They care about crime in their neighborhoods and they want to do something about it. These same participants care about their neighbors and that's why it's such a wonderful program. To learn more click [here](#).



Councilman Krier with District 9 resident Abigail Gonzales at Vista Del Norte HOA

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with

Resident Appointment Hours
10:00am-11:00am, Every Wed!
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a block of time

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From: Councilman Joe Krier <district9@sanantonio.gov>

Subject: Vista Ridge Project & Police Collective Bargaining

Reply: district9@sanantonio.gov



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October 31, 2014
Vol. 1, Issue 29**

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Dear Friends and Residents,

On October 15, 2014 the Council's Governance Committee, on which I serve, discussed SAWS and CPS Energy bonus pay and incentive pay. This was in response to the request I made for a staff report on this issue. The Committee agreed to have City Staff further research how other city-owned utilities handle this pay process.

I've heard residents complain about the salaries of SAWS and CPS CEOs/Executives who get large bonuses or pay increases in the same year that they ask for rate increases.

However, I believe citizens understand the need to fairly compensate and incentivize the leadership of our Public Utilities. They're essential to the City. But we need to know how we compare to other comparable city-owned utilities. So, I've asked City Staff to research: What are the top city-owned utilities and what do they pay their executives? Do they provide bonus or incentives, and if so what are they? Do they have performance standards if so, what are those? I look forward to learning the answers to these questions.

City Council does not have the power to set the pay of utility employees. We do have the power though to approve rate increases and I think this is the kind of information that has an impact on City Council's willingness to approve rate increases. The next time we get a rate increase request, we'd like to know how much of that

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rate increase is going to go into bonuses or salary increases. We all think people ought to be paid fairly, but we don't think they ought to be paid more than they've agreed to be paid for the work that they're doing.

I've also urged that, City Council have more meetings with CPS and SAWS as we move forward. I want residents to trust they're getting the best utilities and water that their money pays for and trust in us as their elected Councilmembers to step in when that is not the case.

For a recent news story by the local press on this issue click [here](#). As always, if there are topics you would like to see in future newsletters, please let me know via email at

district9@sanantonio.gov . You can also follow us on Twitter: [@joekrierD9](#) or like us on the District 9 public page: [Facebook Page](#). Working together, we can make District 9 and our City a better place for everyone. Thanks again for the privilege of representing you.

Sincerely,



Joe Krier
Councilman, District 9

Have a safe Halloween!



As we celebrate fall be safe and go green! The Office of Sustainability has a number of great tips to minimize the impact on our environment and save money.

For more click [here](#).

Enjoy the sweet treats!

Applications for Joint City/County Citizens Bond Oversight Commission

The Joint City/County Citizens Bond Oversight Commission is seeking applicants to ensure representation from all Districts of the City of San Antonio. The deadline to submit applications is Friday Dec. 5, 2014. If you are interested in applying click [here](#). For more information regarding the Joint City/County Citizens Bond Oversight Commission click [here](#).

Thank you Greystone



Councilman Joe Krier with
John and Elaine Ehlers

Residents

On October 16, 2014 I met with Greystone residents at the Parman Library. I appreciate each and every one of you who attended this Town Hall. We released the results of a survey mailed out in mid-August. If you'd like a copy of the survey send an email request to

james.doughty@sanantonio.gov.

Free Landfill Disposal Day

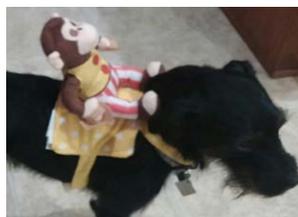
The City's quarterly cleanup event is Saturday, November 1, 2014 from 8 a.m. - 1p.m. For details go to www.sanantonio.gov/swmd. On Facebook go to www.facebook.com/SASOLIDWASTE

Senior Lifestyle Show

StoneOakInfo.com is hosting a Senior Lifestyle Show on November 5th. Guest speakers will share information on Long Term Care Insurance, Medicare Enrollment, Wealth Management solutions, Group and Cruise Travel ideas and retirement living in the Stone Oak area. The event is free and parking is available at Holy Trinity Banquet Hall at 20523 Huebner Road. For more information go to www.seniorlifestyleshow.com.

18th Annual Fall Family Fun Fest

Churchill Baptist Church is hosting a Fall Fun Fest tonight at 5:30 p.m. Happy Costumes Welcomed. FREE Candy, Popcorn, Games and more! For more information go to www.churchillbaptist.org. Please submit community upcoming events of interest to District 9 to james.doughty@sanantonio.gov



Keep Pets Safe Howl-O-Ween

Animal Care Services would like to remind Halloween can go bad if you fail to keep your pet safe. For helpful tips as your family enjoys trick-or-treating go to www.saacs.net.

Wyatt's Way

On Thursday City Council approved naming a trail at Panther Springs Park after Wyatt McDaniel. I'm proud my office could work with the Wilderness Oak Alliance to make this happen. The trail appropriately connects the Parman Library to the Wilderness Oak Elementary School where Wyatt was an honor student with perfect attendance. Wyatt passed away in a traffic outdoor



Wyatt McDaniel

accident in January 2013. We anticipate a naming ceremony in conjunction with the Panther Springs Ribbon Cutting in February of 2015.



Alamo Plaza Master Plan Update

On October 21, 2014 the Quality of Life Committee received an update regarding the development of a

Comprehensive Master Plan for Alamo Plaza. The Advisory Committee has several meetings through December and will make a recommendation to City Council in June of 2015.

I urge this thoughtful process to bring back a plan that's big and bold and will showcase the Alamo as the jewel of Texas, American and world history that it is. This sacred site should be treated the way we treat other national treasures, like Gettysburg and the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. Half-measures will avail us nothing. Let's think big and come up with a proposal that may not be possible to implement immediately, but over time could become a reality.

We also need to work with the Texas General Land Office to preserve and protect Alamo Plaza. With a good plan, I am confident the private sector would help provide financial support, just as it did for the Tobin Center.

To learn more about this plan click [here](#).



Vista Ridge Water Project Approved

On Thursday, October 30, 2014 City Council approved the Vista Ridge Water Project. We secured the largest non-Edwards Aquifer supply in our city's history. The Vista Ridge Water Pipeline is a game-changing, historic deal that will improve the quality of life for your children

and grandchildren. I will continue to monitor the development of this project to ensure its success. Brigadier General Robert LaBrutta, who serves as Commander of Joint Base San Antonio, submitted a letter of support for the project. I'd like to share it with you. Click [here](#) to the letter.

Police Collective Bargaining

The San Antonio Police Officers' Association and the City of San Antonio will meet on Monday, November 3, 2014 at 1 p.m. to negotiate the terms of the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. The topic came up this week when I attended the Republican Men's Club. To read the news article click [here](#).



Councilman Joe Krier with City Manager Sheryl Sculley
October 16, 2014

Congratulations Sheryl Sculley

On November 7, 2014 City Manager Sheryl Sculley will celebrate nine years with the City of San Antonio. Sheryl is the finest City Manager in the United States. Her conservative management of the City staff and City budget has saved San Antonio taxpayers millions of dollars. We are fortunate to have the benefit of her 40 years of experience and I hope we will continue to enjoy her service to San Antonio in the years ahead.



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