

PLAN 2010

People-Powered Goals For San Antonio's Future





Plan 210 is the Beto for Mayor campaign’s policy platform, prioritizing public safety, infrastructure, and economic development. Launched on October 5, 2024—exactly 210 days before the municipal election—it reflects the insights and aspirations gathered from residents citywide during four months of community engagement.

CRIME

No one should live in fear of leaving their home because of senseless gun-violence and crime.



San Antonio has experienced fluctuations in crime rates over the years, with particular challenges in violent and property crime. Violent crimes, including aggravated assault and homicide, have shown troubling trends in certain areas, often linked to economic disparities and neighborhood instability. Property crimes like burglary and motor vehicle theft also remain significant concerns. While SAPD works to address these issues, the community has called for more preventive measures, including youth outreach programs and improvements to neighborhood safety. Despite these challenges many parts of the city remain safe and continue to thrive, further highlighting the economic inequality in San Antonio.

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICE

In 2022 Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez filed a city council request (CCR) requesting the establishment of an Office of Crime and Recidivism Prevention. This led to the creation of the Integrated Community Safety Office (ISCO) which is responsible for evaluating how city programs positively impact crime reduction by analyzing social conditions such as educational attainment, poverty, and unemployment that may contribute to criminal behavior.

However, in light of recent increases in violent crime, particularly in certain neighborhoods, the need to enhance this office's capacity has become critical. Increasing the office's budget would enable the integration of more specialized personnel, such as professional criminologists, mental health professionals and social workers, alongside traditional law enforcement. This would allow for more comprehensive, data-driven strategies targeting the root causes of violence.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. **Increase ISCO staffing:** double the amount of staff from 8 to 16 over the next 18 months to pursue data driven initiatives.

KEY ACTIONS

- HIRE PROFESSIONAL CRIMINOLOGISTS.
- INCREASE RESEARCH TO INCLUDE DETERMINING FUNDING NEEDS FOR DATA DRIVEN INITIATIVES SO THAT EFFORTS CAN BE PRE PROGRAMMED INTO FUTURE BUDGETS.

2. **Optimize Stand Up SA:** Enhance the Stand Up SA program by deepening the integration of data collected and analyzed by the ISCO to improve the effectiveness of gun violence prevention efforts.

KEY ACTIONS

- BROADEN AND INCREASE DATA COLLECTION TO MAP THE SPREAD OF VIOLENCE AND IDENTIFY CRITICAL INTERVENTION POINTS.
- TRAIN ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS AS VIOLENCE INTERRUPTERS AND PEER SUPPORTERS.
- EXTEND PROGRAM SERVICES TO ADDITIONAL HIGH-VIOLENCE AREAS AND POPULATIONS AT RISK.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING

Community-oriented policing in San Antonio, Texas, is a proactive approach aimed at building stronger relationships between law enforcement and the local community. The San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) emphasizes collaboration with residents, businesses, and local organizations to address crime and improve public safety. Officers are encouraged to engage with neighborhoods, attend community meetings, and work directly with citizens to identify and solve local issues.

This approach also focuses on preventive measures, such as youth outreach programs, neighborhood watch groups, and partnerships with schools. By fostering trust and open communication, SAPD seeks to create a safer environment where the public feels more comfortable reporting crimes and collaborating with police. This strategy has been particularly effective in areas with historically higher crime rates, as it aims to address the root causes of crime, enhance problem-solving efforts, and build lasting partnerships for a more secure San Antonio.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. **Increase SAFFE unit staffing:** Prioritize internal recruitment efforts to expand the SAFFE unit by 20 officers over the next 18 months, leveraging existing resources.

KEY ACTIONS

- LAUNCH TARGETED RECRUITMENT EFFORTS WITHIN SAPD TO ATTRACT QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.
- PROVIDE SPECIALIZED TRAINING TO NEW OFFICERS TO ENSURE ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIT'S COMMUNITY-ORIENTED MISSION.
- IMPLEMENT RETENTION PROGRAMS TO MAINTAIN CURRENT STAFF AND REDUCE TURNOVER.

- 2.** **Expand Mental Health Unit Personnel:** Prioritize internal recruitment efforts to expand the Mental Health unit by 6 officers over the next 18 months, leveraging existing resources.

KEY ACTIONS

- FOCUS ON RECRUITING SAPD OFFICERS WITH BACKGROUNDS OR INTEREST IN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS INTERVENTION.
- STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS WITH MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS TO ENHANCE TRAINING AND SUPPORT.
- DEVELOP INTEGRATED RESPONSE PROTOCOLS WITH MENTAL HEALTH

- 3.** **Improve Community Engagement and Support:** Enhance community outreach and support programs led by both the SAFFE and Mental Health Units.

KEY ACTIONS

- EXPAND COMMUNITY POLICING INITIATIVES AND MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAMS.
- ESTABLISH CHANNELS FOR COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY.

PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING

Problem-oriented policing (POP) is an approach that addresses specific crime and disorder issues through strategic interventions. Hot-spot policing, a key component of POP, involves deploying resources to areas with high crime rates to achieve measurable reductions in crime. Data indicates that crime is concentrated in specific areas or "hot-spots" within the city, which have higher rates of criminal activity compared to other areas.

The San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) utilizes a variety of policing strategies, including traditional patrols and response to calls for service. While these methods are effective to some extent, they often lack the targeted approach needed to address specific crime issues in identified hot-spots.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. **Intensify Hot-Spot Policing Efforts:** Increase the concentration of policing resources and activities in identified hot-spots to reduce crime effectively.

KEY ACTIONS

- INCREASE THE FREQUENCY AND VISIBILITY OF PATROLS IN HIGH-CRIME AREAS.
- DEPLOY SPECIALIZED UNITS (E.G., GANG UNITS, NARCOTICS TEAMS) TO TARGET SPECIFIC TYPES OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY PREVALENT IN HOT-SPOTS.
- IMPLEMENT TARGETED INTERVENTIONS, SUCH AS CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND PROBLEM-SOLVING INITIATIVES, TAILORED TO THE UNIQUE ISSUES OF EACH HOT-SPOT.

- 2.** **Strengthen Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Strategies:** Develop and implement comprehensive problem-oriented policing strategies that address underlying issues contributing to crime in hot-spots.

KEY ACTIONS

- INCORPORATE STREET LIGHTING INDEX AS A TOOL TO ADDRESS STREETLIGHT GAPS THAT OFTEN LEAD TO INCREASES IN CRIME.
- CONDUCT DETAILED ANALYSES TO IDENTIFY THE ROOT CAUSES OF CRIME IN HOT-SPOTS AND DEVELOP TAILORED STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES.
- PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS CONTRIBUTING FACTORS SUCH AS ECONOMIC INSTABILITY, LACK OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

- 3.** **Enhance Community Engagement and Trust:** Improve community relations and build trust through increased engagement and transparency in policing efforts.

KEY ACTIONS

- HOST REGULAR MEETINGS WITH RESIDENTS TO DISCUSS SAFETY CONCERNS, GATHER INPUT, AND UPDATE THEM ON POLICING EFFORTS.
- LAUNCH CAMPAIGNS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT CRIME PREVENTION AND THE ROLE OF HOT-SPOT POLICING.