

RETIREE MATTERS

Issue 40 | October 2018

Joining Your Ranks

Congratulations to the following people on their recent retirement!

Michael Brozovic, Aviation, 30 yrs.	Hector Hernandez, Transportation & Capital Improvements, 20 yrs.	Denise Parks, Finance, 25 yrs.
Jackie Carr, Solid Waste Management, 20 yrs.	Joni James, Finance, 4 yrs.	Wilson Plunkett, Library, 21 yrs.
Raul Cepeda, Building & Equipment Services, 15 yrs.	Gilbert Jensen, Transportation & Capital Improvements, 10 yrs.	Don Pylant, Parks & Recreation, 37 yrs.
James Clark, Development Services, 14 yrs.	Linda Kaufman, Health, 16 yrs.	Rosalie Randle, Police, 10 yrs.
Diana Cortez, Police, 17 yrs.	Diana Kelly, Police, 7 yrs.	Jo Ann Reyes, Convention Sports Facilities, 30 yrs.
Jose Gomez, Convention Sports Facilities, 18 yrs.	Joseph Krupa, Solid Waste Management, 24 yrs.	Geneva Rodriguez, Building & Equipment Services, 20 yrs.
David Griego, Solid Waste Management, 21 yrs.	Debra Lara, 3-1-1, 19 yrs.	Stanley Sells Jr., Development Services, 3 yrs.
Sherrie Langston Hardin, Library, 14 yrs.	Hayley Latshaw, Library, 19 yrs.	Lucia Silva, Library, 14 yrs.
	Jayne Neal, Parks & Recreation, 18 yrs.	

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Please make plans to attend the next Brown Bag session on November 27 at the Central Library (600 Soledad) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.!

This session will include presentations about senior nutrition and the free services and programs available to you through your San Antonio Public Library. After that, RECOSA or Retired Employees of the City of San Antonio will hold their annual meeting.

RECOSA will be providing attendees with lunch for this special meeting, and the City will provide a healthy snack, water, and coffee. As always, free parking will be available in the Library's parking garage.

The Retiree **RSVP** Line is open, so to reserve your seat, leave a message at **210-207-7000** or email your RSVP to **AskHR@sanantonio.gov**.



2019 Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA)

Recently, the Mayor and City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, which included an ad hoc COLA for City retirees. This means that beginning in January, you will see a **1.476%** increase in the gross amount of your monthly TMRS annuity check. In late January, TMRS will mail you your 1099-R. This document will contain information you need to file your federal taxes for 2018.

Message from Human Resources Director



Lori Steward

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,
I am pleased to share with you the final issue of *Retiree Matters* for 2018. The newsletter is jam-packed with a ton of great information, including details about your new COLA, retiree annual enrollment, and RECOSA's big annual meeting. We have so much going on, that the quarterly **Did You Know** note is included in the next paragraph!

eligible for Medicare can access the prescription formulary for their health plan by calling Aetna at 1-800-842-1306 or visiting them online at www.aetna.com.*

We are always interested in hearing from you. If there are specific topics you would like to know about, be sure to email us at cosaretirees@sanantonio.gov and your suggestions could end up in this newsletter or as a presentation during a future Brown Bag session.

I wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday season!

***Did You Know?** Retirees who are

City Boards, Committees, & Commissions Need You!



WE WANT YOU!

The City is seeking applications for open positions on our community-based boards, commissions, and committees. Board and commission appointees serve as community representatives and advisors to both City Council Members and the Mayor on specific topics.

The majority of board or commission roles are advisory in nature. However, several positions are described as "more than advisory" and will directly contribute to policy formation. While some of these positions require specific experience in order to be considered, the majority do not. The necessary time commitments vary between the different boards, committees, and commissions. Appointments usually last two years, although individuals may be re-appointed after their initial two-year term. There are no limits on the amount of terms.

To review a complete list of current vacancies on City boards, committees, and commissions and to submit your application, visit <https://webapp9.sanantonio.gov/BoardCommApplication/vacancies>.

Notes From The City Manager



Sheryl Sculley

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,

Fall is upon us, and with that comes some major milestones as we approach the end of the year. The Mayor and City Council adopted the City's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget on September 13. Included in this budget were funds for new public safety positions and technology, dedicated dollars to go toward affordable housing in San Antonio, \$110 million for street maintenance, \$19 million to improve our community's sidewalks, and money to add five new Animal Care Officers to the team.

Also, our 2018 Charitable Campaign has come to an end, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of the retirees who contributed to this year's endeavor. Your donations will play a part in helping to improve the lives of your fellow San Antonians.

Do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. I hope you have a great rest of the year!

Warmly,

Words on RECOSA—A Note from the Chair



Liz Garcia

As we begin 2019, we are thankful that City Council approved the City's 2019 Budget with no health premium increases for pre-65 retirees, a slight decrease for post 65 retirees, and an increase in our monthly TMRS annuity check.

The members who serve on RECOSA's Board of Directors work diligently with City officials throughout the year to protect and maintain COSA retiree health benefits, and they should be recognized for these efforts. For this last issue of the year, I asked them to share a few words on the importance of RECOSA and what it means to them:

Vice Chair David Lopez - "A major goal of RECOSA is to work with COSA Human Resources to try to ensure that COSA retirees are provided an opportunity to obtain health insurance with reasonable coverages and affordable costs. During 2018, I have seen the Board and Human Resources work together to meet this goal for 2019."

Treasurer Rebecca Waldman - "RECOSA has served as an important advocate for City of San Antonio non-uniform retirees for over a decade in the areas of health and retirement benefits." **Secretary Nancy Dean** - "Retirement has become the happiest time of my life, and RECOSA allows me to work toward the same for my co-workers."

Board Member Lolly Byington - "I would encourage anyone who is interested in taking a proactive role for fellow retirees, to consider becoming a RECOSA board member or volunteering in special RECOSA projects." **Board Member Kevin Burton** - "RECOSA is the only advocate for the interests of retired City of San Antonio civilians. None of these interests is as critical as retiree benefits. As such, it's critical RECOSA be supported by its members and, indeed, all City of San Antonio civilian retirees and their families." **Board Member Rose Rangel** - "RECOSA remains the voice for our COSA retirees by keeping us informed on retiree benefits, COSA Budget, TMRS updates and provides a forum for retirees to keep in touch with our fellow retirees."

BOARD ELECTION NEWS

As presented in the previous issue of *Retiree Matters*, RECOSA is looking for candidates to serve on our Board of Directors in 2019. The basic requirements include: being a RECOSA member, willingness to serve, interest in retiree benefits, and time to devote to the organization.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, please submit a brief statement of your experience, interests, availability, and/or reasons why you would like to serve to: Nominating Committee Chair David Lopez, P. O. Box 12973, San Antonio, Texas, 78212, or via email at info.recosa@gmail.com by **November 9, 2018**. More information regarding nominations and the election may be found on the RECOSA website: www.recosa.org.

The Bylaws Committee, chaired by Vice Chair David Lopez, reviewed the current bylaws. The committee's recommended bylaw changes were accepted by the Board to bring forth to the membership for approval at the Annual Meeting. Proposed changes to the bylaws can be found on RECOSA's website, and copies will be available at the meeting for review prior to voting.

Have a wonderful holiday season, and I hope to see you at the RECOSA Annual Meeting/Brown Bag on November 27th. Lunch will be served, and many door prizes will be drawn at the end of the meeting.

Best wishes to all,

Liz Garcia
RECOSA Board Chair

Annual Enrollment: October 1 - 19

Annual Enrollment Information Session: October 11

2019 Retiree Annual Enrollment is October 1 through October 19. This is your chance to change your medical plan for the coming year. By now, you should have received a packet from us that included a cover letter and the 2019 *Retiree Benefit Matters Guide*. If you did not receive this packet, please contact Human Resources Customer Service at 210-207-8705 or AskHR@sanantonio.gov.

Remember, if you do not wish to make any changes to your current medical, dental, or vision plans, you do not need to do anything; your coverage will roll over to 2019.

If you have questions about any of your health plan options, we are hosting an **Annual Enrollment Information Session** just for you on **October 11** at the Central Library (600 Soledad St.) from **8 a.m. to noon**. From 9 to 10 a.m., there will be presentations to review your 2019 health plan options. During the session, you will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, CVS/caremark, Davis Vision, Delta Dental, and Aetna. Also, members of the Employee Benefits team will be available to answer your questions.



You will continue to have the option of choosing between two dental plans offered through Delta Dental—**Dental PPO and DHMO plan**. The PPO plan uses the broad Delta Dental PPO network with similar benefits as the active civilian employees. The monthly rates and benefits for these plans can be

found on **page 14** of the *Retiree Benefit Matters Guide* that was mailed to you. If you would like to sign up for one of these plans, complete the enrollment form that was included in the packet Delta Dental mailed to you. **The completed enrollment form should be mailed to Delta Dental at the address on the form. NOTE: No action is required if there are no changes.**



In 2019, the retiree vision plan through Davis Vision will continue to be available. Vision plan and monthly premium information can be found on **page 15** of the *Retiree Benefit Matters Guide* that was mailed to you. To sign up for this plan as a new enrollee during annual enrollment, complete

and return the form that was in the packet mailed to you by Davis Vision. **The completed enrollment form should be mailed to Davis Vision at the address on the form. NOTE: No action is required if there are no changes.**



As you know, for 2019, **non-Medicare retirees** will continue to have the **Consumer Choice and New Value** health plan options through Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, with CVS/caremark handling your pharmacy benefit. For those enrolled in the Consumer Choice health plan, the City will contribute \$500 (individual) / \$1,000 (family) to your Health Savings Account (HSA). The plans and monthly premiums remain the same and can be found on **pages 6 – 11** of the *Retiree Benefit Matters Guide*. If you have any questions, contact Human Resources Customer Service at 210-207-8705 or AskHR@sanantonio.gov.

For our **Medicare-eligible retirees**, the City, in partnership with Aetna, will continue to provide you with three medical plan options—**Medicare Advantage PPO, Medicare Advantage PPO Plus, and Medicare Pharmacy-only**. Due to the federal government waiving the health insurance fee, monthly Medicare premiums will decrease for 2019, with the exception of the Medicare Pharmacy-Only plan. Check out **page 5** of the *Retiree Benefit Matters Guide* to review the Medicare-eligible retiree premiums. Remember, you can fill your **generic prescriptions** for a **\$5 co-pay** within a large network of pharmacies, which includes **CVS, H-E-B, Walmart, and Costco**. If you fill generic prescriptions at a pharmacy not in the network, including **Walgreen's**, a **\$15 co-pay** will apply. For questions about the Aetna Medicare Advantage plans, contact Aetna directly at 1-800-842-1306.

Contacts

City of San Antonio Human Resources Customer Service
111 Soledad, Ste. 100
San Antonio, TX 78205
210-207-8705 (P)
210-207-6043 (F)
sanantonio.gov/employeeinformation/retireemployees
cosaretiree@sanantonio.gov
AskHR@sanantonio.gov

Retiree RSVP Line
210-207-7000

Davis Vision
1-800-448-9372
www.davisvision.com

Delta Dental
1-800-422-4234
www.deltadentalins.com/cityofsanantonio/retirees.html

Aetna
1-800-842-1306
www.aetna.com

Medicare
1-800-633-4227
www.medicare.gov

Retiree Liaison
Ann Solis
210-207-0073

Texas Municipal Retirement System
1-800-924-8677
www.tmrs.com

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas
1-800-521-2227
www.bcbstx.com

CVS/caremark
1-866-808-7470
www.caremark.com

HSA Bank
1-855-731-5220
www.hsabank.com