

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

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UPDATE: SA CLIMATE READY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Office of Sustainability worked with Councilwoman Ana Sandoval, Chair of the Community Health and Equity Committee (CHEC), and Councilwoman Jada Andrews-Sullivan, member of CHEC, to identify interviewees for the the two SA Climate Ready Advisory Committees: Technical & Community and Climate Equity.

As a result of COVID-19, the process has been placed on hold, but the Office of Sustainability has been coordinating with City leadership to determine the best course of action to continue the process, including the potential to allow for remote candidate interviews.

Please note that we are considering equity in each step of the process and will strive to ensure that whatever interview method is chosen is accessible to all candidates.

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS IS A PRIORITIZED THEME IN SA CLIMATE READY

Did you know that [SA Climate Ready](#) is also a plan for community resilience? Check out the plan's Adaptation Strategies at www.sanantonio.gov/sustainability to learn more about the initiatives that prioritize emergency management, infrastructure resilience, public health, local food security, green infrastructure, and equity.



EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR AT-HOME LEARNERS



[EcoRise At-Home Learning Resources](#) STEM and sustainability lessons to engage pre-K-12 students learning at home.

[Smart Energy Education](#) is a dedicated resource for educational programs and interactive learning materials for students, educators, industry professionals, and communities around the world.

[Watt Watchers of Texas](#) is a state-sponsored STEM program to help boost energy literacy for K-12 students and help schools save money by saving energy. Students join Lil' Tex and Ann on patrol as official Watt Watchers, helping to save Texas by rounding up the Wasters Gang.

[Resourcefulness: An Introduction to the Water-Energy Nexus](#) teaches key concepts about water and energy to a wider audience. Students, industry professionals, and the general public are encouraged to use this program to improve on their water and energy literacy, encouraging conservation and inspiring innovative solutions.

SOCIAL DISTANCING EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

We all know that Social Distancing and Stay at Home Orders and Declarations have impacted our daily lives, but what isn't always immediately visible is the impact they have had on the environment. Below are 5 examples of how the environment has been affected:

Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled and overall traffic.

[Read more: https://www.unacast.com/covid19/social-distancing-scoreboard](https://www.unacast.com/covid19/social-distancing-scoreboard)



Water in the San Antonio River is vastly clear.

[Read more: https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Like-Venice-San-Antonio-s-Riverwalk-is-running-15161524.php](https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Like-Venice-San-Antonio-s-Riverwalk-is-running-15161524.php)

Increase in localized food production, with home herb and vegetable gardens at the forefront.

[Read more: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-gardens/home-gardening-blooms-around-the-world-during-coronavirus-lockdowns-idUSKBN2220D3](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-gardens/home-gardening-blooms-around-the-world-during-coronavirus-lockdowns-idUSKBN2220D3)



Decreased demand and consumption of electricity.

[Read more: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-power-demand/u-s-power-demand-falls-to-16-year-low-as-coronavirus-cuts-use-by-companies-idUSKCN21Q36R](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-power-demand/u-s-power-demand-falls-to-16-year-low-as-coronavirus-cuts-use-by-companies-idUSKCN21Q36R)

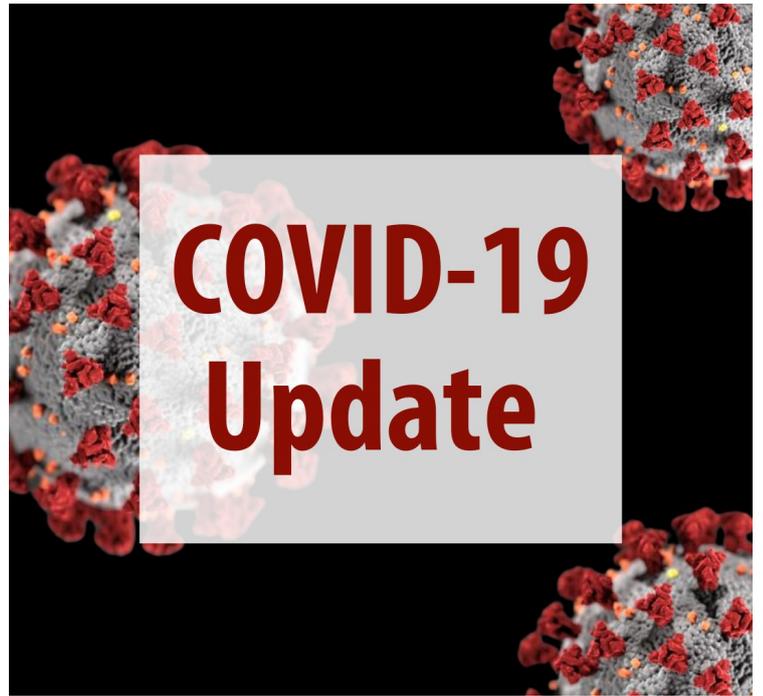
Big reductions in the production of carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide.

[Read more: https://www.environmentaltrackingproject.org/p/air-quality-impacts-of-covid-19.html](https://www.environmentaltrackingproject.org/p/air-quality-impacts-of-covid-19.html)



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Minerva “Mina” Defee is the Climate Program Manager of the Office of Sustainability. Her current responsibilities include managing and coordinating the development and implementation of the City of San Antonio's climate program, as well as maintaining community relationships and fostering community-wide initiatives. Her specialties include community mitigation strategies, education, climate equity, and localized food production. Mina is fully bilingual in English and Spanish, and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Business Administration and a Master of Arts degree in Geography from UTSA. In her spare time, Mina likes to watch movies (especially independent films), read, and experiment in the kitchen with cooking and baking.



Below you will find the latest announcements regarding COVID-19. Please visit [sanantonio.gov/Health/News/Alerts/CoronaVirus](https://www.sanantonio.gov/Health/News/Alerts/CoronaVirus) for additional information.

The “Stay Home, Work Safe” order has been extended through May 19.

As of April 16, most San Antonians are required to wear a mask or cloth covering in areas where social distancing is difficult.

The City has made funds available to residents in need that may help cover rent, mortgage, utilities, groceries, and medicine. For more information, please call 210-207-5910 or visit <https://www.sanantonio.gov/NHSD>.

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District has opened a COVID-19 hotline for residents, please call 210.207.5779 or email COVID-19@sanantonio.gov for information in both English and Spanish.

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