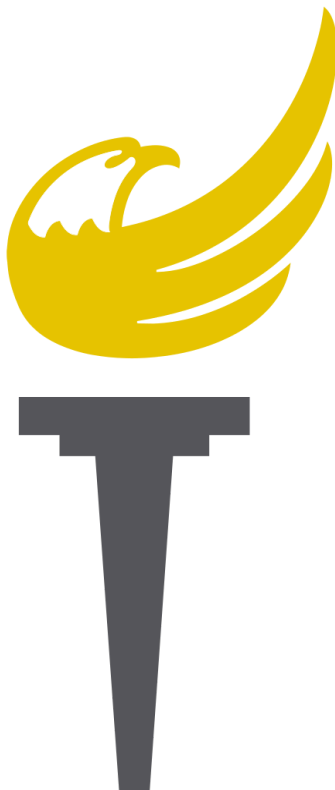




# 2025 CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CANDIDATE SURVEY



Libertarian Party of Bexar County

[www.LPBexar.org](http://www.LPBexar.org)



LPBexar

## 2025 CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CANDIDATE SURVEY

Dear Voters,

At the Libertarian Party of Bexar County, we are proud to continue our commitment to promoting civic engagement. Too many politicians have forgotten the importance of truly listening to their constituents, even when they don't always agree.

As voters, we have a duty to understand who will represent us in office. This is why we've created this Candidate Survey – to offer you a platform to hear directly from the 2025 Mayoral and City Council candidates about their positions on key issues impacting our city. Transparency and accountability are essential to a well-functioning government, and our goal is to give every voter the tools to make informed decisions.

Unfortunately, we are once again disheartened to report that, despite our efforts, only a fraction of candidates have stepped forward to provide their views. Only **17** candidates participated, and **zero** incumbents have responded to this important opportunity. This underscores a troubling trend: far too many elected officials seem more concerned with maintaining power and name recognition than engaging with their constituents.

This pattern suggests a larger issue here in San Antonio: an entrenched political class that is out of touch with the people they are meant to represent. For some, participating in this survey may be seen as a risk — one that could jeopardize their re-election if their views don't match the majority. As Libertarians, we value honesty, transparency, and the willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue, no matter how uncomfortable it may be for the political establishment.

While we may not always agree with every candidate's ideological position, we believe in finding common ground where we can. The Libertarian Party is committed to working with candidates from all political backgrounds on issues where we share common values. We may differ in many ways, but that doesn't mean we can't work together to build a stronger, more transparent, and more accountable San Antonio.

Thank you for taking the time to educate yourself about the candidates who will be shaping the future of our city. Your vote is your voice, and we encourage you to make it heard in the upcoming elections.

Sincerely,  
J.R. Haseloff

Chair, Libertarian Party of Bexar County

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## **THE CANDIDATE SURVEY**

We chose to present all the survey questions up front, along with a brief summary of each candidate's response, rather than repeating the full set of questions under each candidate's section.

This approach offers two key benefits:

First, it gives readers a quick overview of the issues addressed in the survey, helping them identify which topics matter most to them and decide whether to explore a candidate's responses in more detail.

Second, the abbreviated summaries provide a snapshot of each candidate's position, allowing for easy comparison without the need to scroll through repeated, lengthy questions—especially useful for voters with limited time.

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- In your opinion, what are the top three issues currently affecting San Antonio, and if elected, how would you address these?
- What is your opinion on gun buyback programs? Do you believe taxpayer funds should be used for city-hosted gun buybacks? Would you support or oppose such initiatives in San Antonio? Please explain your position.
- With the recent rise in popularity of the federal Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), there's a growing push to eliminate wasteful spending. If elected, which City of San Antonio programs, if any, would you terminate and why?

### **SECTION 2: PUBLIC SAFETY**

- What are your thoughts on the City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts? What do you believe the City's stance on immigration enforcement should be?
- Policing in America is a common topic of discussion in U.S. politics today, with much of the discussion focused around local policies. What is your view on the state of policing in America, and what would you seek to accomplish in San Antonio if elected?
- Do you support the San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers?
- What are your thoughts on the use of unmarked or deceptively-marked police vehicles (or so called ghost cars) for routine traffic enforcement in San Antonio? Do you believe they enhance public safety, or do they undermine transparency and accountability in policing?
- In the past few years, Texas cities like Austin, Denton, and San Marcos have overwhelmingly voted to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana. With shifting public opinion and potential changes at the state and federal levels in 2024, would you support an ordinance to decriminalize possession of marijuana in San Antonio?
- Do you support repealing ordinances that create penalties for crimes with no clear victim (i.e., vagrancy, possession of a controlled substance, sodomy, etc.)?

### **SECTION 3: LOCAL ECONOMY**

- A November 2023 study by the Texas Public Policy Foundation ("Just the Facts: Debt") reports that the City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt. Do you believe this level of debt is sustainable, and what solutions would you propose to address it?

- The City of San Antonio is considering Project Marvel, a large-scale initiative that includes expanding the Gonzalez Convention Center, building a new hotel, renovating the Alamodome, constructing a new Spurs stadium downtown, and potentially adding a new AA minor league baseball stadium—despite existing infrastructure for these venues. Do you support this project and its use of taxpayer funds?
- Eminent Domain has been abused by governments, and their agents, through the seizing of property without just compensation, for reasons other than “public good,” and to shift power further in the favor of the powerful. What would you do, if elected, to improve CoSA policy around the use of eminent domain?
- San Antonio's sales tax rate is 8.25%, with the city collecting 1.50%—a portion of which funds programs like Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transit, and others. Would you support eliminating or reforming these programs to reduce the overall sales tax rate for San Antonio residents? Why or why not?
- In Fiscal Year 2025, SA's property tax rate is 54.159 cents per \$100 of taxable value, unchanged from the previous year. Notably, the market value of single-family homes in Bexar County experienced a modest increase of 2.4% in 2024, a significant slowdown compared to the sharp 23% rise observed in 2022.
- Given these developments, do you support initiatives aimed at reducing the property tax rate for all property owners in San Antonio?
- Do you support repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs (i.e., occupational licensing, permits, etc.)?
- The COVID-19 pandemic was a challenging time for state and municipal governments across America.
- In times of public health crises or other emergencies, what role should the City of San Antonio play in responding? Do you believe the city should have the authority to impose business closures, lockdowns, or other emergency measures? What, if anything, would you change about how emergency powers are used in future crises?
- Inflation in recent years has significantly impacted San Antonio residents. Do you believe the City of San Antonio should also tighten its belt in response? If so, what specific budgetary or policy changes would you propose to ease the financial burden on taxpayers?

## **SECTION 4: CITY SERVICES**

- The Ready to Work program, funded by a 0.125% sales tax increase, continues to fall short of its targets. Do you believe this program is delivering sufficient value to taxpayers, or would you support scaling it back or eliminating the tax increase that funds it? Would you support add'l sales tax funding to support?
- Do you believe CPS Energy is best managed by the City of San Antonio, or would a private energy provider offer better service and accountability? Given recent rate hikes, should CPS Energy reduce profits instead of passing costs onto residents? Additionally, what are your thoughts on the planned shutdown of the Spruce 1 coal plant and conversion of Spruce 2 coal plant—should CPS prioritize affordability and reliability, or shift more aggressively toward alternative energy sources?
- VIA Metropolitan Transit is funded by a 0.500% sales tax increase. Do you believe taxpayers are receiving a good return on investment with VIA's services? What changes, if any, would you make to improve VIA's efficiency and accountability? Should the special taxing district remain in place, and do you believe VIA's unelected board should be restructured or made more accountable to the public?
- San Antonio is experiencing a significant construction boom, with numerous projects happening simultaneously across the city and citizens are experiencing the challenges they bring, such as traffic congestion and disruptions to daily life.
- In your role, what steps would you take to ensure that stalled or ongoing projects provide real value to the community? How can the city better manage growth and infrastructure improvements to balance progress with residents' quality of life?



## HIGHEST OVERALL SCORE

### *Chris Baecker (District 6)*

Chris Baecker, a longtime District 6 resident, educator, and policy director, earned the **Highest Overall Score** in the 2025 Libertarian Party of Bexar County candidate survey. His comprehensive platform champions personal freedom, fiscal restraint, and a principled approach to local governance that stood out across all categories.

A former oil & gas professional turned economics and algebra teacher, Chris brings a unique blend of private sector insight and public service perspective. He's also the editor and policy director for **InfuseSA**, a local nonprofit that advances personal and economic liberty in Bexar County.



"No one will more aggressively look out for and defend [your] pocketbook, [your] ability to live freely, to raise and support [your] family as [you] see fit... and to prosper and flourish."

Chris's top priorities include respecting small business owners, protecting taxpayers, and refocusing the city on its **core responsibilities**. He strongly opposes corporate welfare and government overreach, pledging to "**stop corporate welfare, expose cronyism, and actually cut red tape.**" He is also unwavering in his opposition to property tax increases, stating:

"We have to stop RAISING property taxes. Then, propose knocking that \$.54 down by a nickel, for STARTERS."

On public safety and policing, Chris supports hiring more officers and opposes the use of ghost cars for traffic enforcement:

"If the goal is public safety, they should be clearly marked... Anything short of clearly marked police autos serve more as revenue generators."

He is equally firm on defending civil liberties, opposing COVID-style lockdowns and gun buybacks as violations of personal autonomy:

"Lockdowns are immoral and strip citizens of their autonomy. Those powers should never again be available for public officials' execution."

“Gun buybacks are feel-good, political theater... There are few better examples of dual deprivation of human rights.”

From government debt and wasteful spending to education programs and transit reform, Baecker’s responses were consistently sharp, detailed, and grounded in principles of liberty, accountability, and individual empowerment. He’s skeptical of programs like Ready to Work and VIA, and openly advocates for shifting taxpayer relief toward property tax reduction.

“RtW should be gone. No entity should be fully subsidized by SA taxpayers... VIA appears to be ripe for substantive reform.”

For his unwavering commitment to economic freedom, personal liberty, and principled, transparent governance, **Chris Baecker earns the 2025 award for Highest Overall Score.**

## BEST ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

### *Gregorio De La Paz (District 4)*



Gregorio De La Paz earns the **Best on General Principles** award for his clear, consistent dedication to **limited government, individual liberty, and fiscal restraint**. A veteran with over three decades in construction management, De La Paz brings **real-world pragmatism** to city politics—grounded in values that emphasize **freedom, responsibility, and transparency**.

His approach? Cut waste, shrink overreach, and focus government on doing **less, better**.

Gregorio De La Paz earns the **Best on General Principles** award for his strong emphasis on individual responsibility, fiscal restraint, and limited government. A Marine Corps veteran and experienced construction manager, De La Paz advocates for getting San Antonio “back to the basics” of core infrastructure and public safety.

His opposition to gun buyback programs and support for reducing wasteful spending on ineffective initiatives reflect a commitment to protecting individual rights and holding the government accountable. De La Paz also supports lowering property taxes and ensuring that taxpayer funds are used efficiently, aligning with the principle that the government should be a careful steward, not an overreaching manager.

By championing responsible energy management, transparency in public transit, and a focus on infrastructure that supports growth without expanding bureaucracy, Gregorio De La Paz demonstrates a

consistent respect for the freedoms and responsibilities of San Antonians. His principled, no-nonsense platform embodies the foundational values of limited and accountable government.

**“I do not support Project Marvel as currently proposed.”**

When it comes to major developments like **Project Marvel**, De La Paz pushes back against **lavish spending and expansion**, particularly when taxpayer dollars are at stake. Instead of new buildings, he calls for **optimizing existing infrastructure**:

“We can use the Alamodome and other current venues for larger events... Let’s fix and modernize what we already have.”

De La Paz is deeply skeptical of programs funded by sales tax—including **Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA**, and **VIA Metropolitan Transit**. He’s not opposed to public services—but he demands proof they’re **actually working**.

He believes infrastructure should **enhance quality of life**, not disrupt it—and that leadership must be **engaged, proactive, and accountable**.

Gregorio De La Paz doesn’t just talk principles—he applies them. From **tax relief** and **limited government** to **individual choice** and **public accountability**, he represents a grounded, consistent vision of **freedom-focused leadership**. His words are clear, his goals are focused, and his philosophy is one of **practical liberty in action**.

## BEST ON CRIME AND JUSTICE

### ***Kizzie D. Thomas (District 2)***

Kizzie D. Thomas has presented a thoughtful and comprehensive approach to crime and justice in San Antonio, with a strong emphasis on addressing the root causes of crime and advocating for an inclusive and equitable approach to public safety. She understands that true safety cannot be achieved through punishment alone, but must include prevention, community-based policing, and mental health support.



#### ***Key Points:***

- ***Comprehensive Public Safety:*** Kizzie advocates for a broad definition of public safety that includes not only reducing crime but addressing related issues such as stray dogs, neglected infrastructure, and under-resourced neighborhoods. She believes that proactive measures and

*community involvement are key to crime reduction.*

- **Community-Based Policing & Mental Health Response:** Kizzie advocates for reimagining public safety through mental health crisis response teams and community-based policing models. She is committed to ensuring that police officers are well-trained, well-compensated, and held accountable through enhanced transparency and civilian oversight.
- **Opposition to Ghost Cars:** Kizzie opposes the widespread use of ghost cars for routine enforcement, citing the need for transparency and visibility in community policing. She believes these cars can undermine public trust and should only be used in specific, safety-focused situations.

Kizzie's holistic and empathetic approach to crime and justice prioritizes the well-being of all residents, particularly those in underprivileged and marginalized communities. Her commitment to equity, transparency, and accountability in policing sets her apart as a leader who is not just focused on reacting to crime, but on creating a safer, more just community for everyone.



## BEST ON LOCAL ECONOMY

### *Cesario Garcia (District 8)*

Cesario Garcia brings a unique and refreshing perspective to the conversation about San Antonio's local economy. With a background in creative industries, including independent film production, and an extensive history of working alongside local businesses, Cesario understands the need to foster economic growth while ensuring the long-term sustainability of San Antonio's resources.

As a candidate, Cesario stands out for his commitment to practical economic solutions. He is **not focused on big government or pandering to special interests**; instead, he places people first, focusing on the core services that every San Antonian depends on. He acknowledges the pressing need to address the city's generational debt and aims to ensure that any infrastructure project is carefully planned, executed, and debt-conscious.

His focus on the local economy also includes strengthening the city's police and fire departments, pushing for a larger police force to ensure public safety, and advocating for the **allocation of resources to vital services instead of "vanity projects" or unnecessary spending**. Cesario emphasizes the importance of prioritizing debt reduction over new, costly initiatives and firmly believes that San Antonio's government must stop passing bonds and instead focus on paying down existing debt, which has been exacerbated by mismanagement.

Cesario's economic platform calls for real change, including the cessation of projects that don't directly benefit the local economy or improve quality of life. He is strongly against the misuse of taxpayer money for unproductive projects, including the Grand Hyatt hotel, which he argues should never have been funded by the city. For Cesario, good governance starts with transparency and accountability, both in how tax dollars are spent and in how businesses are supported.

Cesario's understanding of economics is rooted in his practical approach to local governance. He advocates for a cap on property taxes and greater transparency in how those tax dollars are allocated. His focus is on removing wasteful spending, providing services that citizens truly need, and ensuring that San Antonio's economic growth is sustainable and responsive to the people's needs.

With a proven history of working alongside local businesses, an unwavering commitment to the citizens of District 8, and a keen sense of fiscal responsibility, Cesario Garcia exemplifies the principles of economic stewardship, accountability, and common-sense leadership.

"I am the only Candidate who is not trying to buy their way into city council. My goals are to grow our core services and use a common-sense approach on infrastructure projects while ensuring that we have a plan to pay down our debt."

## BEST ON CITY SERVICES

### Eric Marshall Litaker (District 10)

Eric Litaker is a candidate who brings a fresh perspective on improving city services while prioritizing fiscal responsibility and transparency. With a strong background in the service industry, Litaker is deeply invested in the wellbeing of San Antonio's residents. His candid approach to local government reform is reflected in his commitment to addressing the city's ongoing issues, such as road repairs, homelessness, and improving public safety services.



Litaker emphasizes a clear and accountable approach to city services, stating:

*"I want to get our streets fixed, and **finish the never-ending construction** by limiting the amount of new projects until the backlog of already approved projects are finished."*

He sees the inefficiencies in current city operations and aims to **focus on the basics first**: tackling existing projects and ensuring they are completed in a timely and efficient manner.

When it comes to the role of public services, Litaker is dedicated to making sure taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly. He is firm in his position on auditing city-funded programs to ensure they are functioning as intended:

*"**Every taxpayer-funded program in San Antonio should be audited** to find waste and fraud. If we can eliminate the waste within these programs, we can cut their budgets to pay for only what is necessary, and then find a way to reimburse the taxpayers, potentially with lower tax rates, both from sales tax and property taxes."*

His no-nonsense approach to government waste stands as a core pillar of his campaign for more efficient and accountable city services.

Litaker also highlights the need to work more closely with law enforcement, advocating for a reformed, community-centered approach. His vision includes shifting focus away from petty crime and victimless offenses and creating a stronger connection between residents and local police:

*"I want to work with our local police forces to **reduce the time focused on petty crime and victimless***

*crimes, and create public forums with the leadership of the police departments for residents to voice their grievances."*

Further, Litaker opposes the city's current practice of subsidizing certain initiatives that he views as wasteful. He is particularly opposed to the city's handling of CPS Energy, advocating for privatization to reduce costs for consumers and increase accountability:

***"CPS Energy should be sold to a private entity, and then the city should allow for other private companies to provide alternatives, to drive competition and bring costs down, as well as giving its users the ability to hold a non-governmental institution accountable for any mismanagement."***

Litaker's platform offers a clear commitment to improving San Antonio's city services, ensuring they are both efficient and responsive to the needs of residents. He consistently ties his policy proposals back to a vision of a more responsible, transparent, and accountable government that truly serves the people.



## **BEST ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND STREAMLINING**

***Christopher Anthony Reyes (Mayor)***

Chris Reyes is a candidate who **prioritizes government efficiency, effective use of resources, and streamlined services—hallmarks of a well-run local government.** His clear focus on enhancing government operations through strategic reforms ensures that San Antonio residents receive the highest quality services without

unnecessary overhead.

### **A) Focus on Cutting Bureaucracy and Improving Public Service Delivery**

Reyes has pledged to reform city operations by eliminating bureaucratic inefficiencies and reducing red tape. His approach to streamlining city departments includes simplifying administrative processes, improving service delivery, and ensuring that government actions are efficient and responsive to the needs of San Antonio's residents. By removing unnecessary layers of bureaucracy, Reyes aims to create a **city government that is agile and quick to address the needs of the community.**

### **B) Creating an Independent Efficiency Audit Department**

One of Reyes' notable proposals is the **establishment of an independent Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).** This department will be tasked with **auditing every city department, program, and initiative to identify wasteful spending** and inefficiencies. The goal is to reallocate resources to where they can be most effectively used, ensuring that taxpayer money is not squandered on ineffective programs. This initiative demonstrates Reyes' commitment to continuous improvement and accountability within city government operations.

### **C) Use of Technology for Streamlined Services and Better Outcomes**



Reyes advocates for **leveraging technology to improve city services**, particularly in areas like public safety, transportation, and public records. His plan to **implement digital tools and platforms for city functions—such as using data analytics for more informed decision-making**—would streamline processes and enhance government transparency. Reyes understands that the proper use of technology can reduce administrative costs and enhance communication between the government and citizens.

By focusing on eliminating waste, streamlining operations, and utilizing technology, Chris Reyes is positioning himself as a leader who will foster a city government that works efficiently, minimizes unnecessary expenditures, and operates with the utmost transparency.

## **CANDIDATE RESPONSES**

# Chris Baecker



## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 6

*I was born and raised in Victoria, TX, where I graduated high school. After spending the 1990s in Dallas, I moved to San Antonio with my four girls' mom in April 2000, and I've lived in district 6 since 2008.*

*I've worked most of this time in SA in the energy industry, and for the last 9 years I've taught college economics in my spare time. For the last 18 months I have been editor and policy director of InfuseSA, a non-profit/non-partisan organization that advances personal and economic freedom for all citizens of Bexar County.*

*I teach algebra 2 and economics to 8th graders (after a few decades in the oil & gas industry), and economics to college students. I'm the editor and policy director of InfuseSA, a local watchdog group that advances freedom for Bexar County citizens. I have 4 beautiful, distinguished daughters: 2 in college and 2 in high school.*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** Because no one will more aggressively look out for and defend their pocketbook, their ability to live freely, to raise and support their family as they see fit, to let them associate with each other unencumbered by ANY outside intrusions, and to prosper and flourish.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** Insufficient respect for small business owners, taking homeowners/taxpayers for granted, and an inadequate focus on core responsibilities.

I'd move to stop corporate welfare, expose cronyism, and actually cut red tape.

I'd vote no on further property tax hikes.

Daily responsibilities would revolve solely around public safety, smooth travel, neighborhood relations, and constituent services.

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** They're feel-good, political theater. Absolutely not. Unequivocally oppose.

There are few better examples of dual deprivation of human rights: the savings seized via taxation to put on such events, and to bribe citizens to give up forms of self-defense.

**San Antonio DOGE?** "I would vote against any further funding of Ready to Work and the corporate welfare it breeds.

I would search out and vote to cut taxpayer funding of programs or to entities with largely, privately-funded budgets. Also, any such beneficiaries whose officers/management who can be found in campaign finance reports."

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** As a matter of public safety, I support action by the city to arrest criminals, especially those who import it from their homeland.

**State of policing in America?** I believe the vast majority of cops, like the citizens they work for, are good people. And like those citizens, the good ones should be lauded, while the bad ones should be held to account.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** "If the goal is public safety, they should be clearly marked. Motorists are more likely to drive more safely when they actually see enforcement. Anything short of clearly marked police autos serve more as revenue generators."

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes?** No, "If a vagrant sticks to the technical definition of the word ... constantly moving ... OK. No harm. But that is highly unlikely since every one must rest, and it inevitably leads to trespassing. Whatever people do in the privacy is their home, that isn't harming anyone, is no one else's business."

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** "If you're Houston, and are 4X wealthier, maybe. BIG maybe.

Otherwise, no. Stop borrowing. That immediately stops the increase, allows it to start to be paid down, and relieves pressure on taxpayer. That sends a positive signal to citizens that they can produce more without the threat of having more taken away from them via taxation."

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** "If the city/Spurs want this built, LOTS of logistics (like traffic, parking, congestion, etc.) have to be figured out. But taxpayer funding is 100% off the table. See the last question on debt. "

**Local eminent domain usage:** Ensure whatever result is free to citizen access, and that it's worth a very healthy payout to those whose land is seized. Government has rarely proved to be a sufficient beneficiary of such action.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** "At least one of those programs should be abolished (RtW), while Via appears to be ripe for substantive reform. I would work to shift any subsequent tax relief however, to property taxes. The collection of those are more egregious and counterproductive."

**Local property tax rates:** Absolutely! First, we have to stop RAISING property taxes. Then, propose knocking that \$.54 down by a nickel, for STARTERS.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**



**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** No. Lockdowns are immoral and strip citizens of their autonomy. Those powers should never again be available for public officials' execution.

**Inflation policy proposals:** "RtW should be gone. No entity should be fully-subsidized by SA taxpayers, especially those with 6-figure-or-greater budgets. No business, whose officers donate to elected representatives, should receive taxpayer subsidies."

**Ready to Work Program:** RtW should be gone and subsequent taxpayer relief delivered immediately.

**CPS Energy ownership:** "Private energy provider. Any increase in revenue should go to infrastructure maintenance, then back to ratepayers. Converting Spruce 2 to natural gas, yes. Regarding Spruce 1, I'd like to see if it's one of those coal plants that has notably improved on emissions."

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** Not a good return on investment. Rightsize the buses.

**San Antonio Construction:** Don't over-schedule construction projects, much less overlap them.

# Tristen Hoffman

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 9

*Student and Pilot-in-Training* I am an 18 year old, I've lived in SA for a bit over 10 years, and for around that time I've been into politics. My youth I think is an asset, as it allows me to have a fresh perspective, and such perspective is needed given what I have observed to be policy failures left right and center by all levels of government. Beyond that, I will be graduating HS shortly before inauguration and I am undergoing pilot training currently with my father who is a pilot.

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I am the candidate on the ballot most committed to liberty. Our government is much too superfluous, it gets its dirty hands places they don't belong, and I seek to change that. I will get rid of detrimental regulations such as those on zoning and development, and I will decrease the power and influence of government programs. My sole exception to spending cuts probably lies in infrastructure, but even then we can spend our money better and should before spending more.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "1. Affordability: Decrease zoning restrictions, decrease licensing and permitting restrictions, reduce government size to make developing easier.

2. Transportation Options: Foster more walkable and bikable neighborhoods, also expand our bus network but remaining weary of useless lines and infrastructure such as the Via Station in D-9.

3. Government Control: Lower taxes and spending on welfare, take programs private, DOGE the local government through intense audits, create special districts which allow parts of the city some policy control."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** They are a horrible program that shouldn't be touched.

**San Antonio DOGE?** Numerous programs are currently excessive, and while I don't have an answer for a program I would cut entirely, drastic cuts to PreK4SA, Ready to Work, most environmental programs, and most homeless programs would be in order. If we are to spend on things like PreK, environmental causes, and mitigating homelessness, it should be to bolster charities who do the job better.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** We shouldn't provide barriers, although I personally believe Trump is going too far. Still, security to prevent illegal immigration and other activities is needed at the border itself.

**State of policing in America?** Our police are certainly a critical service, but they have ineffective leadership at times, and are sometimes poor in operation. They also have many limits set by the city that prevents them from properly executing their job. We need to support the police and allow them to operate without letting issues in the department run rampant.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers?** No

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** They are a problem which undermines transparency and accountability.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana?** Yes

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes?** Yes

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** It isn't sustainable, especially if it continues. My solution would be austerity for the first years of my term to decrease the debt and then bring taxes to eventually match the expenses so we have a neutral budget. Sadly all of the necessary work would take more than my max of 8 years, but a lot of progress can still be made.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** I am vehemently opposed to using taxpayer funds to fund this project. I would be ok allowing private developers to take this land free of charge and develop, but no more support than that.

**Local eminent domain usage:** We should amend the city charter to require consent in handing over your property, but property transactions should have eminent domain clauses allowing a property to be added into property that can be automatically subjected if they see a change in property ownership.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** We need to reduce this tax, not to nothing as VIA so important to spend some on, but still a good bit. Ready to Work and PreK4SA are both expensive and excessive programs.

**Local property tax rates:** We should also reduce property taxes if we can within the bounds of our expenditures and debts.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** Other than aiding in the distribution of knowledge and materials to help combat, inform, or prevent the virus or other disease in such a pandemic, the government has no role. That means no mask mandates, no businesses being forced to close, no burst in online retail due to inflationary stimulus and nothing else to do. The government's role goes no further.

**Inflation policy proposals:** While fiscal policy at the local level won't go far in influencing inflation, I do think it is still crucial to get more money into the hands of taxpayers by decreasing taxes. This requires a decrease in spending as I have made clear, and austerity in the short term will also help to an extent curb our debt issue and perhaps local inflation.



**Ready to Work Program:** We need to scale back on the tax increase and we need to turn the program into nothing more than a database helping employers connect to possible employees.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I wouldn't oppose privatization as I generally believe it is the private market which will always perform best, however the nuts and bolts of such a switch would need to be ironed out. Regarding its current operations, it should prioritize affordability only, not closing down fossil fuel powered plants unless it is in the consumer's best interests.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I support VIA, but I also find its current operations to be ineffective. Changing any major system to be elected is always a great way to improve its accountability and as a byproduct its efficiency. Even without elections though, we need to rethink how our system works and find the best way to maximize ridership and get a solid ROI for taxpayers. A hub and spoke model with denser route frequency connecting areas of high traffic (medical center, downtown) to nearby neighborhoods with the "spokes" would bring a more efficient transit model to SA.

**San Antonio Construction:** First, we need to let developers develop. We can't stop the development as that then is a hindrance to economic development and freedom, but what we should do is coordinate more from a planning perspective to establish goals for larger developments such as included green-space and pedestrian/bike infrastructure. This aids the congestion side of things while still encouraging development in our city, and it ensures nice places as well.



# Carlos ANTONIO Raymond

Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 6

*United States Military/Veteran (Vietnam (RETIRED)) My name is Carlos ANTONIO Raymond; I am 76-years of age; A Vietnam Veteran (RETIRED) and a dedicated resident of District 6 who has spent my life serving others. My roots run deep in this community, and I know the challenges we face because I've lived through them. Whether it's dealing with the need for better infrastructure, affordable housing, or ensuring our neighborhoods are safe and thriving, I'm here because I believe we can do better together."*



**Why should voters elect you to this office?** "Voters should elect me to San Antonio City Council, District 6, in the May 3, 2025 General Election because I am committed to practical, common-sense solutions that prioritize the needs of hardworking families, personal freedom, and individual responsibility. My approach is deeply rooted in the values of faith, hard work, and respect for liberty. I believe the government's role should be limited, empowering individuals rather than hindering them.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "

1. **Public Safety:** As San Antonio grows rapidly, our fire and police departments are struggling to keep up. I will advocate for increasing funding for these essential services, ensuring adequate staffing, and implementing technology to help police better respond to crime. Public safety should be a top priority for our city.

2. **Infrastructure:** With an aging infrastructure, including roads, water pipes, and treatment plants, we must prioritize modernizing and maintaining essential systems. This includes setting aside funds for infrastructure upgrades and exploring innovative solutions to minimize disruptions while addressing these challenges."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** I oppose the use of taxpayer funds for city-hosted gun buyback programs. While the intention behind these programs is often to reduce gun violence, they are ineffective at addressing the root causes of crime and violence in our communities. Gun buyback programs typically result in the collection of older or non-functional firearms, rather than taking illegal or high-crime-use firearms off the streets.

**San Antonio DOGE?** If elected, I would focus on reviewing and terminating city programs that are inefficient, duplicative, or do not provide a clear return on investment for taxpayers. While I believe many programs serve important purposes, it's essential that we are constantly evaluating their effectiveness and ensuring that our resources are being used in the most efficient and impactful ways.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** "As a city, San Antonio should focus on fostering an environment of safety, respect, and opportunity for all residents, regardless of immigration status. I believe that the role of local government is to ensure the well-being of its community, and it's important to strike a balance between enforcing the law and ensuring that our city remains a place where families can thrive without fear.

Regarding ICE, I believe that local law enforcement should not be in the business of enforcing federal immigration laws. San Antonio should not act as an extension of federal immigration enforcement efforts, as it can erode trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. Many members of our community, regardless of their immigration status, contribute to our city by working hard, paying taxes, and raising families. Cooperation with ICE in immigration enforcement often leads to fear and mistrust, making it harder for residents to engage with local law enforcement when they need help."

**State of policing in America?** The state of policing in America is a complex issue that requires a balanced and thoughtful approach. Policing plays a critical role in ensuring public safety, but it is clear that in some cases, there are systemic issues that need to be addressed to ensure trust, accountability, and fairness. The relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve is foundational to a thriving society, and this relationship must be built on mutual respect, transparency, and understanding.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** The use of unmarked or deceptively-marked police vehicles, commonly known as "ghost cars," for routine traffic enforcement is a practice that needs careful consideration. While these vehicles may be effective for catching drivers who are engaging in illegal activities or dangerous behavior, they also raise concerns about transparency, accountability, and the potential for undermining trust between the police and the community.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** The \$18 billion in debt reported for the City of San Antonio is certainly a significant concern. While some level of debt is typically used to fund major infrastructure projects and public services, a debt load of this magnitude can have long-term implications on the city's financial health and ability to invest in future needs.

Managing this level of debt requires a balanced approach that focuses on fiscal responsibility, prioritizing essential projects, and exploring alternative methods of funding.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** No, I do not believe that the current level of debt is sustainable, especially when it reaches such a high figure as \$18 billion. While some debt is often necessary for large infrastructure projects and long-term investments, excessive borrowing can lead to financial instability, higher interest payments, and ultimately limit the city's ability to invest in critical services and programs for its residents.

**Local eminent domain usage:** If elected, I would prioritize protecting property owners' rights and ensuring that eminent domain is only used when absolutely necessary for the true public good, such as for critical infrastructure projects like roads, utilities, or public services. I firmly believe that private property rights are fundamental to individual liberty, and any government action that takes away these rights should be handled with the utmost caution and respect.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I believe the current sales tax burden on San Antonio residents is significant, and we must carefully assess the effectiveness and necessity of each program funded by this revenue to ensure that we are using taxpayer dollars wisely. While reducing taxes is important to alleviate the financial burden on families, it's also crucial to evaluate the value and outcomes of these programs to ensure they are truly benefiting the community.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes, I do support initiatives aimed at reducing the property tax rate for all property owners in San Antonio. Property taxes are one of the most burdensome forms of taxation for homeowners, and with the increased value of homes in recent years, many residents are feeling the strain of higher property tax bills. Even though there was a slowdown in the rise of home values in 2024, property taxes remain a significant financial burden, particularly for those on fixed incomes, young families, and small businesses.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** In times of public health crises or other emergencies, the City of San Antonio has an important role in ensuring public safety, providing accurate information, and supporting the community's well-being. However, I believe the role of the government should be balanced and measured, focusing on protecting individual liberties while responding effectively to the situation at hand.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes, I believe the City of San Antonio should tighten its belt in response to inflation, just as many families and businesses are having to do. Inflation is a serious issue that is impacting the cost of living for residents, and it's essential for the city government to recognize this and make adjustments to ease the financial burden on taxpayers.

**Ready to Work Program:** YES, ABSOLUTELY, I WOULD

**CPS Energy ownership:** "When it comes to managing CPS Energy, my perspective is that we need to strike a balance between affordability, reliability, and sustainability. The main concern should always be ensuring that residents receive quality service at a fair price, and whether CPS Energy is the right entity to deliver that service or if privatization would offer a better solution that requires careful consideration.

CPS Energy and City Management:

I believe that CPS Energy's management by the City of San Antonio allows for a more direct and responsive accountability to the residents it serves. As a municipally owned utility, CPS Energy is obligated to consider the interests of San Antonio's residents, as opposed to prioritizing the financial interests of private shareholders. However, that does not mean CPS Energy should not be held to the highest standards of efficiency and accountability."

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** VIA Metropolitan Transit is a vital part of our city's infrastructure, providing essential transportation options to thousands of San Antonio residents. However, when it comes to the 0.500% sales tax increase that funds VIA, it's important to ensure that taxpayers are receiving a good return on investment in terms of service quality, accessibility, and overall value.

**San Antonio Construction:** San Antonio's rapid growth and construction boom present both exciting opportunities and significant challenges. While progress is essential for a growing city, it's equally important to ensure that this development translates into meaningful benefits for the community while minimizing disruptions to residents' daily lives. If elected to the San Antonio City Council, here are the steps I would take to better manage growth, infrastructure improvements, and minimize disruptions:

In addition to the steps mentioned above, it's essential to recognize that growth and development are not just about physical infrastructure, but also about fostering a thriving, inclusive community where all residents feel connected, valued, and part of the process. As San Antonio continues to grow, we must ensure that development is not only economically successful but also socially and culturally enriching.

# Cesario Garcia

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 8

*Video Production "Cesario Garcia graduated from Monterey High school in Lubbock, Texas. As a military dependent growing up overseas his travels exposed him to a multitude of different cultures and shaped his world vision. He and his family have been residents of San Antonio for the past twenty nine years. Since then he found his passion working on independent film productions before graduating with a degree in Radio, Television and Film from San Antonio College. Gaining knowledge while working on national and international industrial projects over the last twenty years has helped him grow and appreciate the video production industry."*



*His list of credits has distinguished him with a firm portfolio of commercials, documentaries and music videos. As a creative, he has worked with many local businesses, during this time forming a multitude of professional and lifelong friendships with several business leaders in and around San Antonio.*

*Currently, he is pursuing a Bachelor's in Political Science from Texas Tech University. Higher learning has always been his goal in life. I consider San Antonio as my home where we live in the biggest, smallest peaceful city in the United States.*

*"At times I could get lost here and not worry."*

*Cesario cut his teeth block-walking in his own district canvassing for a local candidate running for City Council District 8. See that politics has many facets he moved into research and strategic planning. This then led into becoming a campaign manager for a candidate from the 23rd Congressional District. The political journey he has traveled has brought him back to the very District where he once blocked walked.*

*As a candidate his fight is for the people and identity of District 8, where the streets are not unfamiliar and the challenges will be met.*

*Cesario is a cut above the rest, a leader that our community can depend on. He will put people first over political agendas. He will not cater to special interest groups or individuals. He will be a steward for the people's money."*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** As it stands.. I am the only Candidate who is not trying to buy their way into city council. My goals are to grow our core services. Use a common sense approach on infrastructure projects while ensuring that we have a plan to pay down our debt.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "

Safety and security for all citizens. Scheduling projects so that there is no congestion or overlap. We needed to shrink our generational debt. As of right our city council has made no real attempts to shrink big government in Texas or San Antonio Tx.

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** I will never support the removal of our right to bear arms..

**San Antonio DOGE?** Pre-K for SA

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** In my humble opinion our law enforcement apparatus should work senselessly with ICE. The laws should be enforced. SAPD needs to work with ICE without hesitation. COSA has to adhere to the laws of the land..

**State of policing in America?** Public servants are the extension of the people. They should take it upon themselves to tell the people what they can and cannot do. We are elected officials. We are not here to impose our will on Americans.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers?** Yes

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** I for one have no problem with unmarked police cars. Our city is currently being overrun by moving violators that endanger everyone on our major highways. I would push for more unmarked cars to curtail the growing car racers who speed without consequences.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana?** No

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes?** No

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** First and foremost, Our city must put a stop to endless bike lanes. They need to stop passing bonds and pay off our unpaid bonds that are still to this day unused. We need to create a widget and use it to pay down our debt. This item's sole purpose is to pay our debt!! We should have never paid the note on the Grand Hyatt hotel.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** I do not. Our core services need to be built up for instance we need 3,600 Police officers and 3,600 firemen. Our infrastructure needs to be updated along with all F scale streets. Our debt is a reflection of miss management and reckless polices.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I am against this illegal practice. I will be very outspoken on this illegal practice. liberty, and any government action that takes away these rights should be handled with the utmost caution and respect.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I would scrap all of the above and use the revenue to pay down our generational debt

**Local property tax rates:** I am for a cap on property taxes. There needs to be better transparency on where all of these tax dollars are being spent.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** Limited local government needs to be applied in the event this happens again. City government should act as a facilitator to any state or national emergency. Any closures that are imposed need to be scrutinized so that the local economy does not suffer. Tempered measures must be taken.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes. The city should not impose any new tax initiatives to collect more taxes during a serious downturn or negative impact on its citizens. When the cost of goods go up there should be no new tax collecting polices nor propositions imposed on anyone.

**Ready to Work Program:** eliminate all wasteful spending on unsuccessful tax funded projects.

**CPS Energy ownership:** Our city has dropped the ball on all of its energy schemes. These ideas and initiatives have cost lives and will continue to do so. In 2021, had none of the coal fire plants been closed, the city could have had a base load of power to sustain it during the hard freeze. I will push to decouple from CAAP and push for micro Nuclear power plants.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I will vote NO on any proposed taxes for VIA. This is taxation without representation. All proposed tax revenue for local services VIA notwithstanding should never go unchecked and be transparent in their practices.

**San Antonio Construction:** Better scheduling of said projects and add a third shift to expedited local street projects.

# Lawson Alaniz-Picasso

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 6

*Lawson Picasso is a Strategic Planning professional and fervent advocate for addressing social inequities in marginalized communities, driven by her lived experiences and dedicated local work. Having personally navigated social insecurities as both a child and an adult, Lawson has actively engaged with various levels of government, including the White House Administration, to champion resources and policy reforms that address critical needs in food access, housing stability, and sustainable transportation infrastructure. Her efforts are centered on creating opportunities that drive generational social and economic change within her community.*

*Lawson's career journey is uniquely unorthodox. Starting at the age of 16 in print and digital marketing, she has spent half her life working in strategic planning, marketing, and government affairs. From supporting small businesses with branding and customer development to contributing to multi-billion-dollar infrastructure projects globally, Lawson has leveraged her diverse experiences to advocate for meaningful investments in San Antonio, helping to shape a more equitable future for all.*



**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I bring experience into this role that is imperative in how we can address the needs of District 6 that include budgeting, funding, community maintenance and operation, and growth.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** Public safety, connected communities, and sustainable infrastructure are the three issues I am hearing most in the community. I intend to work to prioritize our general fund dollars to support safety infrastructure both in residential areas as well as major corridors, advocating for increased funding and support for our first responders to better respond to crime such as theft and major emergencies such as vehicular accidents or medical responses. I intend to also foster stronger public-private partnerships to provide access to services and programs into the community where I have identified a need or gaps in access. These opportunities include additional senior and veteran resources, childcare, beautification projects with our parks and recreational facilities, and enhanced entertainment outlets accessible for all income levels. Additionally, we need to prioritize funding into our roadways to ensure our residents are safe when commuting. This means ensuring that we are funding programs like our sidewalk repair program, light installations and maintenance in neighborhoods, safety infrastructure on major corridors, and pothole repairs, for example. Furthermore, I want to be intentional with how we identify projects for the upcoming bond cycle and press to prioritize projects that will increase safety and accessibility.

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** I think that opportunities for us to support gun safety and keep guns out of the wrong hands is something we should consider as it pertains to responding to our public safety initiatives. I think that if there are opportunities for us to partner with organizations such as HEB, as it was done with the recent voluntary gun buyback, it can be an accessible option for those who want to look for a safe and meaningful option for getting rid of their gun. New research shows that buyback options, when part of a larger public safety campaign, can have a positive impact for helping with crime reduction-- especially in buyback programs that are voluntary and no questions asked. I would want to see what the results were from the pilot buyback program held locally before considering whether or not it was successful or something to further invest funding into.

**San Antonio DOGE?** What I found interesting about some of the reported findings with DOGE was that the federal government was able to identify over 100k unused program licenses that resulted in over \$9million in costs. Before I consider programs that we can eliminate, I think we have even lower hanging fruit such as the above example that we should look at to see if we can free up some public dollars that can then be reallocated into other essential projects and services.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** ICE is a federal operation and immigration enforcement is a federal order that supersedes our jurisdiction of local regulation.

**State of policing in America?** I want to ensure we are hiring enough law enforcement officers to adequately support the growth of our community. We currently do not have enough uniformed officers to respond to the growth in this city. Additionally, with the contract coming up, I want to ensure our officers are given the resources to support their health and well-being and decrease officer burnout.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** I think that civilians should be law abiding always and if it takes an unmarked vehicle to identify when someone is not following the law and is a safety risk, then I am in support of whatever method helps to prevent an increase in crime.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes,** "I think that the decriminalization of marijuana is a subject that needs to be addressed at the state level; but I also think that there's an opportunity to tax on the sale of marijuana and use those taxes to support public school funding much like cigarette, alcohol, and lottery tax sales.

Regarding victimless crimes, again, I believe this is a state-level issue but would be favorable for exploring alternative solutions that would help the individual rather than just jail time such as mandatory rehabilitation and mental health care services. "

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** Truth in Accounting discovered that 50 of the 75 major cities in the United States have some form of debt. A few factors play into this including inflation, the dwindling pandemic stimulus, and unreported retiree benefits. All variables relevant to San Antonio. We need to be cognizant with our taxpayer burdens and be intentional with how we identify programs, projects, and services needed to be funded and the impact those things have on our city's taxpayers.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** We need more information on the return of investment, how soon we will begin to see a revenue stream from this, and further insights into the immediate and long-term impacts this project will have on San Antonio before I can give a definitive answer on my position.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I would need to better understand how we have most recently used eminent domain on a project to consider what alternatives were not viable options that resulted in this being a solution for a project to move forward.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** In comparison to other major cities in Texas, VIA is one of the least funded public transportation systems in the state. The lack of consistent services is a product of that. We need to fund our public transportation services because it is a vital service to incorporate in the growth plan of our city. If we can use our 1/8cent sales tax to fund essential services like public transportation, safety infrastructure, and other services that impact more than just small targeted groups, I am in support of it.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** During the COVID-19 pandemic, San Antonio used the federal guidelines in how it responded locally. We need to continue to do so.

**Inflation policy proposals:** "We need to do better with how we get projects done so we are not tearing up roads three times over because our local organizations are not talking to each other. For example, if fiber is set to go into a neighborhood and tear up the roads, then we probably should not be spending time and money fixing sidewalks or doing repaving work right before if we are going to have to go in again to fix it.

A good way to reduce the amount of money being spent is through better project coordinating. "

**Ready to Work Program:** The Ready to Work program is reaching the end of its sales tax term.

**CPS Energy ownership:** Due to my current position on the CPS Energy CIC, I cannot answer this question without concerns of a conflict of interest.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I think it's fair to ask for a financial audit to better understand the costs at VIA. However, if we want to ensure we have a robust transit system similar to other major cities, it's going to take time and funding to get us there.

**San Antonio Construction:** We need better cross-agency project coordination and better community engagement that also gives residents enough notice to plan accordingly.



# Larry La Rose

Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 3

*USCG RET/VET AIR FORCE BRAT EAGLE SCOUT USCG SAR FLIGHT ENGINEER*

*RECUSE SWIMMER USAF RESERVES STUDIED architecture and law and rehab homes*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I am a mover, and a shaker fix things with a solution to get things done that have actual results in the community

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** law and order hire more police officers.

enter city roads repair them homeless people get them off the street in to rehab

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** gun back is good but should be privately funded

**San Antonio DOGE?** yes i love to see the books and terminate all diversity equity and inclusion and American recuse plan programs and many more

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** enforce federal law enforcement and assist as needed with no butts

**State of policing in America?** more police offices and reduce response time

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** i believe the cars should marked they undermine the respect of the dept because in today times you never know if they real or not

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes,** we need safer street and a homeless solution

Regarding victimless crimes, again, I believe this is a state-level issue but would be favorable for exploring alternative solutions that would help the individual rather than just jail time such as mandatory rehabilitation and mental health care services. "

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** use common sense spending reduce waste and unnecessary programs that only benefit a few

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** no to many other issues at stake that need to fixed or maintain and or repaired

**Local eminent domain usage:** cosa should pay above market value if cosa want the property

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** funds were collected but the general public is not aware they exist or how benefit from too many Obstacles to access the programs

**Local property tax rates:** Yes

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises: No**

**Inflation policy proposals:** no stop unnecessary spending and programs, balance the budget

**Ready to Work Program:** i support this program to difficult to enroll in program too much red tape to access the program to much red tape

**CPS Energy ownership:** we must reduce the cost of power renewables are not working should build another power plant instead of closing them

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** no not safe to ride the bus the people ride the bus on my side town have the worst of bus stops and transit centers

**San Antonio Construction:** have the projects finished faster with bonus deadlines



# Eric Marshall Litaker

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 10

*I am a lifelong San Antonian, and a chef with more than 15 years of experience in the service industry, mostly spent developing and working for local restaurants and gastro-pubs.*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** Voters should elect me if they want an official that wants to protect their freedoms and fight back against a government that continues to raise taxes to fund projects and entities that a lot of residents don't agree with.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** Like all of San Antonio, District 10 is host to a myriad of issues. I would like to get our streets fixed, and finish the never ending construction by limiting the amount of new projects until the backlog of already approved projects are finished. I want to completely overhaul ACS. Our neighborhoods are terrorized by stray animals, but ACS would rather spend our money sending its employees to Uvalde to mock the victims of the attack on Robb

Elementary, as reported by InfuseSA. I want to spend time talking to the homeless community about how THEY would like the city to help them, not just take their stuff and send them to setup camp someplace else. I also want to explore ways to make the houses and apartments in my district more affordable by lowering property taxes, and boosting our local economy so that more of our residents can afford to keep the homes that they already live in.

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** Taxpayer funds should NEVER be used to persuade citizens to give up their 2nd Amendment rights. I am completely opposed to the idea of gun buyback programs.

**San Antonio DOGE?** There are a myriad of "nonprofit" groups that receive millions of taxpayer dollars from the city of San Antonio every year. I want to audit every nonprofit to see how they are spending those tax dollars, and if waste or fraud are found, they will be blacklisted from receiving any more taxpayer funds.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** "There has been a significant rise in immigrant-caused crime in San Antonio. The city should be doing everything that it can to assist ICE in removing these criminals from society.

San Antonio serves as a quasi-Sanctuary City for illegal immigrants and uses an outrageous amount of taxpayer money to ""help"" them join our society. As the proclaimed ""Military City"" we should help these immigrants join our society by giving them a real path to citizenship by persuading them to join our armed forces."

**State of policing in America?** The police are no longer seen as the entity to "serve and protect" the people of their jurisdictions. Instead, they are viewed as bullies and extortionists. I want to work with our local police forces to reduce the time focused on petty crime and victimless crimes, and create public forums with the leadership of the police departments for residents to voice their grievances.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? No**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** Ghost cars use camouflage to hide from the public in an attempt to hunt for petty crime, mostly traffic violations. All police vehicles should be clearly marked.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes,** we need safer street and a homeless solution

Regarding victimless crimes, again, I believe this is a state-level issue but would be favorable for exploring alternative solutions that would help the individual rather than just jail time such as mandatory rehabilitation and mental health care services. "

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** San Antonio's debt level is a clear sign that our government doesn't know how to spend money responsibly. A lot of our debt is due to unfunded liabilities, like pensions for City employees. We must cut back on unnecessary spending, and stop approving projects before we have funding for them. We also need to drastically cut back on the number of City government jobs so that we aren't on the hook for more debt in the future.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** I do not support Project Marvel. Centralizing all of San Antonio's entertainment into the downtown area will take tourism revenue away from the areas of town that are already used to the flow of income. San Antonio is a HUGE city, with lots of unique areas to be explored. If everything is downtown, tourists will never be able to get a true taste of the great city that San Antonio is. If Project Marvel must move forward, it needs to be paid for by the private institutions that will directly benefit from it. With over \$18 Billion worth of debt, the city cannot afford to foot the bill for this, and taxpayers shouldn't see a raise in rates to pay for something that a lot of the residents do not want.

**Local eminent domain usage:** If elected to City Council, I will NEVER vote in favor of using Eminent Domain. If Eminent Domain is used to steal the property from any business or person, that business or person should be compensated with a value twice the amount of appraisal, to deter the use of such a heinous practice.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** Every taxpayer funded program in San Antonio should be audited to find and waste and fraud. If we can eliminate the waste within these programs, we can cut



their budgets to pay for only what is necessary, and then find a way to reimburse the taxpayers, potentially with lower tax rates, both from sales tax and property taxes.

**Local property tax rates:** Property tax rates should be cut back to the rate they were at before the Covid Pandemic. The country, the state, and the city were in better financial standing before 2020, so we should revert to taxing and spending habits from the pre-pandemic era.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** In the event of a public health crisis, the City government's only involvement should be to warn the public of their risks, and keep them updated on any new information that becomes available. The government should have absolutely no power to close businesses, shut down schools, or take away the livelihoods of its residents.

**Inflation policy proposals:** In tough financial times, most people make sacrifices necessary to live within their means. Most of these sacrifices come at the cost of entertainment and enjoyment. I believe the city of San Antonio should share in this sacrifice and cut back on the amount of taxpayer money used to subsidize the monthly parties held in La Villita and Hemisfair Park.

**Ready to Work Program:** If a taxpayer funded program isn't working as it was intended to, the funding of that program should be cut, along with the tax used to fund it.

**CPS Energy ownership:** CPS Energy should be sold to a private entity, and then the city should allow for other private companies to provide alternatives, to drive competition and bring costs down, as well as giving it's users the ability to hold a non-governmental institution accountable for any mismanagement. I recognize the need for alternative energy sources, but they should not come at the expense of the city's residents. Alternative energy sources should be used as a way to ultimately bring down the cost of energy, not to replace the energy sources already being provided.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I believe that the taxpayers would be more satisfied with VIA if it was actually a safe and efficient alternative to driving. If VIA would provide more "park and ride" services for the city's major entertainment destinations, and ensure the safety of its riders, the tax increase might not feel like such a burden. The board should hold quarterly town hall meetings for riders and other residents to voice their grievances with its services.

**San Antonio Construction:** I would seek to speed up the completion of construction projects by ensuring that projects are finished within their projected timelines. I believe if contractors continuously run past their due dates, they should be blacklisted from bidding on any future contracts. Additionally, contractors need to work with city agencies before starting any projects to minimize any unforeseen setbacks.

# Roy Anthony II

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 10

*I was born and raised in San Antonio, growing up on the Southwest Side before moving to District 10 at the age of 15, where I've lived ever since. I am a proud single father and a graduate of the University of Texas at San Antonio with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. As the founder of EclipseTickets LLC, I've worked to support educational outreach and inspire youth through science and innovation. My journey as a parent, small business owner, and lifelong San Antonian has shaped my commitment to integrity, service, and standing up for everyday people in our community.*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** Voters should elect me because I will lead with integrity, humility, and heart. I'm not a career politician—I'm a father, a lifelong San Antonian, and a small business owner who knows what it's like to struggle and to serve. I've lived in District 10 since I was 15, and I care deeply about this community. My leadership will be rooted in listening, taking action for the people, and building bridges across divides. I believe public service should be about compassion, not power—and I'm ready to be a voice for the unheard.



**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "Top Three Issues Affecting San Antonio and How I Would Address Them:

1. Disconnected Leadership

Too many feel unheard. I will listen first and speak last—creating space for all voices, especially the poor, the working class, and the marginalized. Leadership isn't about power, it's about service. I will serve with humility, not pride.

2. Youth Without Vision

When young people lose hope, we all lose. I will support programs that help youth find purpose, build skills, and discover their worth—not just as future workers, but as beloved members of our community.

3. Fear Instead of Trust in Public Safety

We cannot build peace through fear. I support efforts that bring law enforcement and the community together—not as adversaries, but as neighbors. We must invest in healing, mental health, and truth."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "As a responsible gun owner, I believe in the right to self-defense and the importance of handling firearms with care and accountability. At the same time, I recognize the real impact that gun violence has on families and neighborhoods in our city. Voluntary, community-led gun buyback programs can be a useful tool for individuals who want to safely dispose of firearms. I would support such efforts if they are transparent, data-driven, and respectful of personal rights. If taxpayer funds are used, there must be clear goals and outcomes to ensure responsible stewardship. I believe we can protect individual freedoms while also working toward safer, more peaceful communities."

**San Antonio DOGE?** "I believe responsible budgeting is a moral duty. Taxpayer dollars should be used wisely and transparently to uplift our community, not to feed unnecessary bureaucracy.

Rather than call for immediate termination of any specific program, I would begin with a full audit of underperforming or duplicated services. If any city-funded programs are not meeting their goals or are failing to serve the public effectively, I would propose restructuring or reallocating those resources to areas like public safety, education partnerships, and youth development.

Efficiency is not about cutting for the sake of cutting—it's about making every dollar count for the people we serve."

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** San Antonio should be a city that prioritizes human dignity, family unity, and community trust. While immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility, local governments should not act in ways that create fear among immigrant communities. I believe the city should focus its resources on ensuring public safety for all residents, regardless of immigration status, and should avoid entangling local agencies in federal immigration enforcement.

Our role should be to build trust, not fear.

**State of policing in America?** Policing in America needs reform focused on accountability, transparency, and community trust. In San Antonio, I would promote community policing efforts that emphasize relationship-building over force. I support increased de-escalation training, mental health crisis response partnerships, and ensuring officers reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. I believe in holding law enforcement to the highest ethical standard while also ensuring they have the support and tools needed to serve with integrity and compassion.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** Transparency builds trust. While unmarked vehicles can play a role in serious investigations, routine traffic enforcement should prioritize visibility and deterrence over surprise and fines. I believe marked vehicles and fair warning help build community confidence and reduce perceptions of entrapment.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes** "I support decriminalizing the possession of marijuana in San Antonio, especially in light of shifting public sentiment and actions taken by other Texas cities. Criminalizing small-scale

possession has disproportionately affected vulnerable communities and clogs the justice system with non-violent offenses. Resources should be redirected toward more pressing public safety concerns and rehabilitation efforts rather than penalizing individuals for minor infractions.

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes?** Yes, I support repealing ordinances that create penalties for crimes with no clear victim, such as vagrancy or possession of a controlled substance. These laws often criminalize poverty and addiction rather than addressing the root causes. A just and compassionate city should prioritize housing, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment over incarceration. By taking this approach, we uphold the dignity of every individual and move toward a system that values restoration over punishment."

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** An \$18 billion debt level is deeply concerning and raises questions about sustainability and long-term impact on taxpayers. While some debt can be strategic, we must be transparent and prudent with spending. I would advocate for regular audits, performance reviews of existing programs, and a shift toward community investments that show measurable outcomes—such as infrastructure, public safety, and education partnerships—before taking on new financial obligations.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** While I recognize the potential economic benefits of tourism and entertainment, I do not support large-scale taxpayer-funded projects like Project Marvel unless they are clearly justified by public demand and long-term benefit. San Antonio already has significant infrastructure for sports and events, and expanding luxury developments while neighborhoods still lack basic services sends the wrong message. As a City Council member, I would prioritize local needs—such as roads, housing, and safety—before supporting new taxpayer-funded ventures that primarily benefit private stakeholders.

**Local eminent domain usage:** As a City Council member, I would work to ensure that the use of eminent domain is reserved strictly for essential public needs, with full transparency and accountability. Property owners should never feel vulnerable to displacement for the benefit of private interests or political influence. I would advocate for stronger protections and clearer guidelines that prioritize fair compensation and community consultation before any land is taken. Empowering everyday citizens—not just developers or insiders—is key to restoring public trust.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** Sales taxes disproportionately impact working families and those living paycheck to paycheck. While I support community programs like Ready to Work and Pre-K 4 SA, I believe in regularly reviewing them for efficiency and measurable impact. If programs are not delivering on promises or lack transparency, then reform or adjustment should be on the table. I support smart, compassionate reform that reduces unnecessary burdens on San Antonio residents while keeping support systems strong where they're working.

**Local property tax rates:** I support initiatives aimed at reducing the property tax rate for all San Antonio property owners—especially during times of economic uncertainty. While the increase in property values has slowed, families are still feeling financial pressure. I would prioritize a balanced budget that reduces wasteful spending and finds cost-saving solutions, so we can lower taxes without cutting essential services. Relief for taxpayers should never come at the cost of our city's integrity or safety.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** In emergencies like pandemics, the city's role must be to protect public health while preserving civil liberties. I believe in clear guidelines, transparency, and accountability when exercising emergency powers. Local businesses and families deserve to be part of the conversation, not just recipients of top-down mandates. If elected, I would advocate for reforms ensuring city authority is used only when absolutely necessary—and always with community input and safeguards against overreach.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes, I believe the City of San Antonio should take proactive steps to reduce unnecessary spending during times of economic strain. Inflation has impacted working families and small businesses across our city, and it's important that we reflect that reality in our budgeting. I would support a review of all city departments to identify inefficiencies or overlapping services, and I'd prioritize reallocating funds toward essential services that directly benefit residents—such as infrastructure, public safety, and community health. We should also seek more public input during budget planning to ensure spending reflects the true needs of the people.

In considering the financial and policy questions above, my guiding principle is to prioritize the well-being and dignity of all residents, especially those most impacted by economic hardship. I believe in responsible stewardship of public funds, transparency, and community input. Any policy I support would reflect a commitment to balancing fiscal responsibility with compassion—ensuring that cost-saving measures do not come at the expense of essential services or vulnerable communities.

**Ready to Work Program:** The Ready to Work program has noble intentions, but if it's consistently falling short of its targets, we need to reassess whether it's the most effective use of taxpayer funds. I would support scaling back or reforming the program to ensure better oversight and tangible outcomes before considering any additional tax funding. We should always be asking: Are we truly helping the people we set out to serve?

**CPS Energy ownership:** CPS Energy must remain accountable to the people of San Antonio. I believe public ownership can work when paired with transparency and responsiveness. Rather than passing costs onto residents, CPS should explore reducing executive compensation and unnecessary spending before resorting to rate hikes. On energy sources, I support a balanced

approach: continue transitioning toward renewable energy, but do so responsibly and affordably, without putting financial strain on working families.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** Transit is a lifeline for many in our community, but taxpayers deserve clarity and results. VIA must be more accountable to the public—especially since its board is unelected. I would advocate for stronger oversight, clearer performance metrics, and a transparent review of how funds are used. If improvements aren't seen, restructuring should be on the table to better reflect community needs.

**San Antonio Construction:** "I would advocate for a more transparent project timeline system so residents can track progress and understand delays. It's critical that infrastructure investments are aligned with real community needs—not just developer interests. I support prioritizing projects that improve safety, accessibility, and traffic flow in neighborhoods, not just downtown.

To balance growth with quality of life, I would propose stronger public input requirements before major projects break ground and advocate for night or off-peak construction hours to reduce traffic disruption. Progress shouldn't come at the cost of peace of mind—it should enhance it."

Thank you for the opportunity to share my positions. I believe public service starts with listening, humility, and a willingness to be accountable. I'm committed to putting people first—especially those who often feel unheard—and to making government more transparent, responsive, and efficient. My campaign is driven by the principle, "Love your neighbor as yourself," and I will carry that into every decision I make. I appreciate your work in helping voters make informed decisions.



# Christopher Anthony Reyes

## Candidate for San Antonio Mayor

*Survey CADD Tech "I grew up experiencing life all around San Antonio. I lived on the East, South, and Northeast sides of San Antonio, graduating from Robert E. Lee High School in 2002. After high school, I attended St. Mary's University for a semester before joining the United States Army in February 2003 as a field artillery crew member and later as military intelligence.*

*During my almost fifteen years in the Army, I was stationed in South Korea, Germany, Kansas, and Georgia. He served on multiple deployments to Romania, Bulgaria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Columbia, earning a multitude of medals, including the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Award. In 2017, I was honorably discharged and returned home to San Antonio. I met my wife Heidi while I was on leave in San Antonio between duty stations in 2005 and married in Germany in 2007. We live in San Antonio's Pheasant Ridge neighborhood and have four amazing and brilliant children: Mila, Lilian, Solomon, and Eva. I graduated from Texas State University with a B.S. in Geographic Information Science and a Minor in Computer Science while working at VIA as a bus operator. I am currently employed as a Survey Tech for an engineering company.*

*My interest in public service began in elementary school, where I volunteered helping the special needs teachers at Ridgeview Elementary. I continued to volunteer in various programs throughout my schooling and while serving in the Army. I remain committed to volunteering, when possible, for the various organizations. I am highly invested in San Antonio, with family living on all sides of town. Find out more at [www.chrisreyesforsa.com](http://www.chrisreyesforsa.com)"*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I bring diverse skills in leadership, crisis management, problem-solving, public service, and technical expertise, making me a strong candidate for mayor. My military leadership experience (2003-2017) has equipped me with the ability to manage complex tasks, make critical decisions, and lead teams. Additionally, my background in GIS, surveying, and transportation enhances my ability to address urban planning, infrastructure, and public safety. I am committed to serving San Antonio, improving the community, and fostering collaboration within the community.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "If elected, I will prioritize transparency, accountability, and public safety to ensure that San Antonio continues to thrive, and the community is supported.

Transparency is the foundation of my approach to leadership. I believe in creating an open government where the decisions impacting the community are made with full visibility. Whether it's how funds are allocated, which programs are prioritized, or how the city's budget is shaped, I will ensure that community leaders, board members, and the communities they serve are fully informed. I will ensure that the people of the community are able to participate in policy development, ensuring their voices are heard and their insights are integrated into city planning and decision-making. Transparent communication fosters trust and ensures that the community has a clear understanding of how public resources are used to support their efforts.

Accountability is essential to building a stronger partnership between the city and the community. As an elected official, I will hold the city departments accountable to the highest standards of performance and integrity. This includes establishing measurable outcomes for programs funded by the city, ensuring that resources are being used effectively and efficiently. I will advocate for regular performance reviews, independent audits, and clear reporting processes to ensure that all parties are working toward common goals with responsible stewardship. The people of San Antonio must have confidence that city funds are being managed properly and that their tax dollars are being utilized by a city government that is both responsible and responsive.

Finally, public safety is a core priority for our city. A safe community is a thriving community, and many of the root causes of crime and social unrest, such as poverty, homelessness, and lack of access to mental health services are critical issues that need to be addressed. I am committed to fostering public safety through proactive programs that support at-risk populations, prevent crime, and offer rehabilitative services. It is a complex issue that needs a comprehensive solution."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "Gun buyback programs, though well-intentioned, have several limitations that make them an ineffective use of resources when addressing gun violence and public safety. These programs, which offer financial incentives in exchange for voluntarily surrendered firearms, may not yield significant reductions in gun crime or enhance public safety in a meaningful way. While the idea of removing guns from communities may seem appealing, the evidence suggests that these programs do not substantially impact gun-related violence or reduce criminal activity.

A primary concern is that gun buybacks tend to target law-abiding citizens who voluntarily surrender firearms, often older or non-functional guns, rather than criminals who possess illegal weapons. The firearms turned in through buyback programs are typically not the ones used in criminal activity, meaning the program's impact on reducing gun violence is minimal. In fact, many criminals do not participate in buyback programs because they are unlikely to turn in firearms that are actively being used for



illegal purposes. This makes gun buybacks ineffective in reducing the most pressing forms of gun violence, such as gang-related shootings or firearm-related homicides.

Furthermore, taxpayer funds should not be allocated to initiatives with questionable efficacy. Gun buyback programs require significant financial investment, often with limited measurable outcomes. These funds would be better spent on strategies that address the root causes of gun violence, such as community policing, mental health services, or targeted interventions to reduce illegal gun trafficking. These approaches are more likely to lead to long-term reductions in crime and violence, as they address both the availability of illegal firearms and the social factors contributing to violence.

The focus should be on evidence-based solutions that address the complex issue of gun violence. Investing in programs such as education on responsible gun ownership, improved background checks, and strengthening law enforcement efforts to dismantle criminal networks is a more strategic use of public resources. These measures can help reduce illegal gun possession and violence more effectively than buyback programs, which often do not target the sources of the problem.

I completely oppose city-hosted gun buyback programs. While the intention to reduce firearms in circulation is understandable, the lack of significant evidence proving their effectiveness makes it an imprudent use of taxpayer money. Instead, the city should prioritize initiatives that are more likely to lead to tangible improvements in public safety. Strengthening community relationships with law enforcement, increasing resources for mental health and addiction treatment, and investing in violence prevention programs would be more impactful and a better use of limited public funds. While gun buyback programs provide a false solution to the appearance of action against gun violence, they do not address the root causes of the problem. Taxpayer funds should be directed toward more effective and comprehensive approaches to reducing gun violence."

**San Antonio DOGE?** There is no one specific program I would chose at this time. I propose the creation of our own Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). This would involve hiring an independent third-party auditor, with no ties to the council, to conduct a thorough evaluation of every office, program, and initiative. The goal would be to identify instances of fraud, waste, and abuse. Once we have concrete, data-driven insights, we can objectively assess the value of these programs and make informed decisions about suspending or restructuring them, without facing undue resistance. Furthermore, this process would enable us to hold the responsible parties accountable for any program failures.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** I believe it is San Antonio's responsibility to assist and enforce the established federal laws period.

**State of policing in America?** My perspective on policing is that the primary responsibility of law enforcement is to uphold the Constitution of the United States. Any laws that contradict the Constitution should not be implemented or enforced. It is essential to manage our police force with a balanced approach—offering support while recognizing that there are instances of misconduct. Transparency between the police department and the district attorney's office is critical. I believe there should be a stronger focus on the DA's office, as it appears to be neglecting its responsibilities by failing to prosecute criminals due to convenience or political bias. Addressing crime in San Antonio requires a comprehensive approach, but we should never adopt a "soft on crime" stance, as this would undermine efforts to ensure public safety and justice.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** In short it undermines transparency and accountability in policing. There is no need for unmarked cars unless they are being utilized for a specific operations of higher levels of criminal activity, meaning they should not be used for menial tasks like speed traps.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? No,** The reason I say no to the repealing ordinances that create penalties for crimes with no clear victim is because it is too broad of a question. I do support repealing specific ordinances like vagrancy and the like but again it would be specific ordinances not a blanket type.

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** No , it is not sustainable because the current debt is around 22.5 Billion. The solution I propose is again our own version of DOGE to identify where the city short falls are as well as diversify our economy. We are too reliant on tourism as a revenue source and we have seen first hand how an incident like COVID could easily decimate our local economy. We need to encourage business and industry to come to San Antonio through incentives that are beneficial both to the external industries we are trying to attract and to the community.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** Project Marvel presents several concerns. The significant cost could strain the city's budget, potentially shifting the financial burden onto taxpayers, especially if funds are not allocated transparently. Additionally, such redevelopment projects risk displacing lower-income residents and small businesses, exacerbating gentrification. There's also the risk of overestimating the economic impact of a sports venue, as it may not consistently generate the expected revenue. Lastly, public backlash could arise if funds are diverted from more pressing needs like education and healthcare. The more I learn about Project Marvel the more I am against it, especially how it seems to have already been decided behind the scenes that it is going to move forward regardless of the concerns of the public. Everyone involved seems to be using very manipulative strategies in order to get the public on board with this monstrosity of debt.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I would push for the guidelines of Eminent Domain to be reevaluated and become more strict on its use. Eminent Domain is a tool that should only be used in the most extreme cases.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I would first look at reforming these programs through the use of a third party audit. If the data show that these programs are ineffective and no clear metric or

standard can be created to ensure that these programs are not just handouts or being abused, then they would be up for termination.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes. I believe property tax is theft but understand that city services require some way of being funded. It is crazy to me that even after you pay off your property you become an eternal renter because of property tax. That being said we need to start somewhere with eliminating these taxes and it starts with the transparency of our local governments expenditures. Once we clean up our local government then we can figure out a reasonable tax rate with the goal in mind of getting the rate as close to zero as possible. At a minimum after city hall has been rectified I would push for eliminating property tax for seniors with reasonable stipulations to avoid people from abusing the system.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes, In response to the question Do you support repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs; yes but again it is too broad of a question and would be on an individual ordinance basis.

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** The city's role in public health crises or other emergencies is to keep the people informed of the situation, not incite fear, utilize emergency services accordingly and maintain order and prevent bad actors from compounding to the situation. At no point do those responsibilities allow for the local government to impose business closures, lockdowns, etc. We have experienced first hand what that entails and it has set our economy and way of life way behind where we should be. There were too many people in positions of authority that established rules for thee and not for me. We should never impose actions like that again in the future and let people determine the level of risk they are willing to take.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Again after a comprehensive audit and the pending results that would be the jumping off point to determine budgetary constraints. If the local government cant control its spending how can they expect the citizens to cut back.

**Ready to Work Program:** No, I think this program was never meant to flourish based off of the requirements to qualify for the program and its results. I would support reevaluating the program or completely change it to incorporate the trade industry. I would not support any more funding to this program unless it fosters a better return on investment.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I think we should introduce competition into the market and privatize CPS as its already operating as such minus the oversight. Now if it stays the same I absolutely agree that it should reduce its profits, if it is a city own utility then it should break even to eliminate the burden on the residents. As far as the planned shut down of active plants I think is extremely ignorant especially after the freeze we experienced a few years ago. I think that we should utilize technology to make the current facilities more efficient. CPS should prioritize affordability and reliability but invest in nuclear energy and technologies that can produce more efficient and reliable energy.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** No, I don't believe that taxpayers are receiving a good return on investment from VIA, if your revenue is heavily subsidized by the taxpayers then your organization's pay scales need to be structured in a way that reflects that. To clarify, you shouldn't be getting a six figure salary when your organization can't even cover its own expenses. As usual per my responses, transparency plays a key role in determining if tax dollars are being utilized properly. If you are being subsidized then you are able to be audited.

**San Antonio Construction:** We need to prioritize projects. We have to negotiate realistic deadlines and incentivize quality work in a timely manner. If the work is delayed due to the contractor then they need to be penalized, you should not get rewarded for inefficiency.

# Raymond Zavala

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 5

*Retired I am a life long resident of San Antonio and district 5. I've served my country for a total of 25 years. I've served in the military (Army, Navy, and Air Force). I'm a member of several civic organizations. Since 2001, I've been an advocate for the residents (especially the senior citizens, the youth, the disabled, and the veterans). I perform many acts of community service on a daily basis. I have four adult children, nine grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. I am a responsible pet (dog)owner. My hobbies include fishing, hunting, reading, sports, marksmanship, gardening, and helping others.*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** The voters should elect me, because I am the top choice to lead district 5 into prosperity. If elected, I will donate my salary to the residents of district 5. Being on council should be community / public service. I will help fund a college education to the selected C & D students, in exchange for two years of community service. I will create apprenticeship programs. I will enforce state law to reduce homelessness. Being homeless isn't a crime, but violating state law is. I will be a good steward of the taxpayers money. I will also stop wasteful money distribution (careless and wasteful spending). Accountability, full transparency, and complete access (open door access and late hours and weekends) will be a standard.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "The top three issues are:

1. Public safety. If elected, I would approve the hiring of 150 additional police officers per year in the city budget.
2. Housing. If elected, I'd create a program to renovate older homes, so that the senior citizens could stay in a safe home. For others, I'd approve funding to help them rent or buy a home.
- 3: Homeless and panhandling. I'd create city ordinances that would align with state laws to enforce no camping in empty lots, empty houses, and empty properties. "

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** My opinion on gun buyback is that it is not working. While it seems practical on paper, in reality it fails to be productive. Taxpayer funds should not be used. Being a believer in the 2nd amendment, I would oppose such wasteful spending.

**San Antonio DOGE?** If elected, I'd reduce the taxpayer funding to the non profit organizations that have over twenty years of funding without showing any interest or concern about becoming self-sufficient. One example is Haven For Hope. In 2001 the non profit organizations stated that they'd only need funding for ten years. That was 24 years and they have eight more years of city funding. I've not seen any positive results. In my opinion, it is poorly managed. A clean sweep of management needs to take place.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** The COSA role should be absolute cooperation. My stance on the city's immigration enforcement is that a law officer city or county should enforce immigration law if presented.

**State of policing in America?** "Nationwide the police are hindered by the city government.

If elected I'd ensure that all police recruits are well trained, disciplined, and serve all the residents equally."

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** I approve the use of unmarked vehicles. I don't believe that it undermines transparency or accountability. It's a good tool to keep the public safe.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? No**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? No,**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** This type of debt is not at this time sustainable. Limits should be placed on any proposed spending. I would address it by finding funding from non productive non profits and making them become self sufficient.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds? NO!** I do not support the use of taxpayer funds to pay and build the entertainment projects. If the Spurs or Mission organizations want a new venue, then they should pay for it. As it is, our current Mission venue has never sold out. No high paying jobs will be created. Baseball only lasts about three months. So what are we going to do for nine months?

**Local eminent domain usage:** If elected, I review the current policies and make changes as deemed necessary. I'd also require full access as to why they want to take someone's property.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I would reform these programs and hold each organization accountable. Currently, VIA has so much funding that they don't know what to do with it. They should be made to pay for street maintenance.



**Local property tax rates:** Yes, I do support initiatives to reduce the property tax rate. It would be even a bonus if we eliminated the school tax for senior citizens.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** I don't believe that the city should have supreme power to impose closures, lockdowns, or other unverified emergency measures.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes, I believe that the city should lead by example and tighten its belt. For starters, I'd eliminate the free lunch program for the council. They should be buying their own lunch, whether catered or not.

**Ready to Work Program:** The program would work if it was managed properly instead of being managed poorly. Only then would I support adding more funding. I'd also add more audits.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I do believe that a private energy provider would be in the best interest of the city. CPS should profit. I feel that the two Sprue plants should be made operational and kept operational. Going green has been attributed to have an adverse effect on power.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I do not believe that taxpayers are receiving a good return on this investment. For improving the service, I'd recommend that VIA use smaller and lighter buses. I'd also require full access to a quarterly audit. The special taxing district should be removed. The entire VIA board should be replaced. I would insist that all board members ride the bus from home to work and back.

**San Antonio Construction:** I would review the contractors and ask for a large amount of vested money to pay for cost overruns or extended work stoppages. The funds would be paid if completed on time.

# Cindy Onyekwelu

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 8

*Software Engineer "I am a 29-year-old resident of San Antonio, having relocated here in the summer of 2019. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Computational Economics (Applied Computer Science) from Pitzer College. For the past six years, I have served as a software engineering contractor supporting the United States Air Force within San Antonio.*

*My background includes a first-generation Nigerian-Mexican American working-class upbringing in Southwest Houston, Texas. My civic priorities are focused on enhancing district-wide ADA compliance and emergency utility public safety measures. I am also committed to fostering economic growth by empowering small business owners to attract investment, and to inspiring the next generation of leadership within our community."*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** "Within a crowded race, my unique differentiator is my blend of technical expertise, lived international experience and a data-driven approach to community challenges. My background in computational economics and software engineering equips me to analyze complex issues, like homelessness and infrastructure, with a focus on measurable outcomes.

Unlike many, I'm a regular public transit user, giving me firsthand insight into the daily struggles faced by those reliant on VIA. This personal experience fuels my commitment to accessible, equitable solutions. In addition, young enough to feel the effects of our current city regulations within the next 30 years.

Furthermore, my dedication to transparency and responsiveness sets me apart. I pledge to prioritize open communication, readily accessible budget information, and a proactive approach to addressing residents' concerns. I offer not just leadership, but a collaborative partnership built on data, empathy, and direct engagement."

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "District 8's top concerns, mirroring citywide trends, are homelessness, housing, and streets. Within my first 100 days, I'll prioritize data-driven solutions. Leveraging the South Texas Medical Center's resources, I'll initiate a collaborative analysis of emergency room reliance by the homeless population, focusing on underlying mental health needs. This will inform targeted interventions.

Simultaneously, I'll advocate for increased state and federal funding for affordable housing and public safety. Addressing street concerns, I'll champion transparency in budget allocation, demanding accessible online expenditure breakdowns, particularly for road maintenance and traffic congestion contracts.

Affordable housing, defined as costs under 30% of income, is crucial. I'll support initiatives that prioritize housing near employment hubs and within VIA transit zones, recognizing the challenges faced by low-income workers, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, I will work to get more funding to animal care services, as this was also a top concern."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** I support gun buyback programs because it gives the citizens the right to do whatever is best for them, it's their own personal choice to either sell their gun or not sell. I do not think taxpayers should be paying for a program that could pay for itself. Basically use profits from re-selling those guns that you have bought from the locals to legal gun manufacturers interested in buying used guns to repurpose/fix. I would support this initiative as long as we find private alternative routes to funding the program instead of draining our city budget.

**San Antonio DOGE?** I would just reevaluate the new "Bike Lane Program" and "Ready To Work" SA program to see if they have metrics in proving that their programs are greatly positively impacting for the majority of san antonio locals. Using this data driven approach would help the council better allocate funds and decide whether or not these programs will since continue

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** For ICE to only focus on the violent criminal offenders; whom actually have been convicted of a serious crime in general.

**State of policing in America?** To inspire more young people under 35 to become more engaged with local city politics and for everyone to understand that politics is a debate of ideas of what best supports our residents, rather than treating politics like a football game.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** Only for serious undercover work of course, but for everyday normal traffic stops no; because that may scare everyday drivers from stopping for a simple traffic violation.



**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** Harsh penalties should be reserved for only serious crimes that have a clear victim impacted. Overall, Yes, I support repealing these ordinances that create penalties for crimes with no clear victim. I believe that laws should focus on preventing harm to others, and these laws often criminalize individuals for personal choices that do not directly victimize anyone.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** Hopefully we don't have to sell the spurs, we could make up the cost of hotel tax fees from the tourist traffic or invite more outside businesses to invest within our city while hiring only locals.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I would work to balance the power structure to be fair and would ask what is required in order to build that trust with the Eminent Domain while in office.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I support reforming these programs. For example, I would reach out to "Ready to Work SA" for their feedback on how their latest 2024 program launched with Alamo Colleges is doing after reviewing feedback and their rate of completion amongst residents working toward a 4 year degree v.s. Certifications. In addition, we must invest in vocational training and apprenticeship programs that equip residents with in-demand skills for industries like construction, manufacturing, and technology. I will also work to attract businesses that provide well-paying jobs and support small business growth, which is a crucial engine of our local economy.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes, and I will work with HOA committees to better understand how we can approach this mission efficiently in decreasing their property taxes at town halls and email surveys.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** In continuing their mission in budget transparency and in expanding their emergency access to utilities and wifi in case of natural disasters with updated plans reviewed often to the public.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Balancing these needs requires a transparent and inclusive planning process. I will advocate for policies that incentivize development while protecting the character of our neighborhoods and respecting the rights of long-time property owners. This includes ensuring fair compensation for property acquisitions and providing opportunities for residents to participate in the development process such as estate micro-investments.

**Ready to Work Program:** I would reach out to "Ready to Work SA" for their feedback on how their latest 2024 program launched with Alamo Colleges is doing after reviewing feedback and their rate of completion amongst residents working toward a 4 year degree v.s. Certifications. In addition, we must invest in vocational training and apprenticeship programs that equip residents with in-demand skills for industries like construction, manufacturing, and technology. I will also work to attract businesses that provide well-paying jobs and support small business growth, which is a crucial engine of our local economy.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I believe CPS Energy is best managed by the City of San Antonio. Public ownership ensures that the focus remains on serving the community's needs, rather than maximizing profits. However, there needs to be improved efficiency and transparency. Therefore, CPS Energy needs to work towards finding alternative energy sources. While affordability and reliability are important, we cannot ignore the long-term environmental consequences of relying on coal. The transition should be done in a responsible manner.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I find the bus routes, park-and-ride and VIA Link all helpful and yes I believe taxpayers are receiving a good return on their investment. Over 94,000 riders within San Antonio per quarter of the year; therefore decreasing the amount of car traffic on the road during these intense times of non-stop construction on I-10. Make the VIA Link app more user friendly and easier to use. All bus stops need to be evaluated regularly to see whether it's up to ADA compliance regulations aligning the new construction projects impacting them and creating new detours. The special taxing should remain in place in order to make sure the VIA bus drivers are getting paid a livable wage and the bus maintenance is always up to date. I would also suggest working dependable wifi on the bus is a must! Yes, I absolutely agree VIA's unelected board should be restructured to better reflect the public of bus riders that depend on VIA to get to and back from work or school everyday!

**San Antonio Construction:** As a VIA bus rider, I understand the daily transportation challenges faced by many. Addressing public safety is also vital. Texas's high drunk driving fatality rate, coupled with the high volume of VIA riders (94,600 weekday average in late 2024), underscores the need for improved public safety measures. Encourage young people, college students and more to take the bus with incentives like working wifi on the bus.



# Trinity Haddox

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 7

*"I moved to San Antonio over eight years ago to build a better future, and this city has become my home. I came here to start my life, it's where I met my wife, and where our daughter was born and raised. As a father and husband, I understand the challenges that working families face every day.*

*I'm not a career politician, I'm an everyday resident who wants to see real change in our community. My focus is on improving infrastructure, supporting small businesses, and ensuring responsible economic growth that benefits the people of San Antonio. I'm committed to being accessible, listening to residents, and putting our community first."*



**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I bring a fresh perspective, unburdened by the ties of career politicians. I understand the everyday struggles of working families in San Antonio because I live them myself. My focus is on improving infrastructure, supporting small businesses, and ensuring responsible economic development that benefits all of our community.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** San Antonio faces major challenges with infrastructure, public safety, and the rising cost of living. Our roads and drainage systems need better maintenance, and I will push for smarter spending to prioritize these repairs. To improve public safety, I will advocate for better lighting, cleaner streets, and stronger community programs that help prevent crime. Additionally, with rising property taxes and housing costs, I will work to keep taxes in check and support small businesses to strengthen our local economy. My focus is on practical solutions that improve the daily lives of San Antonians.

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "I believe in the constitutional right to bear arms, and I support responsible gun ownership. Gun buyback programs may seem like a quick solution, but they don't address the root causes of violence or crime. Instead of spending taxpayer funds on programs that may not effectively reduce crime, I believe the focus should be on improving public safety through better community policing, mental health support, and more effective law enforcement strategies.

While I understand the intent behind gun buybacks, I would not support such initiatives in San Antonio. I believe our resources would be better spent on initiatives that target the root causes of crime. "

**San Antonio DOGE?** I would reassess the Ready to WorkSA program. While its intent to provide job training and skill development is admirable, I believe the program has become overly bureaucratic and may not be providing the best return on investment for taxpayers. In some cases, similar services can be more effectively offered through partnerships with local businesses and private sector training programs that are more flexible and better aligned with current job market demands.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** The City of San Antonio should prioritize the safety and well being of all its residents, regardless of immigration status. While immigration enforcement is primarily a federal responsibility, I believe the City should maintain a clear stance of cooperation with federal authorities when it comes to criminal activities but avoid involving local law enforcement in routine immigration enforcement. This allows our police officers to focus on keeping our neighborhoods safe without becoming entangled in federal immigration matters.

**State of policing in America?** "Policing in America is at a crossroads, with growing calls for reform, accountability, and trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. While the vast majority of police officers are dedicated professionals who risk their lives to protect us, there are instances where systemic issues within departments have led to a breakdown in trust. In San Antonio, I believe we need to focus on both strengthening public safety and ensuring that our police officers have the proper resources and support to do their jobs effectively and ethically.

If elected, I would prioritize improving community policing efforts, where officers engage with residents proactively to build trust and address concerns before they escalate. I also support expanding training programs that focus on de-escalation techniques, mental health crisis intervention, and cultural competency to ensure officers are prepared to handle a variety of situations appropriately. Additionally, I would push for more transparency and accountability in the San Antonio Police Department to ensure that the public feels confident in the actions of law enforcement.

My goal is to create a city where everyone feels safe and valued, where our police force is a trusted partner in maintaining public safety, and where our residents feel they can engage with law enforcement without fear or mistrust."

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** "I believe that the use of unmarked or deceptively-marked police vehicles, or "ghost cars," for routine traffic enforcement can undermine transparency and accountability in policing. While they may be effective at catching offenders and deterring certain traffic violations, they can also

create a sense of distrust among the public. When residents cannot easily identify law enforcement officers, it can lead to concerns about fairness and accountability in how traffic laws are enforced.

I would encourage more transparent policing practices that allow the community to feel confident in the actions of law enforcement. Clear identification of officers and their vehicles is important for fostering trust and ensuring that enforcement is fair and accountable to the public."

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? No**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** "No, I do not believe that the current level of debt is sustainable. An \$18 billion debt is concerning, especially when it could potentially impact the city's ability to fund essential services and invest in the future. While debt is sometimes necessary for long-term projects, it's important that the city manages its finances responsibly to avoid putting an undue burden on taxpayers and future generations.

If elected, I would advocate for a comprehensive review of the city's debt and spending priorities. We need to ensure that debt is being used efficiently and for projects that will provide a clear return on investment. I would focus on reducing wasteful spending and prioritizing necessary infrastructure improvements, which are key to our city's growth and long-term success."

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** "I support investing in the future of San Antonio, but any large-scale project like Project Marvel must be approached with caution, particularly when taxpayer funds are involved. While expanding infrastructure like the Gonzalez Convention Center, renovating the Alamodome, and upgrading our sports venues can drive economic growth and tourism, I believe we need to ensure that the financial burden on taxpayers is reasonable and that the expected returns justify the investment.

If the Spurs agree to cover 50% of the cost of their new stadium, I would be more open to supporting this project, as it would reduce the financial strain on the city and make it a more equitable arrangement. However, it's essential that we carefully evaluate the costs, timeline, and economic impact of each part of the project, ensuring that the city's priorities, such as public safety, infrastructure, and affordable housing, are not overlooked.

I believe in responsible growth, and while entertainment and sports venues are important, they should not come at the expense of other critical community needs. If we can balance the costs with a fair partnership and ensure the city gets a strong return on investment, I would support moving forward with the project."

**Local eminent domain usage:** I would work to strengthen protections against the abuse of eminent domain in San Antonio. Eminent domain should only be used for true public projects that directly benefit the community, such as infrastructure or public safety, not for private development or corporate gain. I would ensure that property owners are fairly compensated at market value, with the process being transparent and subject to independent appraisal. Public input would be a key part of any eminent domain decision, and there would be an independent review to ensure the project serves a legitimate public interest. Additionally, the city should exhaust all alternatives to taking property, such as negotiation, before resorting to eminent domain. These measures would ensure that eminent domain is used responsibly and fairly, protecting residents' rights while advancing public needs.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** "I do understand the desire to reduce the overall sales tax rate, eliminating or reforming programs like Pre-K 4 SA and VIA Metropolitan Transit should be carefully considered, as they provide significant community benefits such as early childhood education and public transportation. However, I would look into reforming or eliminating programs like Ready to Work if they are not yielding the desired results or are inefficient in delivering services.

Instead of completely cutting these programs, I would focus on improving their efficiency and ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used effectively. I would also explore ways to partner with private organizations or businesses to reduce the burden on taxpayers while still meeting the community's needs. Ultimately, we need to balance reducing the sales tax rate with maintaining the vital services that help our residents thrive."

**Local property tax rates:** Yes, I support initiatives aimed at reducing the property tax rate for all property owners in San Antonio. Property owners are feeling the burden of rising costs, and as we work toward economic stability and growth, it's important to ease that burden where possible. A reduction in property taxes could provide relief to homeowners, businesses, and renters, helping to keep San Antonio an affordable place to live and work.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** The City of San Antonio should play a role in protecting public health, but any measures like business closures or lockdowns should be a last resort and used temporarily. I believe the city should have some authority to impose emergency measures, but they must be transparent, based on sound data, and communicated clearly to the public. In future crises, I would prioritize measures that support both public health and the economy, such as offering

support to impacted businesses, while ensuring that emergency powers are used responsibly and with respect for personal freedoms.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes, I believe the City should tighten its belt to ease the financial burden on taxpayers. This means prioritizing essential services, eliminating wasteful spending, and ensuring that tax dollars are used efficiently. Specifically, I would advocate for reviewing city programs to identify areas for cost-saving, reducing unnecessary administrative overhead, and finding opportunities to renegotiate contracts to get better value for services.

**Ready to Work Program:** I believe it's important to reassess its effectiveness and impact before considering additional funding or continuing the tax increase. While workforce development is essential, if the program isn't delivering sufficient value to taxpayers, I would support scaling it back or finding ways to improve its efficiency. It's crucial that programs funded by taxpayer dollars show measurable results and fulfill their intended purpose. I would not support additional sales tax funding.

**CPS Energy ownership:** "I believe CPS Energy plays a critical role in providing affordable and reliable energy to San Antonio residents, and its management by the City of San Antonio offers important accountability to the public. While private energy providers may offer some advantages, having CPS Energy as a publicly managed utility ensures that decisions are made with the city's residents in mind, rather than corporate profit. CPS Energy should focus on reducing profits where possible to ease the burden on residents. It's important to balance financial sustainability with affordability for taxpayers.

Regarding the planned shutdown of the Spruce 1 coal plant and conversion of Spruce 2, I believe CPS Energy should prioritize both affordability and reliability, ensuring that the transition to alternative energy sources is gradual and well-planned. While renewable energy is essential for long-term sustainability, we must avoid sudden disruptions that could lead to higher costs or reliability issues. A balanced approach that incorporates renewable energy while maintaining dependable service through a mix of energy sources is crucial for the future of San Antonio."

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** "I believe VIA Metropolitan Transit plays a vital role in serving San Antonio residents, but it's important that taxpayers are receiving a good return on investment. If VIA's services are not effectively meeting the needs of the community, we must evaluate and improve efficiency and accountability. I would support a review of VIA's operations to identify areas for improvement, such as reducing overhead costs, optimizing routes, and expanding service to underserved areas.

The special taxing district, should remain in place as long as VIA can demonstrate its value and effectiveness in serving the public. However, if it's not meeting expectations, adjustments should be made. I also believe VIA's unelected board should be more accountable to the public, potentially by restructuring it to allow for greater transparency and input from residents, ensuring that decisions are made with the community's best interests in mind. VIA needs to operate in a way that justifies the tax burden and provides reliable, efficient service to San Antonio's growing population."

**San Antonio Construction:** "I would prioritize improving communication and transparency between the city, contractors, and residents to keep everyone informed about project timelines, impacts, and benefits. Additionally, I would work on streamlining project approval processes and holding contractors accountable for delays or inefficiencies, ensuring that projects are completed on time and within budget.

Thoughtful planning around transportation and traffic management can help minimize congestion, while also providing more public transportation options to reduce dependence on cars.

We can make progress without sacrificing the quality of life that San Antonio residents value."

# Gregorio De La Paz

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 4

*Construction Management "Gregorio De La Paz – A Leader for the People*  
*Gregorio De La Paz knows the meaning of hard work, sacrifice, and service. Born and raised in humble beginnings, he learned early on that perseverance and dedication could open doors. Determined to create a better future, he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he served with honor and discipline, forging the leadership skills that would guide him for a lifetime.*

*After completing his military service, Gregorio De La Paz returned home to the community that raised him. He built a life centered around family, hard work, and service to others. As a single father to five daughters and a proud grandfather of four, he understands the challenges families face every day. His experiences as a parent have shaped his belief in the importance of strong communities, quality education, and economic opportunities for all.*

*For the past 35 years, Gregorio De La Paz has worked at the same company, rising through the ranks and mentoring countless employees along the way. His commitment to hard work and integrity has made him a trusted leader in the workplace, where he has helped others find stability and success.*

*Now, Gregorio De La Paz is ready to take his leadership to the next level—fighting for working families, supporting small businesses, and ensuring a brighter future for the next generation. With a lifetime of service, experience, and dedication, he is running for office to bring common-sense solutions and real leadership to our community.*

*Gregorio De La Paz believes in leading by example, putting people first, and never forgetting where he came from. It's time for leadership that understands the struggles of everyday Americans—because he's lived them.*

*Vote for Gregorio De La Paz — A Leader Who Works for You!*

*Semper Fidelis!*

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** "Voters should elect me to this office because I have deep roots in this community and a strong commitment to its safety and success. I'm a proud father of five daughters, all being raised right here—so I don't just talk about wanting a safer, stronger community, I live it every day.

With a military background, I bring discipline, leadership, and a mission-first mindset. I've also worked at the same company for 35 years, showing consistency, loyalty, and a strong work ethic.

Public safety is a top priority for me. I will always support our law enforcement and first responders—because when they have the tools and backing they need, we all benefit. I want every family here to feel secure, heard, and valued, just like I want that for my own."

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "In my opinion, the top three issues currently affecting San Antonio are public safety, infrastructure, and educating students in trades.

### 1. Public Safety:

As a father of five daughters, ensuring the safety of our families is my number one priority. Our law enforcement officers and first responders deserve our full support. If elected, I will work to strengthen our public safety systems by improving funding for police, fire, and emergency services. I'll also prioritize community policing efforts to build trust and create safer, stronger neighborhoods where families can thrive.

### 2. Infrastructure:

San Antonio's rapid growth has highlighted the need for infrastructure that can keep up with our city's expanding population. From roads and bridges to utilities and public transportation, we need long-term planning and investment. I'll work to modernize and upgrade our infrastructure so it meets the needs of our growing community while reducing traffic congestion and improving access to essential services.

### 3. Teaching Trades in High School:

Not every student needs a four-year college degree to be successful. I'm a strong advocate for expanding trade education in our high schools. By providing students with hands-on training in fields like plumbing, electrical work, AC and heating, and carpentry, we can equip them with valuable skills that lead directly to stable, well-paying jobs. I will push for greater investment in vocational programs so that all students have the opportunity to succeed, no matter their career path."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "I do not support using taxpayer funds for city-hosted gun buyback programs. While I understand the desire to reduce gun violence, I believe these programs are ultimately a waste of taxpayer money. They often



fail to address the root causes of crime and violence, and in many cases, they only encourage law-abiding citizens to turn in firearms, while criminals typically do not participate.

Gun buyback programs often have minimal impact on reducing violent crime or illegal gun ownership. Instead, they disproportionately affect responsible gun owners who are simply trying to ensure their firearms are properly disposed of or no longer needed. We should focus on policies that target the root causes of violence, like strengthening law enforcement and providing more mental health resources, rather than spending public funds on programs that do not tackle the bigger issues at hand.

In San Antonio, I would prioritize common-sense solutions that support public safety without wasting taxpayer dollars on ineffective initiatives."

**San Antonio DOGE?** "If elected, I would carefully review all City of San Antonio programs to ensure we are spending taxpayer money wisely and effectively. One program I would consider reevaluating is the Ready to Work Program. While the intention behind this program is commendable, it's been shown that it's not 90 percent effective in achieving its goals. We need to invest in programs that have a measurable and substantial impact on the community, and right now, it seems that the results do not justify the costs.

Rather than continuing to fund programs that show limited return on investment, I would redirect those resources into initiatives that truly make a difference, such as expanding workforce training in high-demand fields, improving public safety, and addressing the root causes of poverty and unemployment.

By cutting wasteful spending and focusing on results-driven programs, we can ensure taxpayer dollars are being used to make a real and lasting impact on San Antonio."

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** "I fully support ICE and the deportation of criminals and terrorists. Our top priority should always be the safety and security of our community. Criminals, regardless of their immigration status, pose a threat to all of us, and it is essential that we enforce the law to protect San Antonio families.

Unfortunately, under the current mayor, the City of San Antonio has not supported the will of the voters when it comes to immigration enforcement. The city should be a partner with federal agencies like ICE to ensure that individuals who have broken the law are held accountable, including those who are here illegally and involved in criminal activity.

I believe in a common-sense approach to immigration enforcement—one that focuses on public safety, supports our law enforcement agencies, and upholds the rule of law while respecting the rights of all individuals. If elected I would ensure that San Antonio is a city that fully supports the enforcement of immigration laws, as that is what the people of this city expect and deserve."

**State of policing in America?** "I fully support our first responders and law enforcement. They put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe, and they deserve our respect, resources, and unwavering backing. Public safety is the foundation of a strong and thriving city, and without it, we cannot build the future we want for San Antonio.

I will stand firm against domestic terrorism and the destruction of property. We cannot allow individuals or groups to undermine the safety and peace of our communities through violent or unlawful actions. I believe in holding criminals accountable and ensuring that law enforcement has the tools and training they need to effectively do their jobs, while also ensuring fair and just treatment for everyone.

If elected, I will focus on strengthening the relationship between law enforcement and the community, promoting transparency, and ensuring that officers are equipped with the right resources to keep us safe. Public safety is crucial for our families, our businesses, and our future, and I will always prioritize it."

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** "I fully support our law enforcement, and I believe that unmarked vehicles can be an essential tool in maintaining public safety. They allow officers to observe and respond to criminal activity without alerting potential offenders in advance, which can be particularly effective in addressing dangerous driving behaviors, drug trafficking, and other crimes that put our communities at risk.

That said, transparency and accountability are key in policing. It's important that officers are held to high standards of conduct, and that the public has confidence in how law enforcement operates. While unmarked vehicles are effective for certain tasks, there should always be clear policies and oversight in place to ensure they are used appropriately and that officers are accountable for their actions."

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? No**

## **Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? No**

I fully support our first responders and will always prioritize efforts to protect our community. Our law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel work tirelessly to keep us safe, and they deserve the resources, respect, and support they need to do their jobs effectively. As we move forward, I will ensure that San Antonio remains a city where public safety is always a top priority, and where both our law enforcement and our communities can work together to build a safer future for everyone.

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** "Absolutely not—this level of debt is not sustainable. The City of San Antonio must take immediate action to address this financial burden, as it threatens our ability to invest in critical services and infrastructure in the future.

A dodge-type review is needed to reassess how taxpayer money is being spent. We must scrutinize every area of spending, particularly needless expenditures that do not directly contribute to the well-being of our community. I would focus on reducing wasteful spending, cutting unnecessary programs, and reevaluating contracts that are not providing value.

Additionally, funding for NGOs and other non-essential organizations should absolutely be cut or redirected toward initiatives that benefit taxpayers more directly, like improving public safety, infrastructure, and quality of life. We must make tough decisions now to secure a financially stable future for San Antonio."

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** "I do not fully support Project Marvel in its current form, especially when it involves the extensive use of taxpayer funds for large-scale expansions and new constructions. If we are going to invest in such projects, we need to be strategic about utilizing existing infrastructure. For example, the Alamodome already has the potential to house a variety of sporting events, teams, and concerts. We should explore the possibility of upgrading and expanding the Alamodome or rebuilding in the same location with expanding using the sunset location. basically an all in one location for all events.

Eminent domain should only be considered as a last resort, and we must ensure that any expansion or renovation project is financially justifiable in the long run. Our focus should be on maximizing the use of existing facilities to avoid the excessive waste of taxpayer money, while still providing a top-tier experience for visitors and residents."

**Local eminent domain usage:** "I only support eminent domain as a last resort. The abuse of eminent domain in the past has shown how it can unfairly displace individuals and shift power in favor of the powerful, often without just compensation. If elected, I will push to ensure that eminent domain is only used when absolutely necessary for public good, and when all other alternatives have been exhausted.

I will advocate for clear guidelines and increased transparency in the decision-making process, making sure that property owners are fully compensated and that their rights are respected. The government should never take property from individuals without clear, justifiable reasons, and I will fight to protect the rights of San Antonio residents in this regard."

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** "If the programs funded by the city's sales tax, like Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, and VIA Metropolitan Transit, do not work effectively or place an excessive burden on taxpayers, we should absolutely reform or shut down these programs. If they are not delivering tangible, measurable results, it's time to reevaluate their impact on our community and consider redirecting those funds to more effective initiatives or reducing the tax burden on San Antonio residents.

Ultimately, the money belongs to the taxpayers, and if these programs are over-taxing the public without delivering sufficient value, we should return that money to the people who earned it. San Antonio residents deserve a fair tax rate, and we must ensure that their hard-earned dollars are spent wisely and efficiently."

**Local property tax rates:** "I fully support any initiative aimed at reducing the property tax rate for all property owners in San Antonio. The market value of homes has increased, and with the recent slowdown in property value growth, it's crucial that we do not overburden homeowners with excessive taxes.

We must fully support any path leading to tax breaks or refunds for taxpayers, especially when there is a surplus in state revenue. If the state has excess funds, it's only fair to return some of that to the people who have contributed to it through their hard work. Reducing property taxes will provide relief to homeowners, promote economic stability, and allow residents to keep more of their own money."

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** "The lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic were unnecessary. It was clear that many people were driving by themselves wearing masks, and these measures, in many cases, did more harm than good. Scaring the public as a whole is a crime, and it undermines trust in government and public health initiatives.

In times of public health crises or emergencies, the City of San Antonio should not have the authority to impose business closures or lockdowns. Instead, the city should focus on providing clear, accurate information and making recommendations to the public. Public health measures like vaccinations should remain a personal choice, and individuals should be able to make informed decisions without government mandates.

In future crises, I would advocate for a more measured and transparent approach, where the city offers guidelines and recommendations, but does not overstep by imposing restrictive measures that cause unnecessary economic hardship and anxiety. Local government should focus on being a resource for information and support, not an enforcer of mandates."

**Inflation policy proposals:** "It is our duty to protect our taxpayers from overspending. With the rising inflation, the financial burden on San Antonio residents is only growing, and we must take action to ease that pressure. We owe it to the people to spend less and prioritize the essential services that directly benefit the community.

To ease the financial burden on taxpayers, I would propose cutting unnecessary programs and NGOs that do not provide a clear, measurable benefit to the public. This includes reevaluating all city-funded initiatives and ensuring that funds are only allocated to those that provide tangible, essential services. We need to make sure every dollar spent is a dollar well spent, especially during times of economic uncertainty.

By tightening our belt, we can reduce wasteful spending and ensure that tax dollars are used efficiently, helping to lower the overall financial burden on residents."

We owe it to the taxpayer to be mindful of our spending and to ensure that we do not overburden the taxpayer. It's important to remember, it's not the city's money—it's the hard-earned income of the people who live and work in San Antonio. We must approach the budget with fiscal responsibility and transparency, making sure that every dollar spent is serving the best interests of the community, not just increasing the burden on residents. It's time to focus on spending wisely and cutting unnecessary costs wherever possible to ensure we are protecting taxpayers' dollars.

**Ready to Work Program:** The Ready to Work program has proven to be a failed program with a 90 percent failure rate. It is clear that the program is not delivering the value it was intended to provide to taxpayers. At this point, it's time to shut it down and return the money to the people. Taxpayers should not be burdened with funding a program that is not meeting its goals. Rather than continuing to pour money into an ineffective initiative, we should focus on programs that actually work and directly benefit the community. If the funding is no longer needed for Ready to Work, we should return it to the public and ensure that future taxpayer dollars are spent more wisely and effectively.

**CPS Energy ownership:** "I believe the City of San Antonio should continue managing CPS Energy. While ERCOT is struggling to provide consistent service across the state, CPS Energy plays a crucial role in meeting the energy needs of our city, and with proper management, it can continue to provide reliable power. Reliability and affordability are key, and CPS Energy, as a city-managed entity, is better positioned to serve the long-term interests of residents.

Regarding the recent rate hikes, I believe rates should only be adjusted as necessary to maintain operations and ensure the continued reliability of our energy grid. However, bonuses for city employees, including those at CPS Energy, should be eliminated—they are public servants, and their compensation should reflect their service, not additional profits.

As for the planned shutdown of the Spruce 1 coal plant and the conversion of Spruce 2, we should absolutely keep our coal plants up and running to ensure that we maintain a reliable and affordable energy supply. The world is still bringing online hundreds of new coal plants, and we should not rush to abandon resources that ensure our energy grid's stability. I do not support the Green New Deal or the Inflation Reduction Act because I believe they place unnecessary burdens on families and businesses, driving up costs without guaranteeing the reliability we need in the future.

CPS Energy's priority should always be affordability and reliability, and we need to ensure that the energy grid can handle our growing needs while also being mindful of costs."

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** "Even though VIA Metropolitan Transit seems to be operating somewhat like an NGO, it is governed by a board that includes 5 city council members, 3 county commissioners, and others. While I do believe VIA provides a benefit to the public, it should be more transparent with its books and show taxpayers exactly where their money is going. The public deserves to know how funds are being spent and whether the services provided are meeting the needs of the community effectively.

As for the 0.5% sales tax, I believe it should be reduced so as not to overburden the taxpayer. If VIA is to continue operating, we need to ensure that the tax rate is fair and that taxpayers are receiving a good return on their investment. Additionally, the special taxing district should be re-evaluated, and VIA's board should be made more accountable to the public. Increasing accountability and transparency will help ensure that VIA operates efficiently and in the best interest of the people it serves."



**San Antonio Construction:** "The expansions and infrastructure projects we're seeing now should have been initiated years ago to keep pace with the city's growth. The most important thing now is to ensure that the growth of San Antonio is matched by adequate infrastructure to support it, so that we don't end up with more congestion, traffic, and disruptions to daily life.

To manage this growth more effectively, I would prioritize ongoing communication with residents about project timelines and disruptions, and look for innovative ways to ease the burden on daily life. For example, we could encourage businesses to allow their employees to stagger their work hours—both for arrival and departure times—to reduce rush-hour congestion. This could help minimize the gridlock and improve overall flow, especially in areas where multiple construction projects are happening at once.

The city needs to focus on ensuring that infrastructure development keeps pace with residential and commercial growth. We should make improvements where needed, but also remain mindful of how these changes affect the quality of life for residents. Balancing progress with livability will be key in ensuring that growth benefits everyone in San Antonio."

# Kizzie D. Thomas

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 2

*Educator My name is Kizzie Thomas Calhoun, a proud Eastside native, educator, and community leader. I've spent over 20 years in public education, empowering students and advocating for equity. My commitment to service has led me to run for City Council in District 2, where I was born, raised, and raised my family. My life's work has centered on amplifying community voices, dismantling barriers, and building bridges for meaningful progress.*



**Why should voters elect you to this office?** "Voters should elect me because I bring lived experience, deep community roots, and a track record of collaborative leadership. I know District 2—not from a distance, but from walking its streets, teaching in its schools, and serving its families. I am not here for politics as usual. I'm running to be a servant leader who listens, acts, and advocates for all, especially those long left out of the conversation."

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "Top Three Issues & Solutions:

**Housing Affordability** – I will prioritize policies that prevent displacement, increase homeownership, and ensure affordability through partnerships with community land trusts and stronger tenant protections.

**Public Safety** – Safety must be comprehensive. That means addressing crime, stray dogs, infrastructure neglect, and under-resourced neighborhoods through prevention, not just reaction.

**Infrastructure Equity** – Our district deserves clean streets, safe sidewalks, and working drainage. I will push for transparent timelines, community input, and equitable distribution of bond dollars."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** I support voluntary, city-sponsored gun buyback programs as one tool to improve public safety. If done transparently, with community input and responsible budgeting, such initiatives can reduce the number of unsecured or unwanted firearms in our neighborhoods.

**San Antonio DOGE?** Every city program should be evaluated for impact and equity. I would review underperforming initiatives like Ready to Work and push for performance audits. Waste is not just financial—it's failing to deliver real outcomes for the people.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** The City of San Antonio should not be in the business of enforcing federal immigration policy. Our role should be to protect all residents, regardless of immigration status, and ensure city services are accessible and inclusive.

**State of policing in America?** We must reimagine public safety to include mental health response, community-based policing, and true accountability. I support fair pay and training for officers but also demand reform in transparency, complaint handling, and civilian oversight.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** I oppose their widespread use for routine enforcement. They can undermine public trust. Transparency and visibility matter in community policing—ghost cars should be limited to specific, safety-focused operations.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes**

A compassionate city must lead with equity, not punishment. We can't arrest our way to safety or prosperity.

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** \$18 billion in debt is a serious concern. We must pause on vanity projects and focus on core services—housing, infrastructure, and safety. I support public audits, priority budgeting, and greater fiscal transparency.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** I oppose Project Marvel in its current form. Our basic infrastructure needs are unmet—this is not the time for luxury developments that divert resources from struggling communities.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I support strong protections for property owners, especially against misuse by powerful developers. All city takings must center public interest and fair compensation, with clear oversight and community representation.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I support reforming—not eliminating—programs like Pre-K 4 SA and VIA. These programs must be held accountable to the public through measurable outcomes and equitable service. Sales taxes are regressive, so we must ensure every dollar works harder for working families.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes, I support targeted property tax relief, especially for seniors, longtime homeowners, and those on fixed incomes. As home values rise, we must ensure residents aren't taxed out of their neighborhoods.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses:** Yes

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** The city should have the authority to respond swiftly to emergencies but must do so with community input, transparency, and regular checks on power. Future policies must clearly outline limits and accountability during crises.

**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes, the city must lead by example. I support a top-to-bottom review of departmental spending and would push for efficiency measures, contracting reform, and reprioritizing funds toward core services that residents rely on most.

**Ready to Work Program:** The intent was good, but the execution has fallen short. I support reforming the program and potentially reducing the sales tax if outcomes don't improve. Future funding should be performance-based.

**CPS Energy ownership:** CPS should remain publicly owned but held more accountable. I support transitioning from coal while maintaining affordability and grid reliability. Rate hikes should be a last resort—not a default response.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** VIA needs serious modernization and expanded service. I support continued funding, but with clear performance benchmarks and greater community input. I would push for restructuring the board to include more public oversight.

**San Antonio Construction:** We need smarter, phased infrastructure planning. I will advocate for community-based planning, contractor accountability, and clearer communication with affected residents. Growth should never come at the cost of people's peace of mind.

San Antonio has immense potential—but we must lead with equity, transparency, and community-centered policy. I am ready to work with, not just for, the people of District 2 to make this vision real.

# Santos Alvarado

## Candidate for San Antonio Mayor

*Retired* I was born and raised here in San Antonio on the Westside. I attended 6 school in the Edgewood ISD. I joined the Army at 17 in 75. I served for 23 yrs and another 25 for the Department of Defense. I returned back in 2023 to my place of birth after I retired in 2020.

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** The city of San Antonio needs Leadership and mentorship. I have 23 yrs as a leader and a mentor in the US Army and 25 yrs as a mentor for the Department of Defense. I have also served as a Post Commander for an American Legion Post and as a Department Commander for the Department of France, American Legion.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?** "Affordability & Housing Insecurity: many of our residents are being priced out of their own neighborhoods. Rising rents, stagnant wages, and a shortage of affordable housing are pushing working families to the brink. Launch a Citywide Affordable Housing Strategy to increase housing supply while protecting longtime residents from displacement.



**Climate Change & Infrastructure Resilience:** Our city must modernize its infrastructure, energy systems, and planning to ensure safety, sustainability, and economic strength. Implement an ambitious Climate Resilience Plan that focuses on green infrastructure, clean energy, and equity. Push for reforms at CPS Energy that prioritize transparency, accountability, and a faster shift to renewables.

**Trust in Government & Transparency:** Many San Antonians feel disconnected from City Hall — like decisions are being made about them, not with them. Whether it's how we spend tax dollars or how we set priorities, people deserve a government that listens, includes, and explains.

Launch a Participatory Budgeting Program so residents can help decide how to use city funds in their neighborhoods.

Host monthly Mayor's Town Halls in all ten districts to give residents a direct line to leadership.

Strengthen open data and communication so the public knows exactly where their money is going — and why."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "As a mayoral candidate who is deeply committed to public safety and community well-being, I believe gun violence is a public health issue that requires proactive, community-based solutions. One tool in our toolbox is gun buyback programs — and I support their use when they are part of a broader public safety strategy.

Yes — with conditions. I support voluntary, no-questions-asked gun buyback events, especially in partnership with law enforcement, churches, and community organizations. These programs can:

Reduce the number of unwanted or unsecured firearms in homes,

Prevent accidental shootings and suicides,

If done transparently and strategically, yes. I would support using a small, clearly budgeted amount of city funds — supplemented by private donations and federal grants — to fund these programs.

Data-driven (we need to track what's working),

Equitable (held in communities most impacted by gun violence),

And efficient (with safeguards to ensure accountability and cost-effectiveness).

A gun buyback alone won't stop gun violence. That's why, as mayor, I'd push for a comprehensive community safety strategy that includes:

Violence interruption programs led by credible messengers,

Investments in mental health and youth outreach,

And strong support for responsible gun ownership and storage education."

**San Antonio DOGE?** "I fully support efforts to eliminate waste, improve efficiency, and restore trust in government. As mayor, I would work to ensure that every tax dollar is being spent wisely — and that residents see clear value in what their city government delivers.

With the rise of the federal Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), more cities are being challenged to rethink how they spend. I welcome that challenge — because real leadership means making tough calls, not rubber-stamping bloated budgets.

Rather than pick symbolic targets, I believe in a data-first approach. That's why I would launch an independent, public-facing audit of all city departments and programs — not behind closed doors, but with community input at every step.

Too often, we spend millions on outside consultants — for studies, reports, or software — while underutilizing our own talented city staff.

Some departments have overlapping functions — particularly in planning, development, and permitting. I'd look to:

Merge or streamline overlapping functions

Cross-train staff to improve service delivery while cutting redundant positions at the top.

The city owns and leases buildings it doesn't fully use — costing taxpayers unnecessarily.

Conduct a full real estate efficiency audit

Sell, lease, or repurpose underutilized spaces"

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** "As a mayoral candidate deeply committed to public safety, community trust, and the equitable treatment of all residents, I believe the City of San Antonio must carefully navigate its role in federal immigration enforcement.

While compliance with state law is mandatory, I believe the City should take a balanced approach that upholds public safety without eroding trust within our immigrant communities.

Focus on Serious Criminal Activity: City resources should prioritize addressing serious criminal offenses. Cooperation with federal immigration enforcement should be limited to cases involving individuals who pose a significant threat to public safety.

Protect Community Trust: Overly aggressive immigration enforcement can deter community members from reporting crimes or cooperating with law enforcement, undermining public safety for all.

Transparency and Accountability: The City should maintain transparent policies regarding its interactions with federal immigration authorities, ensuring that community members are informed and that civil liberties are respected."

**State of policing in America?** "The conversation around policing in America is not just about law enforcement — it's about trust, safety, and justice. Across the country and right here in San Antonio, many people feel a tension: they want to feel safe in their neighborhoods, but they also want to know that policing is fair, transparent, and accountable.

I believe that public safety and civil rights are not in conflict — they go hand in hand. As mayor, my job is to make sure every resident, in every ZIP code, feels protected and respected by those sworn to serve them.

Expand community policing efforts so officers are visible, engaged, and familiar with the neighborhoods they serve.

Strengthen the authority and independence of San Antonio's Police Oversight Committee.

Require public reporting on use-of-force incidents, disciplinary actions, and complaint outcomes.

Implement body camera accountability standards and ensure footage is released promptly when incidents occur.

Expand mental health response teams to handle nonviolent crisis calls — so people in distress are met with care, not cuffs.

Prioritize recruiting officers who reflect San Antonio's diversity and are committed to community engagement.

Promote a culture of honor and service, with higher standards, fair compensation, and clear expectations of accountability."

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** "Public safety should never come at the cost of public trust. As mayor, I believe in transparent, community-first policing, and that means scrutinizing every tool we use — including unmarked or deceptively-marked police vehicles, often referred to as "ghost cars."

Prohibit their use for routine traffic stops like speeding, expired tags, or minor violations.

Restrict use to targeted operations — such as organized street racing or specific criminal investigations — with oversight.

Prioritize marked patrol units and officer presence in neighborhoods as a more effective, trust-building deterrent to dangerous driving.

Explore safer alternatives like speed cameras in school zones, red light cameras (where legally permitted), and better traffic design to reduce dangerous driving without escalating police-community tensions."

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** "The Texas Public Policy Foundation's 2023 report puts the City of San Antonio's total debt at approximately \$18 billion — a number that demands serious attention and responsible leadership.

Conduct a line-by-line audit of all outstanding debt — general obligation bonds, revenue bond

Identify non-essential or underperforming liabilities that can be refinanced, renegotiated, or retired early.

Ensure future bond packages are needs-based, not politically driven, and come with clear return-on-investment metrics.

Require community engagement early in the bond development process — not just during final approval."

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** "No, I don't support the project. We're talking about billions in public spending — during a time when the city is already carrying \$18 billion in debt. Before we even think about funding new stadiums or hotels, we need to ask:

Who benefits — and who pays?

Big projects require big buy-in. San Antonians deserve a seat at the table — not to be told after the deal is done. If this is such a transformative project, why hasn't it gone to a public vote?

Explore public-private partnerships where the private sector — not the taxpayer — takes on the majority of the risk.

Prioritize infrastructure that benefits all residents — roads, housing, flood mitigation, public transit — before funding luxury or leisure projects."

**Local eminent domain usage:** "Eminent domain is a powerful tool — and like all powerful tools, it must be used sparingly, transparently, and only in true service of the public good. Too often, we've seen it abused to benefit wealthy developers or political insiders, rather than the communities it claims to help.

I will protect San Antonians from eminent domain abuse.

Whether you own a home, a small business, or land that's been in your family for generations — your property rights matter. No one should lose their land without fair treatment, just compensation, and a legitimate public reason.

I will push to narrow the city's use of eminent domain to only essential public infrastructure: roads, utilities, emergency services — not private development disguised as public interest.

I will oppose the use of eminent domain for economic development schemes where private corporations are the primary beneficiaries.

No more surprise seizures or quiet deals. "

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** "At 8.25%, San Antonio's sales tax rate is one of the highest in Texas and for working families, that adds up fast. While some of that funding supports important programs like Pre-K 4 SA, Ready to Work, and VIA Transit, it's fair to ask: Are we truly getting our money's worth?

As mayor, I won't support eliminating programs just to check a box. but I will demand results, transparency, and accountability before renewing or expanding any tax-funded initiative.

I support a comprehensive performance audit of all programs funded by the 1.50% city sales tax, with public reporting on: Pre-K 4 SA has shown measurable success in early childhood education and long-term academic outcomes. I support continuing and refining this investment.

Ready to Work, on the other hand, has failed to meet enrollment and job placement goals. I support reforming it immediately — and sunseting the tax if no significant improvement occurs.

VIA Transit is vital, but must become more efficient and accountable to riders and taxpayers alike. I support keeping transit funding in place while pushing for board reform, better service, and innovation.

San Antonio's residents deserve programs that work — and leadership that respects their wallets. As mayor, I'll take a hard look at every cent of sales tax revenue and make sure it's delivering real, measurable value to the people paying it. If it's not, I'll be the first to say: let's fix it, or let's fund something that will."

**Local property tax rates:** "Property taxes are one of the biggest burdens facing San Antonio families, seniors, and small business owners and even modest increases in home values can lead to real financial strain when wages and household budgets aren't keeping up.

Do I support reducing the property tax rate?

Yes, but responsibly.

Make Cuts Where It Counts — Not Where It Hurts

I'll start with a top-down review of city spending, identifying waste, redundancy, and low-performing programs that can be eliminated or restructured."

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** "The COVID-19 pandemic tested governments at every level and it exposed both the importance of coordinated public health response and the need for stronger protections of individual rights, economic stability, and local transparency.

I believe the City of San Antonio should play an active role in keeping residents safe during public health emergencies, but that role must be clearly defined, limited in scope, and always subject to public accountability.

Only in extreme, narrowly defined circumstances — and only with clear checks and balances.

While temporary measures may be necessary in the face of an immediate, widespread threat to life (like a highly contagious and deadly disease), these powers should:

Be time-limited and subject to regular review by City Council"

**Inflation policy proposals:** "San Antonio families have had to make tough choices in recent years — from the grocery aisle to the gas pump — and I believe City Hall should do the same. the City of San Antonio must tighten its belt in response to inflation. Taxpayers shouldn't be asked to stretch every dollar while local government grows without restraint. We need a city budget that reflects real priorities, real efficiency, and real compassion.

Prioritize public safety, infrastructure, sanitation, and essential services — and put a freeze on non-critical program expansion until inflation stabilizes.

Shift spending from bureaucratic overhead to direct, resident-facing services.

I'll commission an independent performance audit of every city department to identify:

Redundant positions

Underperforming contracts

Outdated or bloated programs

The goal: Do more with less — and pass the savings back to taxpayers."

**Ready to Work Program:** I do not support expanding sales tax funding for Ready to Work until it meets clear performance benchmarks.

**CPS Energy ownership:** "CPS Energy belongs to the people of San Antonio — and it must work for the people of San Antonio. I support keeping CPS Energy publicly owned, but I also believe major reforms are needed to ensure it operates with greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability to ratepayers.

Recent rate hikes have hit working families hard, and CPS must do more to tighten its own belt before asking for more from the public.

support the planned shutdown of the Spruce 1 coal plant by 2028 and the conversion of Spruce 2 to natural gas, as long as these changes are done with:

No disruption to energy reliability

No spikes in ratepayer costs

A clear, phased plan to support affected workers and communities

We must transition to cleaner energy, but not at the expense of affordability or reliability. "

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** "Public transit is vital to San Antonio's economic mobility, environmental future, and regional growth, but that doesn't mean we give blank checks. Taxpayers deserve a real return on investment, and right now, many residents are rightly asking whether they're getting it from VIA.

The current 0.5% sales tax that funds VIA generates hundreds of millions of dollars annually and the public deserves more transparency, better performance, and a voice in how that money is spent.

I support keeping the special taxing district in place for now, but only with a renewed focus on outcomes, not promises.

Launch an independent performance and budget audit of VIA operations that eliminate wasteful or duplicative spending.

Reinvest in high-impact routes and infrastructure. Improve driver pay and rider experience"

**San Antonio Construction:** "San Antonio's growth is a sign of opportunity — but growth without planning leads to frustration, delays, and broken trust. Right now, too many residents are dealing with the downsides: traffic congestion, road closures, noisy projects, and delays that drag on without explanation.

If elected mayor, I'll make sure our city builds smarter, faster, and with more respect for your time and your neighborhood.

I'll launch a real-time, public dashboard to track infrastructure and private development projects — with regular progress updates, costs, and expected impacts.

Require performance clauses and penalties in city contracts for contractors who fall behind schedule without cause.

Create a "fast-track review task force" to identify and resolve permitting or utility issues that lead to project delays.

Implement a Citywide Construction Coordination Team to avoid overlapping projects on major thoroughfares. Improve detour planning and traffic flow. Ensure better communication with residents in affected areas"



# Matthew Gauna

## Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 1

*Environmental scientist* I'm Matthew Gauna, a UTSA environmental science student, former auditor, and lifelong resident of San Antonio. I've seen how decisions at City Hall often benefit the powerful few while working families and renters are left behind. I'm running to restore trust, transparency, and long-term thinking to city government—especially on affordability, sustainability, and public infrastructure.

**Why should voters elect you to this office?** "Because I will act as a fiduciary for the people—not a rubber stamp for corporate interests. My background in environmental science and auditing means I understand both budgets and systems. I offer a practical, results-driven approach to problem-solving, and I'm committed to policies that empower neighborhoods, reduce wasteful spending, and promote liberty through smarter city planning."

### **Top 3 issues and how to address them?**

1. **Unaffordable Housing:** I support zoning reform to legalize more housing types, reduce red tape for builders, and protect renters. We should allow more mixed-use and middle-density development where infrastructure already exists.
2. **Infrastructure Mismanagement:** I will implement transparent project tracking and require community feedback before contracts are finalized.
3. **Urban Sprawl:** We subsidize development on the outskirts at the expense of the urban core. I'll end these subsidies and reinvest in central neighborhoods with proven ROI."

**Opinion on Gun Buyback programs?** "I oppose using taxpayer funds for gun buybacks. They are costly and ineffective. We should instead invest in proven community-based violence prevention programs that don't infringe on individual rights.

**San Antonio DOGE?** I would reassess and potentially phase out underperforming programs like Ready to Work and duplicated "consultant-heavy" departments. I'd push for AI-supported internal audits to identify savings—modernizing, not bloating, city government.

**City of San Antonio's role in assisting ICE with its current efforts?** Immigration is a federal matter. I oppose city-level cooperation with ICE unless there's a direct threat to public safety. We must not erode community trust in city services through fear-based policies.

**State of policing in America?** We need more efficient policing—not necessarily more officers. I support civilian oversight, transparency in budgeting, and reallocating funds toward mental health responders and de-escalation training.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? No**

**Use of deceptively-marked police vehicles / ghost cars for routine traffic enforcement?** I oppose the routine use of ghost cars. They undermine trust and transparency in traffic enforcement. Public safety is best served through accountability, not deception.

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes** I support decriminalizing small amounts. It's a waste of resources, and enforcement disproportionately harms marginalized communities. Let's redirect efforts to actual threats to safety.

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? Yes,** I support repealing ordinances that penalize acts with no victim, including vagrancy and certain substance offenses. These laws punish poverty rather than address root causes.

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** \$18 billion is not sustainable. I support stricter limits on bond issuance, project-based ROI requirements, and regular debt audits. Voters should see clear financial justifications before debt is issued.

**Project Marvel with taxpayer funds?** I oppose Project Marvel as currently proposed. It's a sweetheart deal for private interests that doesn't guarantee affordable housing, sustainable design, or connectivity. I'd support a reworked version only if it includes public transit access (like a SkyTrain), mixed-income housing, and local job guarantees.

**Local eminent domain usage:** I support tightening rules around eminent domain and requiring clear community benefit. Private developments disguised as "public" should not qualify, and owners must receive fair compensation.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I support auditing and reforming programs like Pre-K 4 SA and Ready to Work to ensure efficiency. Tax increases should only continue if programs meet performance benchmarks.

**Local property tax rates:** Yes. I support freezing property tax increases for seniors and long-term homeowners, and reassessing commercial property tax loopholes to ease pressure on everyday residents.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** In emergencies, the city should prioritize clear communication and voluntary compliance first. I support checks on executive authority and limiting the scope and duration of emergency mandates.



**Inflation policy proposals:** Yes. The city should cut nonessential spending and reduce consulting contracts. We can use AI and internal audits to replace overpriced external reports and pass savings to taxpayers.

**Ready to Work Program:** Ready to Work It hasn't delivered on its promises. I would pause expansion, require a full audit, and redirect funds to workforce partnerships with proven track records, like trade schools and apprenticeships.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I believe CPS should remain public but become more transparent. We must invest in solar and battery storage without sacrificing affordability. Rate hikes shouldn't pad bonuses—they should be tied to performance. I support the Spruce 1 closure but demand reliability assurances before Spruce 2 conversion.

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** We need to modernize and build a real rapid transit network. I support restructuring VIA's board to include publicly elected seats. Special taxing districts should be performance-based and include automatic reviews every five years.

**San Antonio Construction:** I'll implement a transparent tracking dashboard for all city infrastructure projects and require developers to submit impact mitigation plans. Growth must be planned—not chaotic. I also support incentives for infill development instead of sprawl.

Imagine a San Antonio where you can get across town in minutes—not stuck in traffic, not waiting in the heat. A SkyTrain would connect our neighborhoods, cut emissions, and power a modern, walkable city. Let's invest in a system that serves the people, not just cars. It's time to build the future of transit—elevated, efficient, and for everyone.

# Anita Marie Kegley

Candidate for San Antonio City Council District 1

*President of KEGLEY, Inc. Professional Inspector*

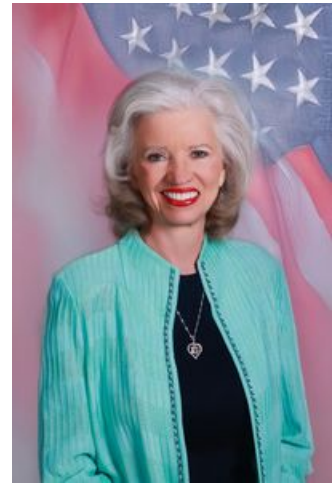
*Over the past four decades, Anita Marie Kegley has established her expertise and leadership in the construction industry throughout South Texas. As the founder of KEGLEY Inc. and an avid community supporter, she has made major contributions in the medical, educational, hospitality, and governmental commercial construction industries.*

*Anita Kegley's book-of-businesses included major Cities, Counties, States and Federal agencies. With these impeccable credentials she obtained clients such as major school districts, national health systems, major hotel chains, public roadways, and transportation industries. KEGLEY Inc.*

*is a well-established and versatile firm that can contribute leadership and technical expertise to*

*any construction project, whatever the budget and scope.*

*In 2017 Anita Marie Kegley became active in politics. She has transitioned her business to perform 3rd party inspections to allow her more time to be politically active and serve her community in various additional ways.*



**Why should voters elect you to this office?** I would like to put God back in our city. If we follow the biblical principals that our Constitution was based on and eliminate those policies that don't align with these biblical principals we could cut many wasted tax payer dollars. If we start with the family loving and respecting each other and being thankful this will spill over to the communities and our city.

**Top 3 issues and how to address them?**

Safety, Homelessness, and City Budget. We currently have one of the highest debt per capita in the nation.

**What three City of San Antonio programs would you terminate and why?** Woke agenda, using preferred pronouns, LGBTQ office, Climate change. These programs do not benefit the entire community and are a waste of taxpayer dollars. They do not align with biblical principles.

**State of policing in America?** When elected, I would support harsher punishment for crimes committed. Bigger fines that would make criminals think harder prior to committing crimes. We need to have a greater preventive stance instead of a more reactive stand when it comes to policing.

When elected, I would encourage the Complaint and Administrative Review Board to promote greater police interaction with the community. The ice cream truck that Officer Doug Green uses to serve ice cream to the community is a great example. The officer/community dance that is held at the Frank Garrett Center is another great example.

We need to promote love, respect, and consideration to those in our government and community. We need to stop enabling the homelessness, criminals, and treat the symptoms, not put a bandaid on them and keep paying higher dollars to put another bandaid on.

**San Antonio Police Department hiring more officers? Yes**

**Decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes**

**Repealing ordinances for victimless crimes? No**

**City of San Antonio is approximately \$18 billion in debt:** Individuals and businesses can focus on budgeting, cost-cutting, diversifying suppliers, and investing. Often times when you focus on the real needs you can find items to cut that you really did not need. There are many areas if the citizens would unite and work together, we could accomplish a much greater outcome.

**Local eminent domain usage:** When elected I will fight for those people that are inconvenienced for the public good. I would support them being compensated justly.

**Ready to Work, Pre-K 4 SA, VIA Metropolitan Transportation programs and local tax rates:** I support canceling Ready to Work and the tax increase that pays for it. I would support Pre-K 4 SA program reforms that would significantly reduce the cost of this program. When elected, I would support efforts to help end the homeless. We need to promote programs like CAM has that is helping clients break that cycle and become efficient. We cannot continue to let homeless people live on the streets. It is costing tax payers 100 million a year. We need to use that money to help stop homelessness instead of continuing to enable them. Somewhere there has to be a model to help us do this.

**CPS Energy ownership:** I believe CPS Energy is not best managed by the City of San Antonio

**VIA Metro transit accountability:** I believe taxpayers are receiving a good return on investment

**Local property tax rates:** Yes. I support initiatives that would reduce the property tax rate for ALL property owners in San Antonio.

**Repealing ordinances that create barriers to entry for low-income entrepreneurs and small businesses: Yes**

**Government reaction to COVID-19-type crises:** I would like the lies to be exposed and real evidence be used in making decisions that affect us all.

**Although 95.3% of Texas schools did not permit mock intruders access during the recent 2023 state-wide safety audit, school safety is the top issue for parents according to the annual Charles Butt Foundation's Texas Education Poll, with 53% of parents perceiving at least a moderate risk to students in their communities. How will you approach the issue of school safety in San Antonio, and what solutions will you bring to the dais?** When you stand up to evil it moves back. In Israel the teachers wear AK-17 guns. They have no school shootings. I would encourage prayer back in school, the 10 commandments and In God we trust in every school. Teachers, if they feel so inclined, should carry guns to protect their students and themselves. Our schools should teach the moral values as outlined in our bible which is the basis of our Judeo-Christian Values our constitution was founded on. They should be educated on one man, one woman. We are all created equal regardless of color of skin, sex, how much wealth we have or any other differences.

When I read connected in the classroom initiative, when I saw Obama, I immediately wanted to not support the effort. In reading about the initiative, if it truly does help empower teachers and provide students with digital resources I am all in. We need to do all we can to educate our youth to help make them productive in our society.

## Those candidates who did not respond:

### Mayoral

Beto Altamirano  
John Courage  
Armando Dominguez  
Arturo Espinosa  
Adriana Rocha Garcia  
Brandon Gonzales  
April Guadarrama  
Melissa Cabello Havrda  
Christopher Herring  
Gina Ortiz Jones  
Jade McCullough  
James "Jae" Melvin  
Robert Melvin  
Rolando Pablos  
Manny Pelaez  
Clayton Perry  
Bill Ruppel  
Robert Salinas  
Michael 'Sam' Samaniego  
Mauricio 'Mau' Sanchez  
Sonia Eliza Traut  
Diana Flores Uriegas  
Andrew Fernandez Vicencio  
Tim Westley  
Gerardo Zambrano

### District 1

Sukh Kaur  
Julisa Medrano-Guerra  
Ramiro Gonzales  
Dominique "Domingo" Littwitz  
Maureen Galindo  
Susan Strawn  
Patty Gibbons  
Arnulfo Ortiz

### District 2

Sean Hanlin  
Carla-Joy Sisco  
Jalen McKee-Rodriguez  
Bryant Livingston  
Sonya Moore  
Rose Requenez Hill

### District 3

Kendra Wilkerson  
Phyllis Viagran  
Kenneth Thomas

### District 4

Ernesto Arrellano Jr.  
Johnathon Cruz  
Jose "Pepe" Martinez  
Edward Mungia

### District 5

Pablo Arriaga III  
Teri Castillo

### District 6

Vanessa Chavez  
Kelly Ann Gonzalez  
Ric Galvan  
Bobby Herrera  
Gerald Lopez

### District 7

Marina Alderete Gavito  
Cynthia Lugo Alderete

### District 8

Sakib Shaikh  
Rodney "Rod" Kidd  
Ivalis Meza Gonzalez  
Paula McGee

### District 9

Angi Taylor Aramburu  
Emily Joy Garza  
Daniel Mezza  
Misty Spears  
Celeste Tidwell  
April Chang

### District 10

Marc Whyte  
Clint Norton  
Mark O'Donnell