

The District 9 Report

with Councilman Joe Krier



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

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- and All of San Antonio!](#)

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290
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Greetings!

Most of you know the City of San Antonio has reached a compromise with the police union over the labor contract for uniformed officers. But it's too early to say whether or not that's all good news. We don't have enough information yet to make that determination.



Here are several provisions of the agreement:

- All officers would receive a 17% wage increase over five years, including a 3% lump sum in year one, 3% increases in years two through four and a 5% increase in year five. There would be no retroactive pay for the two years officers have gone without a raise since the contract expired in 2014.
- Officers would pay no monthly healthcare premiums for themselves, but would pay premiums for their dependents under one of the two plans offered. If officers choose the higher-deductible Consumer Driven Healthcare Plan, they would pay no premiums for themselves or their dependents.
- The \$1.5 million legal fund would be eliminated when, and if, it is negotiated out of the fire union's collective bargaining agreement.
- The total cost of the contract would keep public safety spending at less than 66% of the City's General Fund Budget for at least the first three years of the contract. Under current projections, public safety expenditures would be 66.3% of the General Fund Budget in year four and 67.6% in year five.
- The Evergreen Clause of the contract would be reduced from 10 years to 8, with a condition that healthcare premiums would increase 10% for each year that the contract remains in evergreen after it expires.

Click [here](#) to read the agreement, posted on the City's website.

One of my concerns is the evergreen clause, which keeps the contract in effect for a fixed period after the agreement expires. Currently, we're stuck with a 10-year evergreen, which we're challenging in court as unconstitutional. As we've seen, the compromise would shave only two years off the evergreen period.

Also, I want to learn more about the anticipated health-care savings to the City. As it stands today, the cost of our first-responders' generous health-care benefits is not only one of the highest in Texas, it is

[Click here to send us an email](#)

City Resources and Apps

Click on the following links to access community resources



Cost of our first-responders' generous health-care benefits is not only one of the highest in Texas, it is also one of the greatest challenges to our City's financial stability in the future.

I am grateful to Mayor Ivy Taylor for her leadership in pressing for a mediated compromise. Now it's up to City Council and the citizens of San Antonio to give this agreement careful consideration. For that, we need answers to all our questions, which I am confident the City Manager's office will provide in the weeks ahead.

We must see to it that the next contract gives us the best police and fire benefits we can afford while protecting taxpayers by ensuring the City's financial future.

Sincerely,

Joe Krier

A New Park for District 9 -- and All of San Antonio!



On June 16, City Council voted unanimously to acquire 204 acres of the undeveloped Steubing Ranch in the Stone Oak area, a landmark project more than a year in the making. About 165 acres of the land will be preserved as open space, with hike-and-bike trails so San Antonians can enjoy our City's natural beauty. Pending the outcome of next year's bond election, plans are to build six soccer and baseball fields and other parks features on the remaining 39 acres.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Making School Zone Crossings Safer for Our Children

School-zone safety improvements have been one of my highest priorities. In the last two and a half, we have lost two little girls, Tatyana



Babineaux, 9, and Mailani Godin, 12, to traffic accidents as they walked to school. To help make our children's passage safer, I've pushed for improvements to more than 90 school crossings in District 9.



I've also dedicated more than \$44,000 in discretionary funds for our district to purchase safety vests, patrol belts, safety cones, and flashers for NEISD elementary and middle schools in District 9. City Council approved the expenditures today.

Expansion of Redland Road is Coming Soon

On Tuesday, we broke ground on a bond project to expand Redland Road to five lanes and add a hike-and-bike path.

Additional improvements will include drainage work, new sidewalks, driveway approaches, and a new traffic signal at Gold Canyon.

Managed by Transportation & Capital Improvements for the City of San Antonio, the project was designed by Freese and Nichols Inc., and will be constructed by J3 Company. The budget for the improvement is \$21.4 million, with funds from the City's 2012-2017 Bond Program.



Panther Springs Art Wins National Honor

"Sotol Duet," commissioned by the City of San Antonio's Department for Culture & Creative Development (DCCD) as a 2012 Bond public art project, is one of the 38 outstanding public art projects recently honored Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education. This recognition is the third from Public Art Network (PAN) for DCCD and the City of San Antonio since 2012.

Created by renowned artist Jon Isherwood, of Hudson, New York, "Sotol Duet" is a two-part sculpture made of granite - one red and one black - located at the trail head of Panther Springs Park, off Wilderness Oaks Drive. The sculptures take their shape from the sotol plant that can be found throughout the park. The red granite sculpture sits 7-feet high, resembling the sotol plant above ground, while the black granite sculpture at 4.25-feet high and is inspired by the root of the sotol plant below ground.



Americans for the Arts honored 38 outstanding public arts projects created in 2015 through the PAN Year in Review program, the only national program that specifically recognizes the most compelling public art. The works were chosen from 260 entries across the country.

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 two open seats on:

San Antonio Youth Commission (2 positions)
Affirmative Action Advisory Committee
City/County Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs
SA 2020 Commission on Education

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 will be on hiatus through July but will resume the first Wednesday in August.

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

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