

G Health

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Health

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; City Attorney's Office; Finance Department; Office of Management and Budget; Project; File

SUBJECT: REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS FOR FY 2004

DATE: September 18, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance will establish a records preservation fee in the amount of \$1.00 for each birth or death certificate sold; establish a \$20.00 fee for each three-year rabies vaccination provided to a dog or a cat; increase the annual bovine or equine livestock permit fee from \$125.00 to \$150.00 per location and the annual fee for keeping other livestock from \$40.00 to \$50.00 per location; increase the annual horse drawn carriage initial permit fee and renewal fee from \$35.00 to \$45.00 per horse; increase the fee for a dental appointment from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per visit; convert the fee for water testing from one tier of \$15.00 per test to three tiers with rates as follows: \$15.00 per test for entities purchasing less than 25 tests at one time, \$12.50 per test for entities purchasing 25 to 50 tests at one time, and \$10.00 per test for entities purchasing greater than 50 tests at one time; increase the cross connection survey fee from \$75.00 to \$95.00 per survey; increase the asbestos demolition inspection fee from \$75.00 to \$95.00 per inspection; increase the mobile living park license fee from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per space per year; increase the air pollution inspection fee from \$350.00 to \$400.00 per source; and amend Chapters 2, 5, 15, 18, 26 and 33 of the City Code to reflect these additions and changes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

For FY 2004, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) is proposing two (2) new fees for services and seven (7) changes to existing fees. A brief explanation of each revenue item is provided below:

	Current	Proposed
Vital Statistics Records Preservation Fee (new fee)	NA	\$1.00

SAMHD's Vital Statistics Division serves as the official repository for information on all births and deaths occurring in the county. Copies of these "vital records" (birth and death certificates) are sold to qualified applicants. Fees for these certificates are regulated by the State. Effective September 1, 2003, Senate Bill 1744 from the 78th Texas Legislature permits local registrars to charge an additional \$1.00 records preservation fee on each birth or death record issued. This ordinance will implement this fee locally and place the additional revenues into a Records Preservation Fund as directed by the new state law. Funding for three existing positions related to records preservation will be redirected to the fund. The fee will generate an additional \$139,300.00 in new revenue. Changes to fees for birth and death certificates are as follows:

	Current	Proposed
Birth Certificates		
Born in San Antonio/Bexar County	\$11.00	\$12.00
Born anywhere in Texas after 1925 (includes \$1.83 State surcharge)	\$12.83	\$13.83
Death Certificates		
First Copy	\$9.00	\$10.00
Additional copies of same certificate	\$3.00	\$4.00

	Current	Proposed
Rabies Three-Year Vaccination Fee (new fee)	NA	\$20.00

The Animal Care Services Facility provides rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats. Currently, a vaccine is used that is effective for only one year. However, a new vaccine is available that will protect the animal for three years. The one-year vaccination is provided for \$10.00. This ordinance will establish a new fee for the three-year rabies vaccination. The proposed fee of \$20.00 per vaccination will generate an additional \$25,000.00 in FY 2004.

	Current	Proposed
Livestock Permit Fee		
Bovine/Equine Livestock Fee - per year per premises	\$125.00	\$150.00
Other Livestock Fee - per year per premises	\$40.00	\$50.00
Horse/Horse Drawn Carriage Fee - per year per horse	\$35.00	\$45.00

The Environmental Health Division issues permits for livestock within the City limits to individuals and commercial establishments. The current rate structure is \$125.00 per year for each location where bovine or equine livestock are kept, \$40.00 per year for locations with other livestock, and \$35.00 per year for each horse/horse drawn carriage. The proposed rate structure is \$150.00 per year per premises for bovine or equine livestock, \$50.00 per year per premises for all other livestock, and \$45.00 per year for each horse/horse drawn carriage, which would generate \$1,366.00 in additional revenue.

	Current	Proposed
Dental Appointment Fee – per appointment	\$6.00	\$10.00

The Dental Health Division provides sliding fee dental health treatment, education and counseling for indigent children, adolescents and adults. Dental care is given to expectant mothers referred from District prenatal clinics. The current dental appointment fee of \$6.00 per appointment would increase to \$10.00 per visit, resulting in \$14,146.00 in additional revenue.

	Current	Proposed
Water Test Fee – Convert to a Three-Tier Structure	\$15.00	
Samples per Month: Less than 25 tests – per test fee		\$15.00
Samples per Month: 25 to 50 tests – per test fee		\$12.50
Samples per Month: Greater than 50 tests – per test fee		\$10.00

The Health District operates a regional public health laboratory that supports the clinical and environmental services of the Health District and surrounding counties. A Bottom Line Strengthening (BLS) group proposed that the Public Health Laboratory Division provide volume discounting on its laboratory services for water purveyor customers such as Bexar Metropolitan Water District and various cities in the region. Laboratory testing revenue declined when the water test fee was increased from \$10.00 to \$15.00 during the 1990's. The Health District has compared its rate of \$15.00 per test to other local and statewide providers and found the City's rate to exceed the average. A discounted rate based on volume would attract larger purveyors having a greater number of samples to submit.

The Proposed Budget recommends a new tier-based pricing schedule, based on volume, that would decrease the price per test for larger volume requests. The proposed pricing follows:

Samples	Cost
Less than 25	\$15.00 / test
25 to 50	\$12.50 / test
Greater than 50	\$10.00 / test

This three-tier pricing structure incentive would generate \$37,800.00 in additional revenue.

	Current	Proposed
Cross Connection Survey Fee – per survey	\$75.00	\$95.00

The Environmental Health Division monitors and ensures a healthy environment for the residents and visitors of Bexar County. At the request of a facility a Cross Connection Survey is performed to inspect and certify water potability. The inspection ensures that there are no interconnections in the potable water distribution and the waste/processed water distribution systems. The current fee of \$75.00 per survey is proposed to increase to \$95.00 per survey. The increase would generate \$540.00

	Current	Proposed
Demolition Inspection Fee – per inspection	\$75.00	\$95.00

A Demolition Inspection performed by the Environmental Health Division provides an inspection of commercial demolition projects to ensure that the demolition waste including asbestos is taken to a permitted landfill and not disposed of illegally. The current rate of \$75.00 per inspection is proposed to increase to \$95.00 per inspection. This increase will help defray a part of the expense necessary to provide these inspections. This increase would generate an additional \$35,500.00 in revenue.

	Current	Proposed
Mobile Living Park License Fee – per space per year	\$25.00	\$30.00

The Environmental Health Division inspects mobile living parks for public health conditions that may lead to injury or illness. The Mobile Living Park License Fee provides for the surveillance and supervision of these parks. The current fee of \$25.00 per space per year is proposed to increase to \$30.00 per space per year. This increase would generate an additional \$1,600.00 in revenue.

	Current	Proposed
Air Pollution Inspection Fee – per source	\$350.00	\$400.00

The Environmental Health Division monitors air quality in the community. The Air Pollution Inspection Fee provides for inspection, surveillance and monitoring of air pollution sources such as paint spray operations and cement storage facilities. The current fee of \$350.00 per source is proposed to increase to \$400.00 per source, generating an additional \$5,700.00

These increases are necessary to offset the increased costs to provide the services and to inspect the facilities or operations regulated.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The fee changes proposed in this ordinance follow the past City policy of adjusting license, permit and service fees to offset increased costs of providing the associated City services.

FISCAL IMPACT

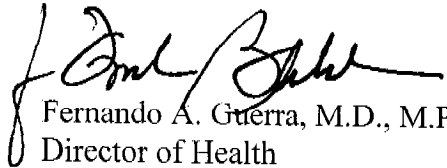
The total estimated annual increase in City revenues due to this adjustment is \$260,952.00.

COORDINATION

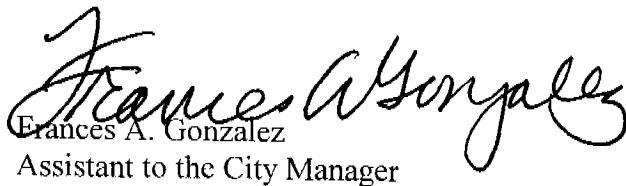
The Office of Management and Budget and the Finance Department have reviewed the fee changes contained in this ordinance.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.



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Director of Health



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APPROVED:



Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager