

Agenda item #29

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager
FROM: Ramiro Cavazos, Director
SUBJECT: Approval to Rename the "Auditorium Circle Historic District"
DATE: June 15, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the renaming of the "Auditorium Circle Historic District" surrounding the San Antonio Municipal Auditorium to "Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District."

Staff recommends the approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Councilman Roger Flores, District 1, initiated a Council Consideration Request (CCR) on April 10, 2006 seeking support to rename the area surrounding Municipal Auditorium in honor of San Antonio veterans. There are currently three military veterans' memorials already located within the "Auditorium Circle Historic District" (see attached map). These memorials include Municipal Auditorium which is dedicated to American soldiers killed in WWI, and two sculptures – one dedicated to Vietnam War veterans and one dedicated to Korean War veterans.

Several organizations have requested the placement of memorials in the downtown area to honor military veterans. Staff, therefore, concurs with the District 1 proposal to create a single central area downtown for veterans' memorials that would also serve as a tourist attraction for those visiting San Antonio. Given the existing concentration of veterans' memorials in the "Auditorium Circle Historic District", it seems appropriate to rename this area as "Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District". Staff would also consider this area for the future placement of any new veterans' memorials, if appropriate. One such project is the Mayor's task to the Veterans Affairs Commission to provide recommendations for creating a memorial to San Antonio Medal of Honor recipients.

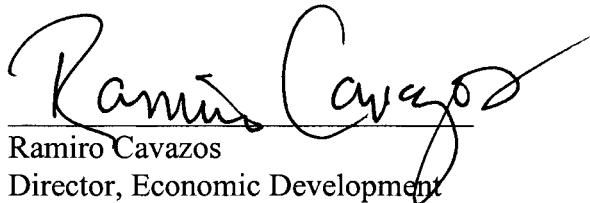
POLICY ANALYSIS

The renaming of the "Auditorium Circle Historic District" to "Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District" pays great honor to the thousands of military veterans from our community, living and deceased, and will remind our citizens and visitors of why San Antonio is called "Military City USA." This action does not affect or eliminate any of the existing zoning, building and design requirements/restrictions for this historic district.

The City Council Governance Committee met on May 3 and referred the item to the Military Affairs Committee (MAC). The MAC recommended approval of the renaming action on May 10. In addition, the Veterans Affairs Commission passed a resolution on May 15 supporting the renaming. Staff has also coordinated this action with the Historical Design Review Commission, and the Commission will consider a Resolution at their next meeting on June 7.

FISCAL IMPACT

Public Works is currently soliciting proposals to develop a Citywide "Public Arts Master Plan." There is also a need to develop a specific site plan for future development of the "Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District" area. Staff intends to request funding of approximately \$200,000 in the FY 2007 Budget to develop a master plan for the future development of this area.

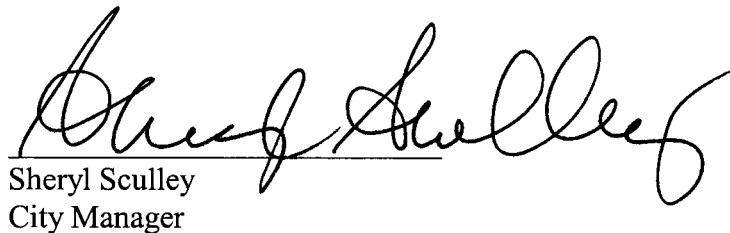


Ramiro Cavazos
Director, Economic Development



Jelynn LeBlanc Burley
Deputy City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:



Sheryl Sculley
City Manager

Attachment

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

RECEIVED
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
CITY CLERK

TO: Mayor and Council Members

2006 APR 12 P 4: 45

FROM: Councilman Roger O. Flores, District 1

COPIES: Sheryl Sculley, *City Manager*; Jelynn Burley, *Deputy City Manager*; Erik Walsh, *Assistant City Manager*; Emil Moncivais, *Planning Department Director*; Ramiro Cavazos, *Economic Development Director*; Michael Bernard, *City Attorney*; Leticia M. Vacek, *City Clerk*; Gayle McDaniel, *Assistant to City Council*; File

SUBJECT: Designating an area known as "Veterans of Foreign Wars Plaza" and the Renaming of Municipal Auditorium to "Veterans Plaza Auditorium"

DATE: April 10, 2006

During my tenure as Councilman for District 1, I have received many requests from different organizations and individuals to place memorials in the downtown area. More specifically, military organizations and representatives have requested memorials be placed in various areas throughout downtown. Presently, the Vietnam Memorial and the Korean War Memorial are located across from Municipal Auditorium. In addition, sometime ago Municipal Auditorium was dedicated to the soldiers of World War I.

In order to pay homage to those who have served our Country and to have one central area designated for veterans' memorials, I respectfully request your concurrence in directing Staff to bring forward for City Council consideration, an item to designate an area surrounding Municipal Auditorium as "Veterans of Foreign Wars Plaza."

In addition, I ask your concurrence to direct the City Manager to bring forward an ordinance and public hearing for Council consideration to rename Municipal Auditorium to "Veterans Plaza Auditorium." Furthermore, I respectfully request Council concurrence to provide for an exemption to Chapter 2, Article VI, Division 1 and 2, Section 2-215 through 2-225, for the purposes of naming this facility and to provide a public hearing and ordinance consideration be posted on the same Council Agenda.

Your favorable consideration is requested.



ROGER O. FLORES
DISTRICT 1

Designation of "Veterans of Foreign War Plaza" and
Renaming of Municipal Auditorium to "Veterans Plaza Auditorium"


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