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AGENDA ITEM NO. **35**

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Albert A. Ortiz, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance proposing the creation of a Crime Control and Prevention District

**DATE:** March 10, 2005

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes the City Council to propose the creation of a City of San Antonio Crime Control and Prevention District, as requested by Councilman Ron H. Segovia, District 3.

Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The City of San Antonio is one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Like most other major cities, it is economically and socially harmed by gang activity, drugs, domestic violence, homelessness, and their associated effects. Crime and the fear of crime continue to detract from the quality of life in our community. The increase in the population segment (17 to 23 year olds) that is most prone to commit crimes and the release of felons from prison due to overcrowding will be significant factors in the projected increase in crime related problems in the very near future. Due to challenging budget cycles over the last two years, achievement of the stated goals in the SAPD's 2002 – 2006 Rolling Staffing Plan has been difficult. The proposed Crime Control and Prevention District ("District") will be used to combat the projected increase in crime by enhancing the crime fighting tools of the San Antonio Police Department and the San Antonio Park Police. District Funds will be available for crime control and crime prevention programs, including the cost of personnel, administration, expansion, enhancement and capital expenditures related to police and law enforcement programs, community-related crime prevention strategies, treatment and prevention programs, and court and prosecution services.

These efforts by the Crime Control and Prevention District will not only address overall crime rates in San Antonio, but will enhance the actual and perceived feelings of safety in neighborhoods, commercial areas, parks and public facilities.

The Texas Legislature, through Chapter 363 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Crime Control and Prevention District Act ("Act") has created an opportunity to form special districts dedicated solely to crime reduction programs. This Act authorizes municipalities that are partially or wholly located in a county with a population of more than 5,000 to create crime control and prevention districts subject to approval by a majority of the voters at an election. The voters must approve the creation of a district as well as the imposition of a sales tax to finance the district. The first step in creating a Crime Control and Prevention District, is the adoption of

an ordinance by City Council proposing the District and establishing its boundaries. The City Council may propose that the District be comprised of all or part of the City.

Not later than the 60th day after the date that the City Council proposes the creation of the District, City Council shall appoint seven persons that reside in the proposed District to serve as temporary directors of the District. Not later than the 75th day after the date the District is proposed, the temporary board shall organize. The directors of the temporary board shall elect one of the directors as presiding officer of the board not later than the 15th day after the date of appointments.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

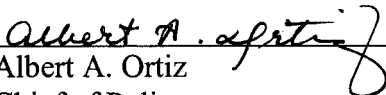
The proposed ordinance is consistent with City Council policy of preventing crime and seeking innovative methods of generating increased revenues to offset the costs of City operations.

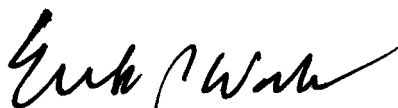
### **FISCAL IMPACT**


There are no new costs created by this proposed ordinance. All costs associated with the creation of the Crime Control and Prevention District are reimbursable to the City if the District is created upon approval by a majority of the voters at an election.

### **COORDINATION**

This ordinance request has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

  
Albert A. Ortiz  
Chief of Police

  
Christopher J. Brady  
Assistant City Manager

  
J. Rolando Bono  
Interim City Manager

ATTACHMENT ITEM 35

City of San Antonio  
Office of the City Council  
Interdepartmental Correspondence Sheet

RECEIVED  
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
CITY CLERK

2005 FEB 24 P 4: 58

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Councilman Ron H. Segovia, District 3

COPIES TO: J. Rolando Bono, Interim City Manager; Melissa Byrne Vossmer, Assistant City Manager; Andrew Martin, City Attorney; Leticia Vacek; City Clerk; Gayle McDaniel, Assistant to City Council; File

SUBJECT: Creation of a *Temporary* Seven Member Crime Control and Prevention District Board of Directors

DATE: February 24, 2005

I respectfully request your concurrence with the creation of a CoSA Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) temporary board of directors on an upcoming City Council Agenda, authorizing the temporary CCPD board of directors to:

1. Formulate a crime control plan congruent with the feedback provided by CoSA citizens in required public hearings.
2. Formulate a budget plan congruent with feedback provided by CoSA citizens in required public hearings.
3. Organize and provide notice for all necessary public hearings associated with crime control and budget plans.
4. Determine the proposed tax rate
5. Call the referendum election and give all election notices.
6. Issue the orders declaring the district created if a majority of the voters approve the creation of the CCPD district.

(no earlier than November 2005)

The City of San Antonio has been economically and socially harmed by crime, gang activity, drugs and their associated effects. Crime and the fear of crime have detracted from the quality of life in the City of San Antonio. Future crime problems are projected to increase in the coming years. The San Antonio Police Department reported an 11.8 percent overall increase in the 2001 crime rate compared to 2000. In this figure, crimes against persons (i.e. murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) were up by 20.7 percent, and property crimes (i.e. burglary, theft and auto theft) were up by 10.9 percent. Furthermore, comparing the first five months of 2002 to 2001, this upward trend continues to climb with crime against persons up by 4.4 percent and property crimes up 0.1 percent. This overall upward trend in crime has continued to increase into Fiscal year 2004, and the San Antonio Police Department projects that these crime rates will continue to rise even further over the next several years.

The proposed Crime Control and Prevention District will combat the increase in crime by enhancing the crime fighting tools of the San Antonio Police Department, the San Antonio Park Police and all related community policing programs through the acquisition of personnel, equipment and technology. These efforts by the Crime Control and Prevention District will not only address the increasing overall crime rates in San Antonio, but the CCPD District's efforts will also improve the actual and perceived feelings of safety for all of the citizens in all the areas of San Antonio, including but not limited to neighborhoods, commercial areas, parks and public facilities.

The Texas Legislature, through Chapter 363 of the Texas Local Government Code, has created an opportunity to form special districts dedicated solely to crime reduction programs. This Act authorizes municipalities in counties with a population of more than 5,000 to create crime control and prevention districts subject to approval of voters at a creation election. The first step in the creation of the proposed District under § 363.052 is for the CoSA City Council to create a temporary board of directors. Not later than the 60<sup>th</sup> day after the date that the CoSA City Council proposes the creation of the district, City Council shall appoint seven persons that reside in the proposed district to serve as temporary directors of the district. Not later than the 75<sup>th</sup> day after the date the district is proposed, the temporary board shall organize. The directors of the temporary board shall elect one of the directors as presiding officer of the board not later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the date of appointments.

This tool provided by the Texas Local Government Code 363 will allow the City of San Antonio to proactively combat and prevent crime in our City. I ask for your concurrence to help create a safer community and City as a whole. Your support in this matter is appreciated.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RON H. SEGOVIA, DISTRICT 3

  
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EDWARD D. GARZA, MAYOR

  
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ENRIQUE BARRERA, DISTRICT 6

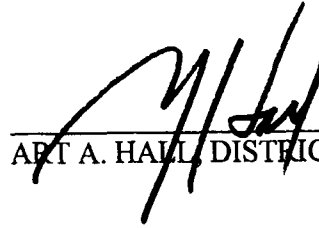
  
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ROGER O. FLORES, DISTRICT 1

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JULIAN CASTRO, DISTRICT 7



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JOEL WILLIAMS, DISTRICT 2



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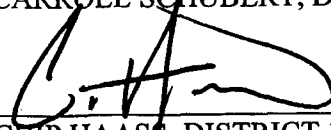
ART A. HALL, DISTRICT 8

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RICHARD PEREZ, DISTRICT 4

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CARROLL SCHUBERT, DISTRICT 9



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PATTI RADLE, DISTRICT 5

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CHIP HAASS, DISTRICT 10