2023 Voters Guide

Early Voting: April 24-May 2 Election Day: May 6



A Guide to help voters make informed choices in the Municipal Election

The League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area is a strictly nonpartisan organization.

The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

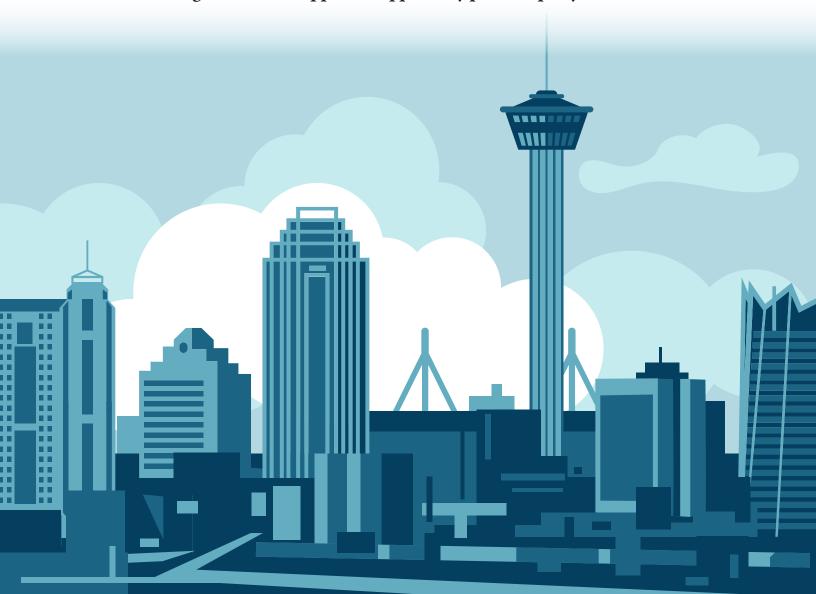


TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Letter to Voters	2
Voter Services Committee	2
Other Races in Bexar County	2
Voting Information	3
About This Guide	3
How the League Gathered the Data	3
Vote Centers for Election Day	3
Voting Machines	3
Instructions for the Machines	3
Other Important Instructions	3
Accessibility, Languages	3
Showing Identification	
Provisional Balloting	4
Voting by Mail	4
Tracking your Ballot	
About the League	4
How to get what you need to vote	4
Municipal Election	5
San Antonio Mayor	5
San Antonio City Council	
San Antonio City Council District 1	7
San Antonio City Council District 2	9
San Antonio City Council District 3	10
Texas Voters' Bill of Rights	
San Antonio City Council District 4	15
San Antonio City Council District 5	
San Antonio City Council District 7	17
San Antonio City Council District 9	19
San Antonio City Council District 10	20
City of San Antonio Proposition A	22
Explanation	22
More Information	22
Arguments for and against	
Appointing Justice Director	22
Ban Police No-Knock Warrants	
Decriminalizing Possession of Low Levels of Marijuana	23
Cite and Release for nonviolent, low-level offenders	23
Decriminalize Most Abortion	23
Banning Chokeholds	23
Find Out Where to Vote/Early Voting Locations	24

VOTE EARLY APRIL 24 - MAY 2

A LETTER TO VOTERS

Dear Voter.

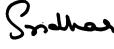
Local elections directly impact you the most. Yet participation remains particularly low for these elections, making your vote count even more. Voting in local elections assures that our tax dollars are allocated such that all interests are represented.

There are many burning issues facing us this election – homelessness, the digital divide, affordable housing, climate change, safe water, alternative energy resources and much more. The leaders we elect today will chart the future course of our community.

A major impediment to voter turnout is lack of information about the candidates, their positions on issues and not understanding the arguments for and against the ballot propositions. This Voters Guide is compiled to provide you with the information you need to make informed choices. It is aimed to assist you in voting responsibly.

A shrinking electorate is a threat to democracy. Democracy doesn't run by itself. You can't switch self-government to auto pilot. It's up to each of us to make it work. We have the power to strengthen the democracy we treasure by going to the polls this election and making our local government more responsive, more representative and more relevant. VOTE!





Madhu Sridhar

President, League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

- Vice President of Voter Services Glenda Wolin
- Committee members Barbara Baruch, Hal Broth, Kim Cauthorn, Melanie Cawthon, Martha Lankford, Alyssa Gooch, Luke Rosenberger and Teri Swartz

OTHER RACES IN BEXAR COUNTY

These municipalities and school districts are having elections besides San Antonio.

- Hollywood Park Regular Election
- Universal City General Election
- Alamo Heights ISD Bond Election
- Comal ISD Bond Election
- Medina Valley ISD List of Write-Ins
- Southwest ISD Bond and General Election

To see if any will be on your ballot, go to *bexar.org/elections*. Close to the election there will be a place to see your sample ballot and links to the city and school district websites. Elections not listed were canceled due to races being unopposed.

VOTING INFORMATION

- You have to be registered to vote by April 6 in order to vote in the May 6 election
- Make a list of your choices ahead of time and take it with you to speed the process.
- More voting information is on our website, lwvsa.org. For other questions, call us at 210-657-2206

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is put together by the League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area, a strictly nonpartisan organization, to fulfill its longstanding commitment to promote an active and informed electorate. The League neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate. This public service effort is designed to provide voters with the information they need to help them make informed choices about candidates and issues in the May 6 election.

In addition, to ensure that voters are aware of their voting rights at the polls and are empowered, this Guide also includes the Texas Voters' Bill of Rights in both English and in Spanish. It lists 15 voters' rights in simple language and includes voter identification requirements, provisional balloting, the complaint process to address grievances and much more.

HOW THE LEAGUE GATHERED THE DATA

In compiling information for this Voters Guide, the ALL-VOLUNTEER League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area sent questionnaires to all candidates in contested races. To follow up when necessary, candidates were contacted by email or phone.

The League formulated all questions asked of the candidates. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space restrictions, candidates were given strict word limits. The software truncates answers at the limit in a form that candidates can see. All candidates were informed of this process.

Information about the proposition was researched, written, and edited by League volunteers.

VOTE CENTERS FOR ELECTION DAY

- Voters will be allowed to vote at any open voting site on Election Day, just as they do in early voting.
- Early voting locations will also be open on Election Day.

You will not be turned away from any polling place in the county if you are registered in Bexar County. Polling sites will be listed on the Bexar Elections Department website, *elections.bexar.org*, after early voting ends, and in the Express-News immediately before Election Day.

When you enter the polling place and reach the front of the line, hand your identification to the election official at the computer, who will check you in and direct you to sign the register. A poll worker will escort you to a voting machine. If you need instructions, you can ask the poll worker then or at any other time.

Make sure you follow the instructions to finalize your vote. Once you have done that, you may leave. (See instructions under Voting Machines below)

If you make a mistake on your ballot, you can ask for a new one before you walk away from the booth. Do not wait, because once someone else's ballot is loaded, your ballot cannot be retrieved.

VOTING MACHINES

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MACHINES

- Feed the card given to you by the poll worker into the machine. The machine will display your ballot. Make your selections.
- Once you have made all your choices, press the button and the card is ejected.

The League of Women Voters, strictly nonpartisan, does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

- Check your card carefully to make sure what is printed is what you chose. If it is not, let a poll worker know immediately, before you leave the booth, so you can get a new ballot.
- Take the card to the tabulator, which looks like a large bin with a laptop on top and has a poll worker next to it.
- Feed the card into the slot. This is **VERY IMPORTANT** that is when your vote is registered.
- Don't leave with your card or you have not voted.
- Once the tabulator has registered your vote, the card drops into the locked bin underneath.

OTHER IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- You can use the screen as it is, make the type larger or adjust the contrast for comfortable viewing.
- You may select an English or Spanish-language ballot. You can also switch back and forth between English and Spanish ballots.
- The machines are also capable of selecting an audio ballot for the blind. Ask a poll worker for headphones.
- Disabled voters who need to remain in their cars can vote on machines made for that purpose. Call ahead to the elections office, 210-335-8683, and tell them what polling site you are going to. When you arrive, flash your headlights or ask someone entering to alert the election judge.

ACCESSIBILITY. LANGUAGES

All polling places are accessible to people with disabilities. People with mobility problems are allowed by law to move to the front of the line. A sign is posted to that effect.

Ballots are provided in English and Spanish. People who are not proficient in either language may select as an interpreter anyone who is not the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs. The interpreter must take an oath of interpreter.

A person who is physically unable to mark the ballot or read it may ask for assistance from anyone who is not the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs. The assistant must take an oath of assistance. Two poll workers can also assist.

SHOWING IDENTIFICATION

All voters must show identification before voting. The preferred method is to show one of the seven acceptable forms of photo identification. They are listed on the back of the Texas Voters' Bill of Rights, on Pages 11-14 of this Voters Guide. If you have one but did not bring it, and you cannot return to the polls with it before closing, you can vote a provisional ballot. You must take your ID to the Elections Office within 6 calendar days, or your vote will not be counted.

If you do not possess one of the acceptable IDs and cannot reasonably obtain one, you can fill out a Reasonable Impediment declaration explaining why and show a document from another list, which is also on the back of the Texas Voters' Bill of Rights.

PROVISIONAL BALLOTING

In most circumstances, anyone who comes to a polling site to vote and does not appear to meet the requirements – whether because of identification, not being on the rolls, or any other circumstance – can vote a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is sealed in an envelope with a signed affidavit by the voter swearing that they are eligible to vote. After the election, a panel reviews each provisional ballot and rules on whether it should be counted. Each provisional voter is notified of the final status.

More information about your voting rights is in the Texas Voters' Bill of Rights, Pages 11-14.

VOTING BY MAIL

In Texas, you can request a mail-in ballot if you are:

- Going to be away from your county during early voting and on Election Day
- Sick or disabled
- 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- Confined in jail, but eligible to vote.
- Expect to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day

To request a ballot, contact Bexar County Elections, 210-335-8683, or download an application from *bitly.com/mailbal*.

You can fill it out online but **you cannot submit it online**. You must download it, sign it and mail it. Completed applications

must be mailed, with an original signature, so they are received by the Bexar County Elections Department no later than April 25. Faxed or emailed applications will be accepted only if followed by a paper application with an original signature within four days of sending the electronic application.

It is now a requirement to provide either your drivers license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number on both your ballot application and your ballot envelope.

Once you have received your ballot, you must complete it, seal it in the white envelope and then seal that in the self-addressed carrier envelope. Sign the envelope as instructed – that signature will be compared with your signature on your application for the ballot and possibly with any known signature on file with the Elections Department to make sure both were signed by you. Mail the ballot back as soon as possible. If your ballot is one page, one stamp is sufficient. If it is two pages, it may take two stamps. It must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day, **May 6**, or by 5 p.m. **May 8** if the carrier envelope is postmarked locally by 7 p.m.

TRACKING YOUR BALLOT

Track your mail ballot application and your completed mail ballot at the Bexar Elections website: *bexar.org/elections*.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots, ALL-VOLUNTEER organization that promotes the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is strictly nonpartisan and does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

The League of Women Voters has its roots in the national suffrage movement. Since its inception in 1920, the League has continued to encourage political responsibility, help build inclusive democracy and remove barriers to voting. For more information about the League, go to *lwvsa.org*.

HOW TO GET WHAT YOU NEED TO VOTE

Use the following two sites to:

- Download an application to register to vote
- Download an application to register name and address changes
- Find Early Voting locations and hours of operation
- Download a Ballot-By-Mail Application
- View a sample ballot
- View the election calendar
- View election results for previous and current elections

Bexar County Elections Department:

Phone: 210-335-8683

Website: *bexar.org/elections* or Google Bexar elections

Texas Elections Department Website: *votetexas.gov*

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

This is a nonpartisan election; candidates are not designated by party.

All candidates were invited by the League to respond to the questions posed in this Voters Guide. Candidates received multiple reminders to send their responses before the print deadline. To learn about the candidates who did not respond, please contact them and let them know that you, as a constituent, want to read their responses to help compare and select candidates. The League's online VOTE411.org can take submissions up to election day. Search social media for contact information, or go to the City of San Antonio's campaign filing paperwork at tinyurl.com/MayElection. Their responses to the questions, if received, will be posted at VOTE411.org.

SAN ANTONIO MAYOR

The Mayor, the only citywide elected official, is a voting member of the City Council who presides over council meetings and official city ceremonies. The Mayor also represents the city on the state, national and international levels.

Go to VOTE411.org for any responses submitted after the print deadline. For candidates who have responded, VOTE411 also has answers to more questions and biographical information.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and What are your top priorities for the City proposes to change police and several criminal What can the city do to help small businesses Council if you are elected, and why? survive and thrive? **Candidate** justice policies? City council needs to stop focusing on Proposals such as this are the result Small business needs a workforce issues that fall under the jurisdiction of having adolescent adults, with no to survive and thrive. An effective of the state and federal government. real-world experience, involved in policy workforce is one that is energized and believes the results of their effort and Too much time and money are wasted making and decisions. Passing this making meaningless overtures to issues charter will only increase and solidify labor will be an increased standard that are not relevant to managing the the generational poverty I previously of living. As our neighborhoods city. The mayor and city council are mentioned. In order to have safe continue to deteriorate due to crime, responsible for ensuring the city and its neighborhoods there must be viable infrastructure neglect and lack of services function as needed to ensure economic investment and activity, investment, our workforce loses its Christopher T. energy and effectiveness. Which in turn economic viability, growth, and an neither of those will happen if this Schuchardt hurts small businesses. We must take increasing standard of living for all charter is passed. We needed elected residents. officials and city administrators with steps to re-energize our workforce, along real world experience to provide real with removing bureaucratic hurdles. world solutions. Crime: It is a major problem now This Justice Charter is Bad for the Make the permit process easier for brick and needs to be addressed, Homeless City of San Antonio. If passed in May and mortar small businesses. Offer problem everyone sees this and it does it will be automatically challenged in short term 90% 5 year tax exemptions. not seem to get any better, Cut back court and at the City of San Antonio Reduce regulations. on the City's Debt and Spending: Yes Expense, of which is really at the City the city is \$135B in debt, Bring more of San Antonio Taxpayer Expense! big businesses into the City: restructure There is a provision to hire a Director our zoning tax benefits for Residential and Staff and this is also at taxpayers Builders. Revision the Ready to Work expense. Most of the policies are illegal Christopher Longoria Program: Cost effective for the City and unenforceable by the City of San

"We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate."

Antonio Police Dept.

– President Thomas Jefferson

of San Antonio and for the people

including the homeless.

who take advantage of this program

Ron Nirenberg

What are your top priorities for the City Council if you are elected, and why?

The pandemic economy taught us the importance of resiliency. That's why I continue to promote SA Ready to Work and Alamo PROMISE to increase certifications and education necessary to compete for higher paying jobs. I'll stay focused on affordability, from lower property tax rates to CPS bills, and see through our 10-year commitment to an affordable housing supply. Public safety is a top priority, with recruitment and retention of police officers while nurturing trust with the community.

How can we better connect to the community about our programs also what can we develop much better to help sustain this problem.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

The Justice Charter goes too far in attempting to prevent enforcement and limit consequences for property damage up to \$2500 and theft up to \$750. These are real costs to small businesses, elderly, and working families. I share the goal of reducing overall incarceration, and support women's access to abortion. Real change, though, must come from community engagement and holding appropriate leaders accountable. City Hall has little jurisdiction over what's proposed in the charter.

Justice Carter is a step forward to better serving our community. But we can do better by adopting different strategies to help prevent crime in our communities.

What can the city do to help small businesses survive and thrive?

We secured \$35 million in ARPA funds to help small businesses recover from the pandemic and I'm leading a countywide effort to make public contracting more accessible. We're addressing workforce challenges through SAReadyToWork, along with a 10-year commitment to affordable housing. The \$1.2 billion bond package offers procurement opportunities and upgrades infrastructure in key business corridors. As the founder of two small businesses, I'm committed to an economy that works for everyone.

By being Innovative i would like to help create long term economic growth with our city. Second Project River Walk makes it possible to support ideas.



Armando Dominguez



Gary Allen

Lowering taxes, diligence in spending tax money effectively so as not to waste and to benefit all the citizens, focus on power grid problems, protecting our water supply by being careful concerning pushing for too much growth in city population, continue to improve the road infrastructure to help with traffic congestion problems, working on homeless problems and at the same time protecting citizens from trashing areas by the homeless, and being strong against crime and supporting law enforcement

I believe the Justice Charter will cause more problems than it alleviates. It is a bad idea.

Special small business loans, tax breaks, and grants can help small businesses, but protecting them from the complete craziness that occurred during the COVID crisis is essential. Big businesses such as Walmart and HEB were protected and free to operate while small businesses were forced to shut down. Many small businesses went bankrupt and peoples' lives and savings were destroyed. The city government went overboard on shutting down the city. This must not ever happen again.



Candidate	What are your top priorities for the City Council if you are elected, and why?	What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?	What can the city do to help small businesses survive and thrive?
Diana Flores Uriegas	Providing a Living and Equal Wage for all Workers of San Antonio including Women.	I support the Charter on the ballot. Because, a woman should have a right to choose, what she wants to do with her body. Women should decide to have a child. Women's choice it's our Body. Men deciding for us isn't right. Legalization of marijuana will stop over crowded jails. Also it's a herb plant used for healing that is currently being recognized for its healing properties. No knock / No Chokehold, breaking in and who's fixing the damage. / Can't Breath and died. That not right.	Give the Small Business the same Tax Abatements as the City give Large Corporate Businesses. i will look into way to incentivize Small Business opportunities.

No response recieved by print deadline: Ray Adam Basaldua, Michael "Commander" Idrogo, Michael Samaniego. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL

The City Council is the policy-making and legislative body, focusing on the provision and efficiency of basic services, their districts' growth, capital improvement projects, land use and development, economic development and other issues.

Go to VOTE411.org for any responses submitted after the print deadline. For candidates who have responded, VOTE411 also has answers to more questions and biographical information.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT I

What are the most pressing issues for San Candidate **Antonio that the City Council can address?** iustice policies? San Antonio's most pressing issues are safety and rising violent crime rates, increases in homeless encampments and trash, homeless littering and urination/ defecation, decaying infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, street lamps, parks), digital inclusion in underserved communities, delayed construction affecting small businesses including Jeremy Roberts the concern for the upcoming bond

construction, growing domestics violence rates, skyrocketing property

departments.

taxes, and understaffed fire and police

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal

While many aspects of the proposed city charter amendments have my support, there are sections that I am unable to give my full endorsement. Several small businesses have shared a concern that the threshold amounts outlined in proposed amendments for graffiti, theft of services, and theft of property are set too high and are detrimental to their survival. Furthermore, the City Attorney has indicated that many portions of the amendments are not enforceable, and therefore have no real consequence.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

The current Intergovernmental Relations Committee has representatives from across the city and county whose goal is to foster interagency cooperation. We can increase the number of times this group meets, and expand the number of city and county departments that are represented on the committee. We should work toward improved collaboration between the City Council, the state, and the county to offer the highest level of customer service to our residents.

"Disagreement is a healthy part of our democracy. From my 20 years in politics I learned one lesson: Outrage alone doesn't win elections. People who are informed and engaged are the engine of our democracy."

– Jen Psaki

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies? In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?



Culch Vous

Our city council needs to lead collaboratively, thoughtfully and with integrity to create proactive rather than reactive solutions that mitigate negative impacts of growth. A lack of transparency is a huge concern and hence we need council leadership that will ALWAYS keep communication lines open so residents aren't left in the dark. As we continue to see our population increase, we need to focus on strengthening ALL of our neighborhoods and communities to increase access to opportunity.

I support the philosophy of the amendments to ensure that each member of our community, regardless of background, is treated with equity and fairness. It is essential that women have rights to reproductive healthcare, that we continue to insist on de-escalation police tactics, and stop criminalizing the recreational or medical use of cannabis. However, implementation of the Justice Charter will face legal challenges that we will need to work to address.

The city, state and county should collaborate on our property tax rates so residents aren't pushed out of their homes as we grow. I would also support collaboration between the city and county on drainage and transit spending. Better alignment in our budget priorities can help us leverage local dollars for the development of larger scale projects that will expand public transit opportunities. I will focus on ensuring data is shared so we can all make informed and equitable decisions.

Photo not provided

I would say crime as being a main issue followed by homelessness and lack of effective communication from the city down to the residents. Dangerous! Justice for who? It is another assault on our police force already suffering from members leaving the force. Another "defund the police program!" Mental Health

Ernest Salinas



Lauro Bustamante

We need Qualified, experienced, candidates that work for the health, safety, and happiness of the city. Application of my 40yrs of legal practice, in Texas law, municipal law, constitutional law, mediation and problem solving to apply to city problems

In the safety, health, and happiness of the city with Application of my 40yrs of legal practice, in Texas law, municipal law, constitutional law, mediation and problem solving to apply to city problem



Mario Bravo

My priorities: affordability, strengthening neighborhoods, reforming CPS Energy, and addressing climate change. I voted to increase ALL homestead exemptions, with even larger exemptions for seniors and disabled persons, to help with rising property taxes. To keep electricity reliable and rates affordable, I initiated contracting outside experts to evaluate CPS Energy and make recommendations to create a roadmap for success. Climate change is happening now and we need to do more to prepare.

As your council member, I have a duty to uphold all laws. The city attorney advises that 5 proposals on the Justice Charter contradict state law. I do support the spirit of some proposals. I am the only council member to have worked to decriminalize marijuana and I have always supported a woman's right to choose, including my vote as your council member shortly after Roe vs Wade was overturned. I do NOT support taking away an officer's right to arrest someone for up to \$2500 in graffiti damage.

Work with Senator Jose Menendez to get the dangerous dogs bill passed to enable our city to hold irresponsible pet owners accountable and prevent future attacks.

Work with our County government to fund more detox beds for individuals who are ready to end their drug habit. We can't turn these individuals away when they are finally ready to accept help.

Work with the state and county to develop habitat in our creekways for mosquito eating birds to reduce mosquito populations and disease.

No response recieved by print deadline: Roberto Rios Ortega, William T. Lamar-Boone. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

VOTE411.ORG

All the candidates on your ballot answer additional questions on the issues.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Candidate

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies? In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?



Edward Earl Giles

City Council should take the lead in addressing the issues of homelessness, crime, disabled access, healthcare, jobs/business, children, schools, senior care, street repairs, veteran support, voter confidence and parks/recreation. I view these as the real issues, facing real people in real communities and each form the basis of my platform. As one considers these issues, it becomes apparent that each impact our communities regardless of race, age, religious or other orientations.

One first must ask: "Does the city really need a charter to enforce individuals/ groups to do what they know is right?" I never appreciated "Riders" being introduced with necessary bills, as they tend to be distracting variables that reduce the effectiveness of the base bills. Currently the city has unfulfilled promises associated with SA2020 which should be completed and taken off the table prior to introducing a charter that would help to limit accountability. I would encourage: Do your jobs!

District 2's major highways connect some of the nation's largest cities Los Angeles, CA; Houston, TX, and Dallas, TX to San Antonio, TX. One look at these highways, the trash and ongoing construction/repairs serve as an indicator that collaborative efforts deserve attention at all levels. Let's utilize community service hours to increase cleanliness of our highways and city. Let's consolidate scarce resources to address homelessness and the drug epidemic. Hold contractors accountable.



Jalen McKee Rodriguez

The most pressing issues in my district all stem from poverty and underinvestment in our community. Because of lack of investment in District 2, we have limited access to educational and economic opportunity, housing that is unaffordable, limited transportation, few places to get quality, affordable produce, and some of the worst infrastructure citywide. Investment is a high priority to my residents, and a priority for me at every opportunity - including bond, budget, federal dollars, etc.

The objective is clear - reduce arrests and free up resources for violent crimes. While this amendment won't change many of our practices, it will prevent future Chiefs from undoing them, which I support. I understand concerns for victims of theft and property damage. This conversation highlights that the business impacts of property crime exist even if we eliminated Cite & Release. We need to look into a victims fund or insurance support fund to provide relief where there currently is none.

We operate in silos but many of our needs and interests are similar. One of my greatest concerns is that, although City residents pay County taxes, they often don't receive infrastructure investment from the county. We recently issued a joint RFP to provide digital access, closing the digital divide and this is an example of pooling resources to achieve shared goals. This should continue and could other areas like infrastructure, animal care, illegal dumping, parks and facilities, etc.



Denise McVea

Nearly every pressing issue currently facing San Antonians has roots in what I believe is the single biggest problem facing our city and the nation: public corruption. The U.S. Department of Justice defines public corruption as a breach of the public's trust by government officials who use their public office for personal gain. Housing, public safety, education, economic development - all are negatively impacted because of elected officials' refusal to root out corruption in government.

Please see the above response.

A major concern is to what extent state and federal resources actually reach their intended targets. Last year, for instance, the federal government awarded millions of dollars to the City of San Antonio for housing rehabilitation assistance. However, for months the Neighborhood Housing and Services Department has refused to provide documentation to explain how the money was allocated. In fact, certain city departments routinely violate state public information laws. That needs to be addressed.

"Our political leaders will know our priorities only if we tell them, again and again, and if those priorities begin to show up in the polls."

– Peggy Noonan

What are the most pressing issues for San **Antonio that the City Council can address?**

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?



James M. Guild

toward; more affordable housing, mental health, and fighting for increased resources from the State and Federal

City Council needs to be working

While the issues surrounding the Justice Charter are important; I feel they should not be the top priorities for our

The State and Federal Governments are spending Hundreds of billions of dollars, and this city council needs to ensure that San Antonio is receiving every nickel it's owed and fighting for even more. Build Back better should be paying for our interstates and Gov. Abbott acknowledged Billions in budget surplus that needs to be utilized for property tax relief. City Council needs to ensure the citizens of San Antonio benifit.



Denise Gutierrez

Street crime, Taxes, and "Unrestrained" animals. Homelessness.

Abortion & marijuana are governed by State Laws. Local charter has no authority to override our State. The Justice Charter is working against law abiding citizens to become victims of higher level misdemeanors & businesses to be victimized by theft of services. No need for 911 calls when these crimes will no longer be prosecuted. SA will be considered a high crime risk city to live, work and visit. It has little to do with police but everything to do with giving criminals more freedoms.

Take the States lead in following existing laws regarding migrants, homelessness, sanctuary cities.

Abandon partisan politics and our city's grand green agenda in favor of the States more moderate practical and less costly solutions. Reconsider the laws that drive up energy costs during a crises by contracting at the best rate possible for the city's natural gas and other energy sources.

No response recieved by print deadline: Rose Requenez Hill, Patrick Jones, Carla Walker, Michael John Good. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

Candidate

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?



Phyllis Viagran

I believe some of the most pressing issues that the City Council should address are the lack of affordable housing, access to quality healthcare (particularly on the Southside), ensuring a focus on economic development after the setbacks created by the pandemic, and addressing the increase in violent crimes that are making our residents feel unsafe.

I have been advised by the City Attorney to refrain from expressing a public opinion on this issue in my official capacity. With that said, as a candidate, my support for law enforcement and public safety has been consistent and unwavering throughout my first term in public office.

I believe that there can be a collaboration on important issues such as healthcare and public libraries. With the recent closure of a private hospital on the Southside, we must ensure access to healthcare. The new University Hospital on the Southside is a good step, but we must work together to provide access prior to its opening in 2024. I also want to see continued cooperation on public libraries so that residents can have increased access to Bibliotech and other public libraries.

Continued on Page 15



@lwvsa







@lwvsa



@lwvsa



League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area



Follow the League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area



Texas Voters' Bill of Rights

Your Voting rights are protected. These rights are guaranteed to qualified registered voters.

- 1. You have the right to vote if you are a qualified registered voter.
- You have the right to cast your ballot in a manner that ensures privacy. You have the right to vote without any person trying to influence your vote and vote in a booth that prevents others from watching you mark your ballot.
- You have the right to stay in the booth for as long as necessary to complete your ballot.
- You have the right to receive up to two replacement ballots if you make a mistake and spoil your ballot before you cast your ballot.
- You have the right to request assistance when voting from a poll worker or anyone of your choice except your employer, or an officer of your union or their representatives.
- You have the right to vote if you are disabled. The polling place must be accessible, and there must be an accessible voting booth.
- You have the right to vote if you cannot read or write. You have the right to bring an interpreter with you who can translate.
- You have the right to vote but must show one of the IDs listed on the reverse side of this sheet.
- You have the right to cast a provisional ballot if you believe you are a qualified registered voter but a poll worker tells you that you are ineligible to vote. (See reverse for details).
- 10. You have the right to vote once at an early voting location during the early voting period within the territory conducting the election.
- 11. You have the right to follow up any challenge to your right to vote through the complaint process.
- 12. You have a right to vote if you are not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction and have registered as a voter after your sentence is fully discharged.
- 13. You have the right to take this Voters' Bill of Rights or any other papers, including a sample ballot, voter guide or campaign material, into the voting booth with you. Please remove all papers when you leave the booth.
- 14. You have the right to vote at any polling place in Bexar County* on Election Day any time between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. for state and federal elections – hours may vary for local elections. If you are in line at the polling place when the polls close at 7 p.m., you have the right to vote.
- 15. You have the right to bring your children into the voting booth with you.

If you feel that your right to vote has been violated in any way, contact the Secretary of State toll free at 1-800-252-VOTE(8683), via e-mail at elections@sos.texas.gov or by regular mail at Elections Division, P.O.Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711.

Ron Nirenberg

Mayor. The Ciry of San Antonio

President, League of Women Voters of the San Amonjo Area

*For counties other than Bexar, check with your county election official.

Prepared by the League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area

VOTER ID REQUIREMENTS

- » Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- » Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- » Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- » Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS
- » United States military identification card containing the person's photograph
- » United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- » United States passport

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the acceptable photo identification must be current or have expired no more than 4 years before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place. For voters over age 70, the expiration date for documents is unlimited.

If you do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of these IDs, fill out a declaration at the polls explaining why and bring an original or copy of one of the following supporting documents:

- » Valid voter registration certificate
- » Certified birth certificate
- » Current utility bill
- » Bank statement
- » Government check
- » Paycheck
- » Government document with your name and an address

PROVISIONAL BALLOT

You have the right to cast a provisional ballot IF,

Your name does not appear on the list of registered voters.

You have the right to cast a provisional ballot also IF,

- (a) you do not possess one of the seven (7) acceptable forms of photo identification, which is not expired for more than four years, and you can reasonably obtain one of these forms of identification OR
 - (b) you possess, but did not bring to the polling place, one of the seven forms of acceptable photo identification, which is not expired for more than four years, OR
 - (c) you do not possess one of the seven forms of acceptable photo identification, which is not expired for more than four years, you could otherwise not obtain one due to a reasonable impediment, but you did not bring a supporting form of identification to the polling place.

You have the right to present one of the acceptable forms of photo identification, which is not expired for more than four years, to the county voter registrar's office within six (6) calendar days after Election Day if you cast a provisional ballot.

If you feel that your right to vote has been violated in any way, contact the Secretary of State toll free at 1-800-252-VOTE(8683), via e-mail at *elections@sos.texas.gov* or by regular mail at Elections Division, P.O.Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711.

Prepared by the League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area

DECLARACIÓN DE DERECHOS ELECTORALES EN EL ESTADO DE TEXAS

Sus Derechos de elector están protegidos.

Estos derechos están garantizados para todos los votantes calificados registrados.

- Tiene derecho a votar si usted es un votante calificado y se registró en el período especificado.
- Tiene derecho a emitir su voto en forma privada. Tiene derecho de votar sin que alguna persona trate de influir en su voto, y a hacerlo en una cabina de manera que nadie vea sus elecciones en su planilla.
- Tiene derecho a permanecer en la cabina de votación por el tiempo que sea necesario para completar su boleta.
- Tiene derecho, antes de emitir su voto, a recibir hasta dos planillas en caso de haber cometido un error en la primera.
- 5. Tiene derecho a solicitar ayuda de un funcionario de la mesa electoral o de cualquier otra persona de su elección con excepción de su empleador, de algún dirigente de su sindicato o alguno de sus representantes.
- Tiene derecho a votar si está discapacitado. La mesa electoral debe ser accesible y debe haber una cabina de votación adecuada para personas con necesidades especiales.
- Tiene derecho a votar aún si no sabe leer o escribir. Tiene derecho a traer un intérprete que pueda traducir.
- Tiene derecho a votar y deberá mostrar un documento de identidad si: a) está votando por primera vez, b) se inscribió para votar por correo y no adjuntó un documento de identidad al formulario de inscripción de elector, c) su nombre se encuentra en la lista de votantes inactivos, d) se ha disputado su voto, e) si algún funcionario de la mesa electoral lo requiere.
- Tiene derecho de votar con una planilla provisional en el caso de estar en el entendimiento de que es un elector califica do y registrado pero algún funcionario de la mesa electoral le dice lo contrario. (Vea anexo 1 para detalles).
- 10. Tiene derecho a votar una vez en un centro de votación temprana durante el período de votación temprana dentro del territorio en donde se lleva a cabo la votación.
- 11. Tiene derecho de apelar cualquier incumplimiento de sus derechos electorales utilizando el procedimiento de presentación de quejas.
- 12. Tiene derecho de votar si no se encuentra encarcelado por una condena por delito grave y la inscripción electoral se realizó despues de que su sentencia se haya cumplido por completo.
- 13. Tiene derecho de llevar consigo a la cabina de votación ésta Declaración de Derechos Electorales así como cualquier otro documento de apoyo, incluso una planilla de muestra, una guía electoral o material de campana electoral. No olvide llevarse los documentos al salir de la cabina de votación.
- 14. **Tiene derecho** de votar en cualquier casilla en el condado de Bexar* a cualquier hora entre las 7 a.m. y las 7 p.m. en los días de las elecciones Estatales y Federales. El horario de votación puede variar para Elecciones locales. Si está en la fila para votar al cierre del Puesto de Votación a las 7 p.m. tiene el derecho de votar.
- 15. **Tiene derecho** de que sus hijos lo acompañen a la cabina de votación.

Si cree que sus derechos electorales fueron violados de alguna manera, contactar a la División Electoral de la Secretaría del Estado al 1-800-462-VOTE (8683), via e-mail al *elections@sos.texas.gov* o por correo regular al Elections Division, P.O.Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711.

Ron Nirenberg

Mayor, The Ciry of San Antonio

Madhu Sridhar President, League of Women Voters of the San Amonio Area

Para los demás condados aparte de Bexar, consulte con el oficial correspondiente a su condado.

Preparado por la Liga de Votantes de Mujeres del Área de San Antonio

REQUISITOS DE IDENTIFICACIÓN DEL VOTANTE

Los documentos de identidad aceptados son:

- » Licencia para Conducir de Texas, emitida por el Departamento de Seguridad Publica de Texas (DPS).
- » Certificado o Credencial de elector de Texas emitido por DPS.
- » Credencial de Identificación personal de Texas emitido por DPS.
- » Licencia para portar armas de Texas emitido por DPS.
- » Credencial de Identificación del Ejército de los Estados Unidos con fotografía.
- » Certificado de Ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos con fotografía.
- » Pasaporte de los Estados Unidos.

Con excepción del Certificado de Ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos, los documentos de identificación personal con fotografía deben estar vigentes o haber expirado en un período no mayor a 4 anos antes de ser presentados para acreditación de votante en el puesto de votación. Para votantes de 70 años de edad o más, la fecha de expiración en los documentos es ilimitada.

Sí no tiene en su poder no puede obtener uno de éstos documentos de identificación deberá llenar una forma de declaración en el puesto de votación explicando la razón y traiga la original o una copia de uno de los siguientes documentos:

- » Certificado válido de Registro electoral
- » Acta de Nacimiento certificada o documento de nacimiento aceptable por la corte que puede ser un documento de otro país.
- » Factura de servicios Público reciente.
- » Estado de cuenta de Banco.
- » Cheque
- » Documento gubernamental con su nombre y domicilio.

PLANILLA PROVISIONAL

Tiene derecho de votar con una planilla provisional SI

Su nombre no aparece en la lista de electores registrados.

Tiene derecho a votar con una planilla provisional EN CASO DE,

- (a) no tiene en su poder alguna de las siete (7) formas de identificación personal con foto aceptadas, las cuales estén vigentes o hayan expirado en un período no mayor a cuatro años, pero puede obtenerlas, O
- (b) usted tiene pero no trajo consigo al puesto de votación una de las siete formas de identificación con foto aceptad, O
- (c) no tiene en su poder una de las siete formas de identificación con foto aceptadas, y no las puede adquirir debido a un impedimento razonable y no trajo ninguno de los documentos de soporte al puesto de votación.

Tiene derecho de presentar una de las formas de identificación personal aceptadas o identificación con foto, mismas que deben estar vigentes o haber expirado en un período no mayor a 4 años, en las oficinas de registro electoral del condado en los siguientes seis (6) días calendario después del día de Elección si usted vota una planilla provisional.

Si cree que sus derechos electorales fueron violados de alguna manera, contactar a la División Electoral de la Secretaría del Estado al 1-800-462-VOTE (8683), via e-mail al *elections@sos.texas.gov* o por correo regular al Elections Division, P.O.Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711.

Preparado por la Liga de Votantes de Mujeres del Área de San Antonio

What are your thoughts about the Justice In what areas can the City Council collaborate Charter, which will be on the May ballot and with state and county elected officials to What are the most pressing issues for San proposes to change police and several criminal provide new services, or improve the delivery **Candidate** Antonio that the City Council can address? justice policies? of existing services, to your constituents? The Justice Charter, Crime, I am against this amendment as it We need accountability for our power Overspending, Homeless surpasses the scope of the City's power. grid's improvements. Our City Council Encampments, and Equitable Resources This government overreach comes at a voted FOR a 3.85% rate hike, but then for all neighborhoods time when Council should be focused nine months later ended up with a \$75 on issues that THEY HAVE the power million surplus that they DID NOT to influence, rather than seeking to RETURN TO US. Had they planned extend power on social issues that were better, my neighbors and I would not have faced inflated rates for nine already ruled on by the State of Texas. Adopting this Justice Charter, will months all while already facing rising Erin Gallegos Reid undermine SAPD and that is the last gas and food prices. We need to have a thing we need to do. We need to work committee investigate the necessary grid WITH SAPD, and support their efforts upgrades to keep our grid ready for us, no matter the weather. to keep us safe. Crime, address the homeless, safer First of all, it bypasses Texas law. I like just about all but mainly the electric streets. get more companies to move to explain how I interpret this charter grid, crime, homeless street lighting and here to San Antônio to offer better jobs amendments. This means a can take my maintenance of the roadways and storm girlfriend downtown to get an abortion better paying jobs!. drainage system and then while waiting he can walk across the Alamo tag it and go to the gift shop and steal \$750 dollars' worth of stuff. then go outside smoke a joint and S.A.P.D cannot do anything to Larry La Rose you. If this passes crime will increase like you never seen it before and will give

No response recieved by print deadline: Jayden Muñoz. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

What are your thoughts about the Justice In what areas can the City Council collaborate Charter, which will be on the May ballot and with state and county elected officials to What are the most pressing issues for San proposes to change police and several criminal provide new services, or improve the delivery Candidate Antonio that the City Council can address? justice policies? of existing services, to your constituents? The most pressing issues for District 4 I have been advised by the CIty Leveraged partnerships and braided are creating reinvestment opportunities Attorney to not express a position on funding is the way that we can make for the Southside; ensuring there is this issue in my official capacity as a the most impactful difference for the health equity across our city specifically council member. communities we serve. We serve many in District 4; increasing public safety of the same constituencies, so blaming so that residents and businesses feel one another for shortfalls can no longer safe and secure; bolstering support for be an option if we want to truly help the seniors, veterans, and the disabled; and community thrive. This is particularly focusing on the needs of neighborhoods important for large infrastructure Dr. Adriana Rocha through a long-term approach that I am projects that encompass several Garcia jurisdictions and required coordination calling the "Decade of Neighborhoods." and collaboration.

criminals more opportunity to steal a

make new criminals.

"Too many people fought too hard to make sure all citizens of all colors, races, ethnicities, genders, and abilities can vote to think that not voting somehow sends a message."

- Luis Gutierrez, former Illinois Congressman



Gregorio De La Paz

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

Currently, the most pressing issues would be overspending, homelessness, infrastructure, and the future of our water supply, arofessional jobs and our electrical grid needs.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I do not support the Justice charter, or police have a high standard which Chief McManus himself forces strictly. It is in the police policy that we currently do not allow any type of chokeholds, that statement in that policy is very misleading. At times I believe that we need to initiate no-knock warrants, especially for violent offenders. This will give the police officers the upper hand, and helps ensure fewer casualties for the police officers.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

We can meet with state and local governments to increase our police departments. We can also meet with the school district board and faculty to figure out how to resolve issues the schools are facing. City Council needs to ensure that schools are getting what they need to educate our children. The City Council needs to collaborate with the state so that individuals who need Medicaid are receiving coverage.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

Candidate



Teri Castillo

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

The most pressing issues for San Antonio are addressing the rising cost of housing for working class families and the lack of adequate accessible infrastructure. While the 2022 Bond has addressed some of these issues, areas like District 5 continue to suffer from the effects of red-lining still to this day.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

Over 20,000 San Antonians signed on to ensure that this ballot initiative would be on the May municipal ballot. Voters have an important choice to make at the polls on various key policy issues when it comes to public safety and equity.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

District 5 families and businesses bear the greatest burden of the city-wide \$3 billion dollar unfunded drainage need which grows as floodplain maps change over time. I worked alongside the District 5 community to secure record-breaking funding for drainage in the 2022-2027 Bond. However, critical drainage projects which remove thousands of properties from the floodplain can cost several hundred million dollars or mor



Rudy Lopez

Number one issue is public safety. In district 5 we seem to be on the news at least once a week for a shooting, for a stabbing, for robberies and most recently an 81-year-old man mauled to death by to pit bulls. You see public safety is a whole wrap around issue which to me means that our citizen should not be afraid to walk down their streets and sidewalks without fearing of being attacked. This means a greater police presence, better lighting and a stronger ACS department.

I would not have a problem with the Justice Charter if it was very clear everything else that comes along with it. For example the section that raises the monetary level of a class c and a class b misdemeanor so that theft, theft of services and criminal mischief go from an arrestable offense at \$100.00 to \$750.00. and graffiti goes up to \$2500.00. This can be a disaster for so many small buisnesses. And for working families whose properties are stolen or destroyed this adds an extra burden.

First both the city and county need to team up with their Animal Care Services to bring our stray populations down. Strays effect everyone. Mental health care and job training for our homeless community members working together with our state officials. And better senior programs for our elderly population working together with our county officials.

No response recieved by print deadline: Arturo Espinosa. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.



Keep up with the latest news about voting in San Antonio. Visit lwvsa.org

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Candidate



Melissa Cabello Havrda

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

I believe that the overarching issue, and goal, for the City of San Antonio is to create conditions and opportunities for every citizen and family in our community to thrive. This is accomplished in several ways:

My continued focus is improving infrastructure, transportation, housing, public safety, equity, and the well-being of the most vulnerable.

I'm committed to the development of a new airport terminal; 135 corridor connectivity; Vision Zero approach to reduce fatalities on roadways.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I am concerned with the way the Charter Amendments limit voter options and leave unanswered questions. Voters have differing opinions regarding each item on the proposition. Voters should be given the option to voice their full opinion. Also, the items regarding theft of property and vandalism lack limits and consequences.

I have supported bans on chokeholds and no-knock warrants and my strong advocacy of women's reproductive rights, safety, and clear voting options will continue.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

There are many opportunities for collaboration with state and county officials, from big ticket development to nuts-and-bolts safety.

As chair of the Council's Transportation Committee I have been a strong and vocal supporter of the airport development. I have also been an active promoter of our city's international trade efforts.



Chris Baecker

Substantively lowering the property tax rate, equally, for everyone. Addressing some of the core causes of crime, like ordinances that get in the way of business/job creation, and therefore make crime less costly by comparison. Also, directing the police's attention away from activities that harm no one else, like possessing a home alarm without a permit, gambling, etc. Effectively addressing the aggressive dog situation.

Over-construction. Stopping special interest campaign contributions. Excusing 'minor' crimes with verbal warnings encourages more such violence and aggression against law-abiding citizens and businesses. Any amount of theft or assault deserves to be punished. The Justice Director is just another government position that should not hang around the taxpayer's neck like an albatross.

The chokehold ban was a cynical addition given that the maneuver is already banned by the state.

Improving road/traffic conditions along Culebra between Rogers and Alamo Parkway. That is a horrendous stretch to be avoided whenever possible. Outside of that, given the gargantuan size of government at all levels, we should be in reduction mode so as to free the burden on taxpayers. THEY are the ones who can most effectively/efficiently provide goods and services.

No response recieved by print deadline: Irina Rudolph. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

Candidate



Sandragrace Martinez

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

Organizing and planning within communities create opportunities for employment and boost our economy. In turn, sound planning also reduces incidences of poverty and suffering within communities. Community growth incorporates the community's goals for its society, economy, culture, and environment. All of these issues help citizens develop well-rounded and healthy lifestyles. The pressing issues are in how we manage to prioritize these needs so that everyone feels served.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I am concerned about the Constitutional aspect of it. However, I am impressed with the dedication, civic duty, and community engagement it took to garner the votes necessary. We need more leaders to take note and speak to the people's needs.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

Mental health services have been the common denominator in issues local, state, and federal governments agree on providing more of. I have over twenty years of building rapport with these policy-making entities and the communities they serve. My goal is to present innovative ideas to break the stigma of seeking mental health services as well as create special funds to help families meet their high mental health insurance deductibles when appropriate. This I shall strive for to help families.

Jacob B. Chapa

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

Crime reduction (including school safety and domestic violence), property tax and overall inflationary pressure relief, attacking the mental illness endemic, and providing high quality infrastructure.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I will be voting no. The \$750.00 or less no arrest policy is a death sentence for small business and will only further destabilize neighborhoods to the point of causing there to be no common trust between neighbors. Also excluding former police force members from being considered a justice director (administrator and training organizer of SAPD) makes no sense. Experience should be a vital component of this position. Synonymous with saying a superintendent cannot be a former teacher.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

City Council should utilize funds to equip via bus stop stations with cooling center technologies, allocate funds to steadily certify all public school counselors to become CBT certified specialist to connect on a deeper and more empirical level to students dealing with anxiety and depression. Repurpose the budget to create more sancuarturies and trauma care based professionals for domestic violence victims as well as pressuring the DA to prosecute domestic violence cases more harshly.



Dan Rossiter

The city has over 6 billion dollars of deferred maintenance costs across roads, parks, city buildings and other facilities. As an appointee to the 2022-27 Streets, Bridges, & Sidewalks bond committee, I've seen first hand the need across this city. While some projects rely on general operating and bond funds, there are many opportunities to target federal and state dollars to fix San Antonio's decaying infrastructure. I'm proud to bring a decade of experience pursuing precisely such funding.

While I appreciate the Justice Charter's efforts to address concerns with policing, I cannot support due to violation of state law and overlap with existing SAPD policy. Criminalization of abortion & enforcement of marijuana charges fall outside the city's jurisdiction. Chokeholds and no-knock warrants have already been banned by SAPD. Decriminalizing low-level nonviolent crimes is a negative impact on working class folks. I am eager to collaborate, finding equitable solutions for our community.

The state/federal governments are critical collaborators, providing access to larger funding sources for major infrastructure investment which cannot be funded through local dollars alone. The county and Leon Valley are both key local collaborators for many major district initiatives, including roads and flooding mitigation. With these partners, communication and coordination of projects is critical to ensure we're not "digging twice" and streamlining closely related projects.



Marina Alderete Gavito

It is important that City Council turn its focus back to the basic needs of the residents such as streets, sidewalks, and drainage. This kind of 'back to the basics' approach is critical to keeping our neighborhoods thriving. Public safety is also a concern that I hear from many residents. We all share a common goal to keep San Antonio as a place we can live, work, play, and raise our families.

The Justice Charter packaged as "all or nothing" may make it difficult to get a majority of voter support. Feedback I am receiving is that residents may agree with 1 or 2 of the amendments but feel uncomfortable supporting all 6. Furthermore, the City Attorney has stated that several of the proposed amendments are "not enforceable," which also puts this ballot measure on unsteady footing. Ultimately, the residents will decide the merit of these proposed policy changes in the upcoming election.

There are many opportunities for City Council to collaborate with County and State officials to secure funds for local improvements. For example, improvements on Bandera Road requires multiple levels of government collaboration. It's a State Highway that runs through Leon Valley, and is a costly project requiring several funding streams. I will lean on my experience working across multiple levels of government and departments to find a solution that will benefit those who depend on this roadway.

No response recieved by print deadline: Andrew "AJ" Luck. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.



SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8

What are your thoughts about the Justice In what areas can the City Council collaborate Charter, which will be on the May ballot and with state and county elected officials to What are the most pressing issues for San proposes to change police and several criminal provide new services, or improve the delivery **Candidate** Antonio that the City Council can address? justice policies? of existing services, to your constituents? Taxes are too high. Traffic is dangerously The Justice Charter is bad idea. It is For a number of years, I have served as congested. Our public safety is being 100% legally unenforceable because it the Chairman of the city's Government threatened by criminals who are not attempts to override state and federal Affairs committee. I lead the City's being made to face the consequences law. Anyone who attended a middleefforts to strengthen San Antonio's of their bad choices. Homelessness has school social studies class knows relationships with state and federal become a human crisis that isn't being that municipalities aren't allowed to officials. These efforts have resulted in addressed humanely or effectively. circumvent or invalidate state/federal our brining home more than \$1B of our taxes back home for priorities like Domestic violence has become an law. Aside from being unenforceable and illegal, the proposed amendment epidemic. Economic development infrastructure, public safety, homeless **Manny Pelaez** efforts need to focus on the jobs of would decriminalize theft, graffiti, and programs, mental health services, and workforce development. I will continue tomorrow while not losing sight of the destruction of private property. to do this work with the aim of creating workers of today. more opportunities for all of us. The most pressing concerns that city I am 100% against any attempts to Our energy needs are only going to council is facing. Safety, We have not grow in the City and County. CPS had under mine an already understaffed grown our cadet class to match the Police force. This charter violates Federal its time, now we must innovate and growth of our city. As it stands we need Law and State Law. grow in another direction. a police presence at minimum of 3,600 officers. There are 700 policemen that are due for retirement. They have been in service since 1992-93. Retention along with low Cadet classes. Cesario Garcia

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

Candidate	What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?	What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?	In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?
Jarrett Lipman	The most pressing issues for San Antonio include improving public safety and supporting law enforcement, repairing critical infrastructure, and providing access to affordable and reliable public utilities.	The Justice Charter would make our community more dangerous and less prosperous. It will decriminalize theft under \$750, which would increase crime and hurt businesses. It will also mean that criminals do not have to present ID when caught, and will be released with a "slap on the wrist." Per the amendment, the "Justice Director" would "not have a background in law enforcement." This is a poor choice for the person charged with managing SAPD, and would be ineffective.	We should coordinate with state and county officials to provide additional support for mental health services in San Antonio. Our city has insufficient access to mental health services. We also need to work hard to ensure that we have enough water for our city. As the city grows, water supply remains a pressing challenge. Another area would be property tax reduction, working with officials to reduce expenses and increase homestead exemptions to provide relief.
Crime, City energy, water supply, road construction to handle the growth of our city, education also along with school safety, homelessness issues, reduction in property taxes, and bring in new companies to San Antonio to create more jobs. Responding to the needs of the community. Being the voice for the concerns of the community in my district and also the city. To ensure that all concerns are treated fairly on the council board.		Totally against proposition A. I would encourage all voters to vote NO. It will definitely cause crime to increase.	More frequent contact and meetings between the city council and county officials with the state legislators. Also create more efficient resources for energy, water, education, health care, and public safety. To re-examine each one of these topics and create funding for improvement of services.

John Courage

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

Our city is facing many challenges as we continue to recover from the effects of the pandemic. The most pressing issue include:
Public Safety (Fire/Police/Public

Public Safety (Fire/Police/Public Health) and addressing crime and homelessness; maintaining and improving Infrastructure like streets, sidewalks, drainage, and housing; support for our seniors, veterans, and the disabled; and, supporting small businesses and economic development.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I believe citizens have the right to petition their government for change addressing their grievances or concerns. That's the American way. It is up to the community of voters to decide if a charter amendment is needed or not. I know that several measures in this Justice Charter proposal are already addressed by local policies that I support and state laws, so I do not see the need to pass this proposed change to the City's Charter. I will NOT be voting for it.

In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

Everything we do should be in compliance with state laws, so collaboration is vital. We need to continue to partner with the State in many areas such as Public Safety, Public Health, and transportation. One area of great need is Tax Relief. The Federal Government sends dollars to Texas to share with cities including providing funding for children, seniors, healthcare, and housing. I want to continue the good collaboration with our state government to enable the City to provide better services.

No response recieved by print deadline: Dominique Liu. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 10

Candidate



Robert Flores

What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?

High property taxes: secure a higher exemption for tax relief. Examine Bexar Appraisal District whose practices impacted the rapid rise in taxes. Also, create an alternative to the expired Chapter 313 for securing large footprint economic development.

Provide SAPD with the resources to keep a San Antonio safe; influx of high crime targets: cartels couriers of Fentanyl and sex trafficking.

Continue and enhance technology infrastructure.

What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?

I do not support the Charter amendment. The amendment is attempting to supersede State Law. In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?

Even though previous Council members have done a good job; District 10, in my opinion, has been neglected by City Planners. I call District 10 the "middle child" by been overlooked and overworked.

Infrastructure issues and need to be addressed.

A have an excellent working relationship with both county and state elected officials. I have good working relationship with office of the Governor and especially with Lt. Gov.

San Antonio has passed millions of dollars in infrastructure dollars bonds.



Margaret Sherwood

Road work, homelessness, keeping Texas clean.

Because this charter goes against Texas Law, the provision would be better

Law, the provision would be better off waiting until you could change the law on provisions in general. They just skipped a few steps before rolling this out. As for policing tactics, the last year McManus was in Ohio they rolled out a tougher enforcement in Dayton. I plan on pickong his brain a little about when he was a beat Cop.

I wanted to focus on the VIA system and upgrading services. Many new communities have been built in this sprawling city and the bus system needs to be updated with it.

"For this nation to remain true to its principles, we cannot allow any American's vote to be denied, diluted or defiled."

– President Ronald Reagan

Candidate	What are the most pressing issues for San Antonio that the City Council can address?	What are your thoughts about the Justice Charter, which will be on the May ballot and proposes to change police and several criminal justice policies?	In what areas can the City Council collaborate with state and county elected officials to provide new services, or improve the delivery of existing services, to your constituents?
Rick Otley	The major issues facing us are rapid growth with little forethought, crime, and the justice charter.	No! Most of it is unenforceable and a ploy for liberal votes.	We need better bus routes and improvement on roads in our older neighborhoods. Too much money is being spent on development and not helping the established.
Bryan R. Martin	Working-class families will be represented, not the current establishment elite. D10 is full of working class and small business owners who deserve to be represented.	I whole heartedly support the Justice charter and the injustices it seeks to remedy. Police reform, Abortion access, and sensible drug laws are all issues I support.	Whether it is working with local partners to address housing insecurities and economic opportunities, or collaborating with county officials to map out new access projects like pedestrian safe infrastructure or upgrading existing roadways, I will be your advocate. Moreover, I will work with state officials and speak up at the Texas Legislature to fight tirelessly against divisive laws aimed to harm people in our community. My focus will be improving public safety access and opportunity growth.
Marc Whyte	Crime, economic development, and keeping taxes low (including property taxes)	It's all wrong for San Antonio. We do not want to be Austin or San Francisco. Moreover, many of the proposed charter amendments are completely symbolic and contrary to state law, and thus are meaningless.	First and foremost they should collaborate to lower property taxes. The appraisal system needs a complete overhaul, starting with more transparency. Additionally, working with the Bexar County DA to stop the "cite and release" policy implemented by this DA would help minimize crime from repeat offenders. And finally, transportation. All levels of government should work together to make it easier for our residents to move around the State.
	Renewal is a must for D10 to compete for a share of 1.1 million new residents and 500,000 new jobs, and 500,000 new dwelling units expected to be added by 2040. Raise the priority for repairing our	I support a woman's right to choose, decriminalizing possession of low levels of marijuana, ending no-knock warrants and chokeholds, and a citizen's right to petition and get an initiative to the voters. If the language mirrored the	Texas ranks 44th in dollars spent per student (\$9,871 compared to \$15,120 on average for the U.S.). In 2022, Texas ranked 34th in K-12 per U.S. News and World Report. Teacher salaries lag the national average by \$7,500 annually.

Austin Freedom Act, I could support

it. But I can't support the inclusion of

theft of property or services under \$750.

Those are not victimless crimes; and in a

state where minimum wage is still \$7.25

an hour, that's 3-weeks take-home pay.

Sadly, I cannot support.

No response recieved by print deadline: Madison Gutierrez. Go to Vote411.org for any later responses.

amenities.

educated workforce.

Joel Solis

Raise the priority for repairing our failing streets and build trails using our

drainage ways and utility corridors,

Pressure the Texas Legislature on the

plight of our public schools. Lifting

their rankings is crucial in attracting

families and providing our businesses an

linking neighborhoods to nearby

As the 9th largest global economy, our

\$33B surplus this year. We should take

schools, oppose school vouchers, and

support our teachers.

schools should be ranked 1st. We have a

this opportunity to fully fund our public

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO PROPOSITION A

BALLOT WORDING

Shall the City Charter be amended to include a justice policy under which the City of San Antonio will "use its available resources and authority to accomplish three goals of paramount importance:

- First, to reduce the city's contribution to mass incarceration;
- Second, to mitigate racially discriminatory law enforcement practices; and
- Third, to save scarce public resources for greater public needs" and to "reduce unnecessary arrests and save scarce public resources through a comprehensive set of reforms", including:
 - ending enforcement of low-level marijuana possession by prohibiting police officers from issuing citations or make arrests for Class A or Class B misdemeanor possession of marijuana offenses, except in limited circumstances;
 - prohibiting the enforcement of abortion crimes to promote the reproductive health, safety, and privacy of all City residents and stating that police officers shall not investigate, make arrests, or otherwise enforce any alleged criminal abortion, except in limited circumstances;
 - banning no-knock warrants by stating that police officers shall not obtain a "no-knock" search warrant, nor shall they participate in serving a "no-knock" search warrant with other law enforcement agencies and creating additional policies concerning the issuing of warrants;
 - banning chokeholds with no exceptions; requiring police officers to issue citations instead of making arrests for lowlevel nonviolent crimes defined as Possession of Controlled Substance less than 4 oz, Penalty Group 2-A (synthetic cannabinoids), Class A or B misdemeanor under Texas Health and Safety Code §§ 481.1161(b)(1) & (2), Driving while License Invalid, Class A or B misdemeanor under Texas Transportation Code § 521.457, Theft of Property less than \$750, Class B misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code § 31.03(e)(2)(A), Theft of Service less than \$750, Class B misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code § 31.04(e) (2), Contraband in a Correctional Facility, Class B misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code § 38.114(c), Graffiti, with damage less than \$2500, Class A or B misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code § 28.08(b)(2) & (3), Criminal Mischief with damage less than \$750, Class B misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code § 28.03(b)(2), and all Class C misdemeanors, except Class C Public Intoxication, which shall be addressed in accordance with Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Section 14.031;
 - and requiring the San Antonio City Council to appoint and provide resources to a Justice Director, with no previous experience in law enforcement, who will be charged with fulfilling the justice policy by providing a justice impact

statement before any City Council vote affecting the justice policy and meeting quarterly with community stakeholders to discuss the development of policies, procedures and practices related to the justice policy in open meetings?

EXPLANATION

The amendment, which was initiated by citizens through the petition process, would add Article XV – Justice Policy to the City Charter with three goals:

- 1. reduce the City's incarceration rate;
- 2. mitigate racially discriminatory practices;
- 3. save scarce public resources.

The Justice Charter Amendment would codify the city's current cite-and-release program for nonviolent, low-level offenders; decriminalize possession of low levels of marijuana and most abortions; ban police no-knock warrants and chokeholds; and create a city Justice Director office to oversee the implementation of these changes. All police officers would receive training regarding each of the charter's provisions. If any provision is, deemed unlawful, that provision will be struck from the Charter.

IMPORTANT

Although there are multiple parts to this proposition, your vote is for or against the entire proposition.

ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST

The arguments for and against the proposition are compiled based on arguments put forward by supporters and opponents of the proposition.

APPOINTING JUSTICE DIRECTOR

For: A Justice Director, appointed and supervised by the City Council, will serve as head of the Justice Policy office, will provide the research and analysis needed to advise the City Council to effectively reduce incarcerations for low-level offenses, mitigate racial discrimination in policing, and save public resources.

Against: The Chief of Police, City Council and City Manager should oversee implementation of the proposed charter. The amendment requires that the director must not have worked in law enforcement. A Justice Director with no previous law enforcement experience should not direct police efforts. This is not a good use of taxpayer dollars.

BAN POLICE NO-KNOCK WARRANTS

For: Police forcibly entering a home without warning can lead occupants to respond as if a trespasser has entered, putting police and occupants at risk. The Police Department already has this policy in place, but this would codify it in the city charter, which would prevent changes by future police administrations.

Against: The surprise nature of no-knock warrant raids is meant to help law enforcement disrupt criminal activity without giving an alleged perpetrator time to react by using force against a police officer, evading arrest, or getting rid of evidence.

DECRIMINALIZING POSSESSION OF LOW LEVELS OF MARIJUANA

For: All races use marijuana at roughly the same rate, but a black or brown person is almost four times more likely to be arrested. Ending enforcement would allow police to focus on violent crimes with victims instead.

Against: It is an attempt to decriminalize low levels of marijuana for adults, but it is still against state and federal laws. Therefore, it cannot be implemented at the local level.

CITE AND RELEASE FOR NONVIOLENT, LOW-LEVEL OFFENDERS

For: The current system works well. According to the Bexar County Attorney's office, it has saved \$4.7 million in booking costs and has reduced the recidivism rate from 38% for those arrested to 8% for those cited. Society benefits because people with minor offenses remain productive, and their lives are not disrupted by incarceration or bail debt.

Against: Crime is rising, in part because of lax enforcement and bails set too low. The cost of crimes to the victims outweighs the saving in booking costs. Also, it will not allow police to arrest for things like shoplifting up to a certain amount, which can cost businesses heavily. The Director of Justice would have too much authority and could take steps that would be detrimental to existing police policies that already allow cite and release.

DECRIMINALIZE MOST ABORTION

For: State law allows for abortion only up to about 6 weeks or to save the life of the mother, leading to the delay of care for women with pregnancy complications. Although the charter could prevent treatment delays, it still allows for the enforcement of laws against coerced abortions or those performed under criminally negligent conditions. Physicians who violate the abortion ban can face life in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

Against: The section of the Justice Charter would be unenforceable as it violates state law. In addition, the restriction on the city's ability to provide information to another government agency may hinder or delay public health investigations into clusters of miscarriages or reports of facilities or individuals performing medically unsafe obstetric procedures.

BANNING CHOKEHOLDS

For: A poll by the University of Houston's Hobby School of Public Affairs says that 67% would ban police use of chokeholds. While police policy already bans chokeholds, putting the ban into the city code would keep future police leaders from changing the policy unilaterally. Banning chokeholds is a logical step to reducing the number of deaths from them and improving racial justice.

Against: Current police policy already bans chokeholds except in life-threatening situations. Putting the ban into the city code would remove the exception and put police in a difficult situation. Police should have options as a last resort.



- Compare the candidates
 Print your list
- Mark your choices
- Take it to the polls

FIND OUT WHERE TO VOTE/EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

You can vote at any Bexar County polling location, both during Early Voting, April 24-May 2, and on Election Day, May 6.

Signs will be posted at each polling site listing the four other nearest sites, so if the one you selected is too crowded, you can easily choose another one nearby.

Election Day voting sites will be posted on the Bexar County Elections website, *Bexar.org/elections*, after Early Voting is completed, and in the San Antonio Express-News the day before the election.

EARLY VOTING CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 23 Closed	April 24 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	April 25 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	April 26 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	April 27 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	April 28 Closed	April 29 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
April 30 Closed	May 1 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	May 2 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	May 3 Closed	May 4 Closed	May 5 Closed	May 6 Election Day 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

Subject to change.

, 0	
Bexar County Elections Department (Deaflink Available)	1103 S. Frio
Bexar County Justice Center	300 Dolorosa
Alamo Heights ISD Admin Building	7101 Broadway St.
Brookhollow Branch Library	530 Heimer Road
Castle Hills City Hall (Community Room)	209 Lemonwood Drive
Claude Black Center	2805 East Commerce
Cody Branch Library	11441 Vance Jackson
Converse City Hall (old)	407 S. Seguin Road
Copernicus Community Center	5003 Lord Road
Cortez Branch Library	2803 Hunter Blvd.
East Central ISD (Boardroom)	6634 New Sulphur Springs Road
Encino Branch Library	2515 East Evans Road
Great Northwest Branch Library	9050 Wellwood
Guerra Branch Library	7978 W Military Drive
Helotes City Hall	12951 Bandera Road
John Igo Branch Library	13330 Kyle Seale Parkway
Johnston Branch Library	6307 Sun Valley Drive
77: 1 0: 77:11	
Kirby City Hall	112 Bauman
Ladera Elementary School	112 Bauman 750 W. Grosenbacher Road
Ladera Elementary School	750 W. Grosenbacher Road
Ladera Elementary School Las Palmas Branch Library	750 W. Grosenbacher Road 515 Castroville Road
Ladera Elementary School Las Palmas Branch Library Leon Valley Conference Center	750 W. Grosenbacher Road 515 Castroville Road 6421 Evers Road
Ladera Elementary School Las Palmas Branch Library Leon Valley Conference Center Lion's Field	750 W. Grosenbacher Road 515 Castroville Road 6421 Evers Road 2809 Broadway

McCreless Branch Library	1023 Ada St.
Memorial Branch Library	3222 Culebra Road
Mission Branch Library	3134 Roosevelt Ave.
Northside Activity Center	7001 Culebra Road
Northwest Vista College (Mountain Laurel Hall, Room 103)	3535 N. Ellison Drive
Palo Alto College (Ozuna Library & Learning Center, Room 117)	1400 W. Villaret Blvd.
Parman Branch Library at Stone Oak	20735 Wilderness Oak
Precinct 1 Satellite Office	3505 Pleasanton Road
Precinct 3 Satellite Office	320 Interpark Blvd.
San Antonio College (Victory Center)	1819 N. Main Ave.
Schaefer Branch Library	6322 US Hwy 87 E
Semmes Branch Library at Comanche Lookout Park	5060 Judson Road
Shavano Park City Hall (Lobby)	900 Saddletree Court
Somerset City Hall	7360 E. 6th, Somerset
Southside ISD Admin Building	1460 Martinez-Losoya Road
Tobin Branch Library at Oakwell	4134 Harry Wurzbach
Universal City Branch Library	100 Northview Drive
University of Texas at San Antonio (Main Campus - Bexar Room)	1 UTSA Blvd.
Windcrest Takas Park Civic Center	9310 Jim Seal Drive
Wonderland Mall Of The Americas at Crossroads (Lower Level, A-17)	4522 Fredericksburg

"If American women would increase their voting turnout by 10 percent, I think we would see an end to all of the budget cuts in programs benefiting women and children."

– Coretta Scott King