



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, OFFICE OF THE CITY
CLERK, MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES

TITLE:

Office of the Mayor, Howard Peak Records, 1984-2001 (bulk, 1998-2000)

DATES:

1984-2001 (bulk, 1998-2000)

QUANTITY:

31 ft. 10 in.

LANGUAGES:

English; Spanish

This collection was processed with the assistance of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

Before entering politics, Howard Peak (b. 1948-) began his career as an urban planner, owner of a land development service company, and was professor of urban administration at Trinity University. Peak was elected to the San Antonio city council in 1993 as a representative of District 9, eventually winning two consecutive terms as a city councilman (1993-1997). In 1997, he challenged incumbent Mayor William Thorton, unseating the Mayor and rival Kay Turner in a closely fought election. He served two terms as mayor between 1997 and 2001, vowing to help solve San Antonio's water, education, employment, and poverty issues. During his term in office, Peak spearheaded the Better Jobs Task Force, a project to attract higher wage economic development to the city and to provide better education and training for San Antonians. But the proposed sales tax increase on which the Better Jobs Task Force was to be funded was deemed illegal prior to being placed on the ballot. Peak also helped to create San Antonio's first comprehensive water plan, helped to pass Proposition 3 to buy lands to protect the Edwards aquifer, revised the city's Uniform Development Code, and instituted independent performance reviews for city departments. After leaving office, Peak joined the telecommunications company SBC as

executive director of municipal affairs (2001-), served as the chairman of the board for the Brooks Development Company (2001-2006) and chairman of the San Antonio Water Authority's Citizen Advisory Panel (2006-).

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

Records document the administration of Howard Peak during his term as mayor of the city of San Antonio from 1997 to 2001. The records are organized into five series: administrative files (3.5 ft.), correspondence (2.5 ft.), city department files (18 ft.), subject files (7 ft.), and assorted printed materials (.5 ft.). A majority of the records are department files, documenting the Peak's second term in office from 1999 through May, 2001. Notable subjects in the collection include Peak's Better Jobs Initiative, records documenting city planning and economic development, and negotiations and planning documents pertaining to San Antonio's water supply.

ARRANGEMENT:

- I. Correspondence
- II. Department files [A-P]
- III. Subject files [A-W]
- IV. Administrative files
 - A. Memoranda
 - B. Agendas
 - C. Financial records
 - D. Administrative assistants to the Mayor
 - E. Intern
 - F. Phone logs
- V. Assorted printed materials

RESTRICTIONS:

Unrestricted access.

PREFERRED CITATION:

[Box #, Folder title], Office of the Mayor, Howard Peak Records, 1984-2001, San Antonio Municipal Archives.

INDEX TERMS

Persons:

Peak, Howard.

Organizations:

VIA Metropolitan Transit.
San Antonio Water System (Tex.).
City Public Service (San Antonio, Tex.).
San Antonio (Tex.) Office of the Mayor.
San Antonio (Tex.) Public Works Dept.
San Antonio (Tex.) Police Dept.
San Antonio (Tex.) Office of the City Clerk.
San Antonio (Tex) Parks and Recreation Dept.

Subjects:

San Antonio (Tex.)—Politics and government.
Better Jobs Task Force —Correspondence.
Economic development—Texas—San Antonio (Tex.).
Airport Noise—Texas—San Antonio (Tex.).
Transportation— Hazardous Materials—San Antonio (Tex.).
San Antonio (Tex.)—City planning.

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