

# District 9 Biweekly



Councilman Joe Krier

## In This Issue:

- Streetcar Debate
- 2015 Budget Update
- ACS Event
- Summer Programs

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Vol. 1, Issue 19

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District 9 Field Office:

210.207.0955

District 9 City Hall  
Office:

210.207.7325

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Dear Friends and Residents,

This newsletter will briefly reiterate my position on the San Antonio Streetcar issue. The City Council will most likely be asked to vote on whether to fund its \$32 million pledge to the project sometime in 2015. However, there have recently been several interesting articles written on the subject. So, it seems like a good time to reconfirm my position (see the Streetcar section below).

Additionally, as you know, the City Council is in the middle of our budget process. Last week I asked you to take my Budget Survey, see the results in the Budget section below.

Finally, the City Council is in session next week, click [HERE](#) for the current agenda. As always, if there are topics you would like to see in my future newsletters, please let me know via email at [district9@sanantonio.gov](mailto:district9@sanantonio.gov). You can also follow us on Twitter: [@joekrierD9](https://twitter.com/joekrierD9) or like us on the District 9 public page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmanJoeKrierDistrict9>  
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



## My Position on the Streetcar Issue Remains:

**#1. I am FOR a public vote on the current streetcar proposal.** It is interesting to note that the citizens throughout District 9 and San Antonio will not get to vote for either side of the issue because VIA's board members think they know what is best for all of us. Let's have a vote!

**#2. The proposed plan to spend anywhere from \$210 million to over \$500 million on only 5.9 miles of rail development doesn't make good business sense.** If you are going to spend this kind of money on a transportation system...make it useable to everyone to ensure its success. A San Antonio Streetcar should not be a novelty for our tourists, when residents believe it does little to help them. Why wasn't the proposal for a loop that takes you from a point outside of the City to the heart of the City? It is reminiscent of the all but failed Washington, D.C. Streetcar system which has been criticized because "it takes people from where they aren't to where they don't want to be". **#3. Further, using another City's model for a San Antonio Streetcar program is not necessarily a good policy.** Just because other major cities have one is not a good argument. Let's see a stronger plan than "if you build it they will come". **#4. There are better ways to boost San Antonio's housing, tourism and jobs markets than just putting a streetcar system in the middle of downtown San Antonio.** It seems to me that city actions like widening neighborhood sidewalks, beautifying streets, fixing potholes, and boosting existing public transit, will make our downtown safer, more maneuverable and more accessible which will provide a boost without the danger of a money pit that streetcars can become. Additionally, many San Antonian's are encouraged by the LSTAR, the Austin-San Antonio passenger rail, which arguably goes where you want to be. So why not spend this money on these other, more feasible ways to improve our City's mobility?

As a businessman at heart, I am always looking for ways to generate more jobs, support local businesses and improve the housing market. However, as your Councilman, I will continue to raise a red flag on the Streetcar Project. The current streetcar proposal is NOT the answer for San Antonio even though VIA may feel that they have the legal precedent and funding to move forward with the Streetcar Project without a vote or input by you or the City Council at this point. Frankly, VIA's unwillingness to listen to the Community and be more transparent strengthens the argument that the Streetcar proposal is not good for San Antonio as a whole. What do you think? In our March Streetcar Survey 100% of you supported getting a vote on the Streetcar. **Click [HERE](#) now to take our new Streetcar Survey. Click [HERE](#) if you are interested in the Streetcar Vote Petition.** By the way, in case you are interested, the *Express-News* is hosting a Town Hall meeting at UTSA to have a discussion entitled "Does San Antonio Need Streetcars" scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday, June 26.

## 2015 Budget Update



Last week I asked you to advise me on what actions the City Council should consider to close a projected \$28-\$34 million City budget deficit. Some of the alternatives were a 2% property tax increase with some budget cuts, a 4% property tax increase with no budget cuts, budget cuts with no property tax or fee increases and budget cuts with no property tax increases but some fee increases. **80% of you agreed with me and chose a combination that included**

**NO PROPERTY TAX INCREASES.** I hear you loud and clear and I am working to ensure my fellow City Council Members hear you as well. I was surprised to hear a few Council Members and even some residents say that it was "no big deal" to raise the property tax this year by 2% if it meant keeping libraries, for example, open longer. However, if we add a 2% property tax increase to solve a budget deficit this year, we will more than likely be asked to do that again and again to close the budget deficits projected for the next several years. **What do you think? If you have not taken my 2015 budget survey, please click [HERE](#) now.**



**THE GREATER SAN ANTONIO AREA  
ROAD AND TRACK EVENT SCHEDULE:  
Walking Opportunities**  
Click [HERE](#) for a compiled list of some walking opportunities in San Antonio.



### The District 9 Newsletter will now be Published Every Other Week: Bi-Weekly

District 9 residents, in an effort to free up your in-boxes this summer, we will now publish our Newsletter every two weeks or "bi-weekly"; and move to a less frequent, but more robust model. As always, you can access archived issues of the District 9 Newsletter on our District 9 City Webpage:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/Council/d9/Newsletters.aspx>

One of the main tools that users have expressed not wanting to lose with this less frequent schedule was access to the City Council Agenda Links. On those weeks that we do not publish a newsletter, you can still click on the previous week's agenda link, the Agenda page is updated automatically so that the most up to date agenda is always found at that link: <https://sanantonio.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

You can also save the link to your favorites or access the link on the City of San Antonio webpage: [www.sanantonio.gov](http://www.sanantonio.gov) Feel free to contact me at [district9@sanantonio.gov](mailto:district9@sanantonio.gov) or 207-7325 if you have any questions or issues.





[Click Picture for Details ...](#)

**... And Other Events in June.**

**Click [HERE](#) for the City's June Calendar of Events!**



### **Lost, Found, Loved!**

This weekend, Animal Care Services (ACS) is joining San Antonio's biggest animal shelters for a different kind of pet adoption event! The Alamo City "paw" dopt-a-thon (click [HERE](#) for flyer) will feature three different adoption locations throughout San Antonio--each with hundreds of adoption-ready dogs and cats. Friday, June 6 through Sunday, June 8, would-be adopters can adopt a dog or puppy for \$40 and a cat or kitten for just \$20 at any of the participating shelters: **Animal Care Services (4710 State Highway 151 off Old Highway 90), San Antonio Pets Alive! (on campus with ACS), San Antonio Humane**

**Society (4804 Fredericksburg Rd.) or the Animal Defense League (11300 Nacogdoches).** Each shelter will have special "Paw" dopt-a-thon hours of **11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday through Sunday.** The Alamo City "Paw" dopt-a-thon is the latest event held in conjunction with ACS's participation in the summer-long ASPCA Rachael Ray \$100K Challenge. The shelter with the largest live release increase takes home \$100,000 in prize money, San Antonio won in 2012! Animal Care Services is again bringing some Texas-sized determination to the contest with special event pricing and fun weekly specials all summer, such as Two Fur Tuesdays (cats), \$5 Feline Fridays and \$30 dollar Thursdays (dogs) as well as a host of fun events for would-be adopters. ACS is located at 4710 State Highway 151 off Old Highway 90 and all ACS pets are sterilized, vaccinated, de-wormed, licensed and microchipped. Click [HERE](#) to go to the ACS website! Click [HERE](#) for an ACS Public Service Announcement. **Are you a dog or cat person?**



[Click Flyer to Sign-up or Get More Information](#)

**Reminder!**

I have moved my open door office hours from each Monday to each Wednesday.

Additionally, from

9:30am-10:30am, you can schedule a private, first come/first serve appointment with me.

Click [HERE](#) to request one of these appointments by Tuesday of each week.

From 10:30-11:30 each Wednesday I hold open/group discussions, walk-ins are welcome at that time. I invite any resident who wants to discuss a District 9 issue or just wants to have a cup of coffee with me, to come out to our District Office for "Java with Joe". If you want to meet with me and would prefer another time, please contact my Constituents Services Chief, Adam Trevino at [adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov](mailto:adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov) or 207-0955 to set-up at date/time. I hope to see you there!

**PLEASE NOTE: City Council does not meet in the month of July.**

**As a result, we will not hold Java with Joe in the Month of July.**



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# District 9 Biweekly



Councilman Joe Krier

## In This Issue:

- Road Improvements: Bike Lanes
- Code Compliance
- 2015 Budget Update
- Summer Programs

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Vol. 1, Issue 20

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District 9 Field Office:

Dear Friends and Residents,

In order to get your input, we have scheduled our first public meeting on the Redland Road North reconstruction and widening project, which will include bike lanes and sidewalks. See the details below.

We are also continuing to work closely with the City's Development Services Division to ensure that vacant structures in District 9 are within code compliance, see the update below.

Additionally, the City Council is continuing our 2015 Budget Process and I still need your advice. Please see below.

Finally, the City Council is in session next week, click [HERE](#) for the current agenda. As always, if there are topics you would like to see in my future newsletters, please let me know via email at [district9@sanantonio.gov](mailto:district9@sanantonio.gov). You can also follow us on Twitter: [@joekrierD9](https://twitter.com/joekrierD9) or like us on the District 9 public page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmanJoeKrierDistrict9>

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

210.207.0955

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E-Mail District 9

Charlie Mazuca  
Chief of Staff

Adam Trevino  
Chief of Constituency

Frances Collins  
Council Aide

Tish Williamson  
Director of  
Communications

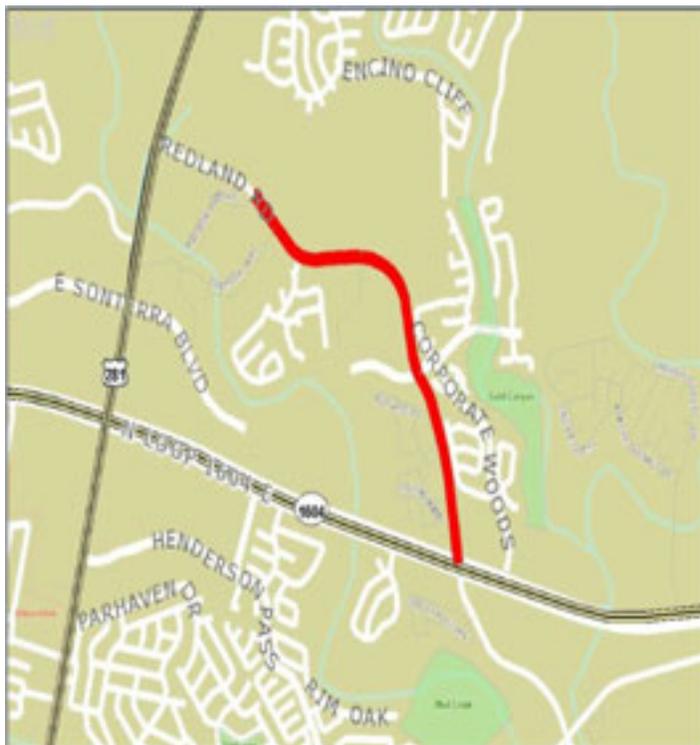
Sincerely,



Joseph R. Krier  
Councilman, District 9

**Please Join me for the Redland Road North  
PUBLIC MEETING:**

Tuesday, 22 July, 2014, from 6pm-7pm  
at the [House of Living Bread Church](#),  
18940 Redland Rd, SATX 78259



**Redland Road Improvements**

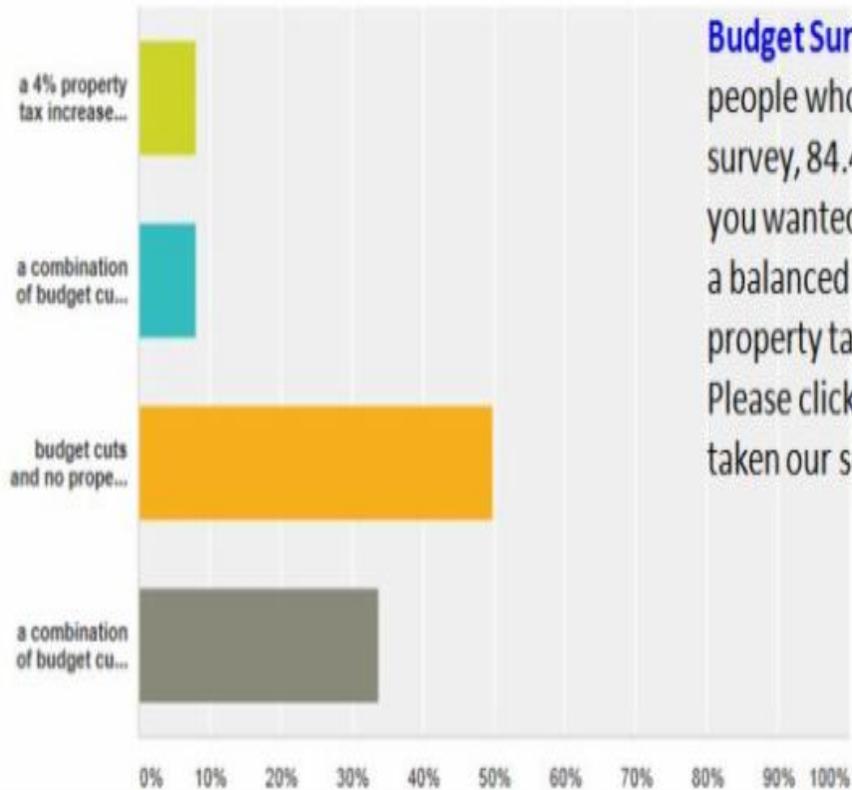
Please join me for a Public Meeting to discuss the Redland Road (Loop 1604 to Ridgeway Parkway) Road Improvements. This is part of the 2012 Bond projects that we are tracking for you. Details of this project include:

1. Projected cost of \$10,700,00
2. Widening to 5 Lanes
3. Bike Lanes
4. Curbs, Sidewalks, and drive-way approaches where necessary
5. Traffic Signal
7. Drainage Improvements as needed

This Public Meeting will help to ensure that residents are aware that bike lanes are planned for the area. It is easier to NOT have them installed than it is to remove the lanes after protest down the road. It has been suggested that the addition of Bike Lanes will add to the safety of cyclists and drivers in this area, but I would like to hear from you to help determine the level of biking interest in our District. Click [HERE](#) for my bike lane survey.

## In order to close a projected \$28-\$34 million City budget deficit, I would support:

Answered: 86 Skipped: 1



**Budget Survey Update:** Of the 90 people who took our newest budget survey, 84.44% of you indicated that you wanted the City Council to achieve a balanced budget without increasing property tax. We still need your input! Please click [HERE](#) if you have not yet taken our survey.

Answer Choices	Responses
▼ a 4% property tax increase (1% = \$7 million in new revenues)	7.78% 7
▼ a combination of budget cuts and a 2% property tax increase	7.78% 7
▼ budget cuts and <u>no property tax increase</u>	52.22% 47
▼ a combination of budget cuts and fee increases with <u>no property tax increases</u>	32.22% 29
Total	90



### District 9 Code Compliance

District 9 Staff, the Development Services Division (DSD) and NCTONA President Larry Lamborn on a walk-thru to follow-up on Code Compliance issues in the neighborhood. Thanks to Mr. Lamborn for working so diligently to keep me informed on the issues and thanks to DSD Code Compliance for being so responsive. If you have a code compliance issue in your neighborhood, please contact your District 9 Constituents Chief, Adam Trevino ATTN: Code Compliance at 207-0955 or

[adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov](mailto:adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov) or click [HERE](#) to visit the City DSD website and complete an **on-line Code Compliance Service Request**



### Looking for a Cycling Club this Summer?

<http://www.sanantoniocyclingclub.org/>

<http://sawheelmen.com/>

<http://hcbtc.org/>

<http://www.coolcatscyclingclub.com/>

[http://cyclingsanantonio.com/satx/Cycling\\_San\\_Antonio.html](http://cyclingsanantonio.com/satx/Cycling_San_Antonio.html)

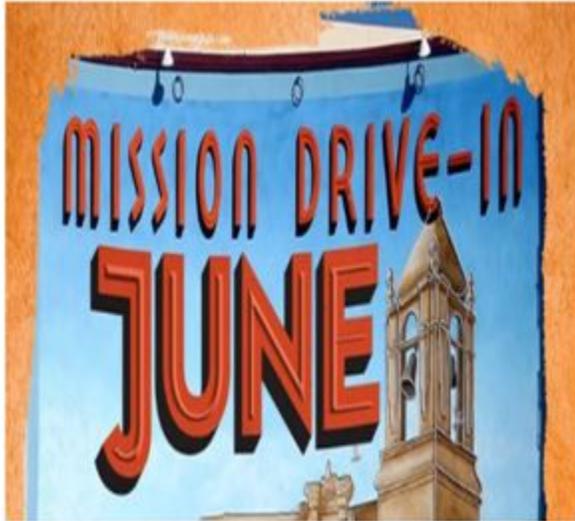
NOTE: This list is NOT all inclusive and Riders Ride at their OWN RISK



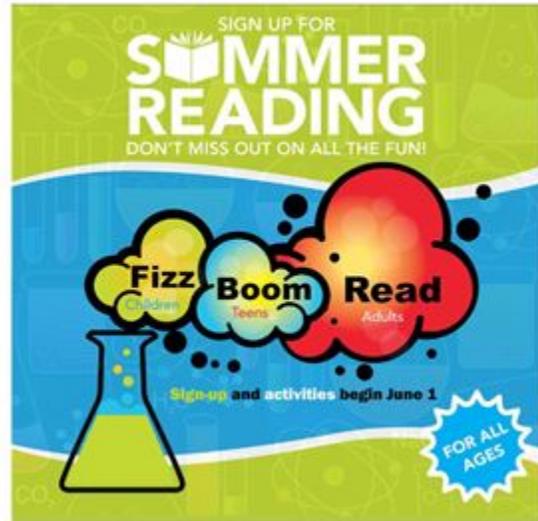
Looking for SUMMER CAMP FUN? [MySanAntonio.com](http://MySanAntonio.com) has compiled a great list! Click [HERE](#) or the image above for details.



**THE GREATER SAN ANTONIO AREA  
ROAD AND TRACK EVENT SCHEDULE:  
Summer Walking Opportunities**  
Click [HERE](#) for a compiled list of some walking opportunities in San Antonio.



Click [HERE](#) for Mission Drive-In Details



Click [HERE](#) to Sign-up for the Summer Reading

.... Or Click [HERE](#) to View the City Summer Events Calendar



**Wednesday's from 9:30am-10:30am, you can schedule a private, first come/first serve appointment with me. Click [HERE](#) to request one of these appointments by Tuesday of each week.**

From 10:30-11:30 each Wednesday I hold open/group discussions, walk-ins are welcome at that time. I invite any resident who wants to discuss a District 9 issue or just wants to have a cup of coffee with me, to come out to our District Office for "Java with Joe". If you want to meet with me and would prefer another time, please contact my Constituents Services Chief, Adam Trevino at [adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov](mailto:adam.trevino@sanantonio.gov) or 207-0955 to set-up at date/time.

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