

The District 9 Report

with Councilman Joe Krier



"Working together, we can make District 9 and our City a better place for everyone."

Volume #3

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Greetings!

On Tuesday, Mayor Ivy Taylor laid out her vision for San Antonio in her State of the City address. The heart of her message was that she wants San Antonio to become "a globally competitive city where we all have the opportunity to prosper."



Her vision, of course, encompasses many objectives. Improving workforce training to end our City's shortage of skilled workers. Redoubling our efforts to attract good-paying jobs. Making smart, prudent investments in major roadway and drainage improvements and other infrastructure projects, many of which will be part of the 2017 bond package. Continuing to impose fiscal discipline and finally negotiating a police and firefighters contract that fairly compensates our first-responders *and* protects the City's other basic services from future cuts. (To accomplish this last item, the unions must drop their strategy of evasion and DC-style political attacks and get back to the bargaining table.)

I agree with the Mayor's agenda, top to bottom, and will do my best to help her make it a reality.

As Chairman of the Council's Economic and Human Development Committee, I am working to sharpen our focus on good jobs with which workers can raise their families, and to expand job-training opportunities. We've also gotten a jump-start on planning for 2017 bond projects in

District 9, with several citizens committees hard at work to determine the wisest use of our bond dollars.

I hope you agree that Mayor Taylor has our City on the right course.

Thank you, and have a happy Easter.

Sincerely,

Joe Krier

It's Time to Take on the Threat of Oak Wilt

City Resources and Apps

Click on the following links to access community resources



I've heard from many District 9 residents who are concerned about oak wilt, a fungus that attacks the roots of oaks and can kill the trees within a few weeks. As a homeowner with beautiful oaks in my yard, I share their concerns.

Oak wilt has a foothold in North San Antonio, but the City doesn't have a strong enough plan to contain it. I want to change that.

Your District 9 staff and I are working on an ordinance that would, among other measures, shift City brush collection so it doesn't occur between February 1 and July 1. Springtime is the period when fungal mats are most likely to form on oaks and sap beetles, which spread the fungus, are most active. Experts agree: avoid tree trimming in that time period.

I've also sought to increase public awareness of the problem, which threatens our City's tree canopy, property values, and our quality of life.

[Click here to read my guest commentary on oak wilt in the San Antonio Express-News.](#)



Lone Star Rail's Plan B

As you may have seen in the news, Union Pacific has pulled out of talks with the Lone Star Rail District to make its track between the Austin and San Antonio metro areas available for commuter rail service.



This is a setback for those of us who believe that commuter rail would be a huge benefit for our region's business people, college students, academics, professionals, and our cities' visitor industries. In other words, our entire regional economy would benefit from the service.

As disappointing as the UP news was, LSRD officials have assured me they're working on a Plan B for an Austin-to-San Antonio line. However, this development will most likely push the project back years -- and nothing will happen this year as far as rail-line construction.

That's why Mayor Taylor [has proposed reallocating the \\$449,500](#) that City Council set aside for LSTAR in this year's budget. She wants to divide the funds evenly between the 10 Council Districts for small-scale transportation and mobility projects, such as road repair and sidewalks.

I fully support her recommendation, and look forward to the Rail District's new plan for this needed service.

Joe (and Kenny) in the District

Kenny Wilson, a former Chamber Chairman, is stepping down as president of Bank of America's San Antonio market to lead the



Haven for Hope campus for the homeless. I admire him for his dedication to improving San Antonio -- as I have for all the years he's been one of our most steadfast civic leaders.

Wednesday morning, Kenny joined me at a homeless man's encampment near the Shady Oaks neighborhood in District 9 where a homeless man lives inside a culvert. The District 9 office has received several calls about him.

So I asked Kenny to come out to see what we could do to help. Kenny talked with the man, who is also a veteran, for about 20 minutes. I'd like to say he agreed to move to Haven for Hope, but the problem of homelessness isn't that easy.



Kenny Wilson talks with a homeless man.



Kenny Wilson (in the blue dress shirt on the left) and I visited a homeless encampment near Shady Oaks Wednesday morning.

But I'm hopeful that we'll make progress under Kenny's leadership. Why? Because Kenny planned to visit David again. That's what I meant when I called Kenny a steadfast leader.

Apply to Serve on a District 9 Board or Commission

I encourage interested District 9 residents to apply for a board or commission appointment by filling out an application on the City Clerk's page ([*click here*](#)).

There is a wealth of experience and talent all across our District that would greatly benefit our city.

We have open seats on:

Small Business Advocacy Committee
San Antonio Youth Commission

Please apply today.



In Your Community

Adopt-a-Spot

You can help keep San Antonio beautiful by adopting a spot to clean up.

Adopt-a-Spot groups are a great way for businesses, neighborhood associations, volunteer groups and civic groups to make a difference by picking up trash and improving the area.

Click [here](#) for more information on the Adopt-a-Spot program.



Java with Joe

Our District 9 Java with Joe events continue on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in our field office at 16500 San Pedro Ave, Suite 290 .

If you have a problem or issue and would like an appointment during that time, please call our District 9 office at (210)207-0955.

Request a Neighborhood Survey!

I am continuing our District 9 Community Survey program where our District 9 office staff surveys your HOA, NA, or subdivision, and I present the survey results to you and your neighborhood at a neighborhood Town Hall.

Our Community Survey not only helps bring your community's pressing issues to my attention but to the attention of your neighbors as well.

Please contact Frances Collins at (210) 207-0955 or click [here](#) to request a survey for your community today.

Want to Adopt a Pet? Have Questions?

Animal Care Services Department

Phone: 210.207.4PET (4738)

Address: 4710 State Highway 151
San Antonio, TX 78227

Adoption Center Hours:

Monday - Friday: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday/Sunday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pet Drop-Off Hours: (Based on space availability)

E-mail ACS Intake to begin pet drop-off process

Tuesday - Friday: 11:00 am - 6:45 pm

Saturday: 11:00 am - 4:45 pm

Sunday/Monday: CLOSED





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