

Retiree MATTERS



News for City of San Antonio Retirees

Issue 67 - March 2026

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COSAPERKS

Here are the latest discounts for City retirees.

San Antonio Spurs—tickets to regular season home games for up to 25% off with lower fees. Scan this QR code or visit gofevo.com/group/COSA to buy tickets. Discount End Date: 4/25/2026



StubZero—Save 10% and pay zero service fees on 100,000 concerts, theater, Broadway and sporting events at StubZero.com. Scan this QR code and use promo code GOV10 at checkout to receive discount. Discount End Date: 10/8/2026



Disney on Ice—April 9-12, Alamodome
Pricing: Floor \$141.81, \$82.28
Plaza Level \$50.88, \$46.55, \$38.98, \$28.15, \$20.74
To purchase tickets, call 210.262.9615 and identify yourself as a COSA retiree. Discount End Date: 4/9/2026

SeaWorld San Antonio—10% off admission. To purchase tickets, scan the QR code and enter promo code CSASAVE10 at checkout. This offer is valid for online purchases only. Discount End Date: 1/27/2027



Message From the HR Director



Renee Frieda

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,

How does time pass by so quickly? It seems like we were just preparing for the holidays and now Easter and Fiesta are right around the corner.

I appreciate the opportunity to keep in contact with you through this newsletter. I want to take this opportunity to remind you of a couple of resources available to you. Should you have any questions about your retiree medical benefits, be sure to contact either Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas for our pre-65 retirees and Aetna for our post-65 retirees. You can also always reach out to our Employee Benefits team as well.

For questions about your pension, be sure to call TMRS. For easy reference, you can find a list of phone numbers and websites on page 3 of this newsletter.

And as a reminder, if you have any ideas for a future issue of *Retiree Matters* or for an upcoming Brown Bag session, please let us know. We want to make these sources of information for you as beneficial and valuable as possible, so your suggestions are welcomed. You can email us at cosaretiree@sanantonio.gov.

I wish you and yours a wonderful springtime!

Renee Frieda
HR Director



Sign up to receive text messages from Human Resources regarding annual enrollment, benefits notices, Brown Bag events, and more! Simply text COSARetiree to the number 877-872-4241. Message rates will apply.



You are invited to attend the next Brown Bag Session scheduled for **Friday, March 20 beginning at 11:30 a.m.** at the Pre-K 4 SA South location at 3510 S. WW White Rd.

This session will offer information about estate planning. Read more about this event on page 3 in "Words on RECOSA." Please RSVP at 210-207-7000 or by email at AskHR@sanantonio.gov no later than Wednesday, March 18. We look forward to seeing you there!

Message From The City Manager



Erik Walsh

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,

I hope each of you and your families are doing well and enjoying retirement. As always, there is quite a bit going on at the City these days. From Project Marvel to the search for a new Police Chief as Chief McManus will be retiring by September of this year, and believe it or not, budget planning for 2027. Even with all the activity happening around us, it's always good to pause for a moment and come together as a City family. An opportunity to do this is at the 16th Annual City Manager's 5K Walk & Run. I would like to personally invite you and your families to join us at SeaWorld San Antonio on Saturday, April 4, for what I know will be a great event. Opening ceremonies will begin at 7:30 a.m. followed by the race at 8 a.m. Registration is \$10 per person (plus online fees), but you can use the **discount code COSAFF5** at checkout to receive \$5 off registration. You may register by scanning this QR code.



May you have a safe and enjoyable spring, I look forward to seeing you on April 4 and connecting with you in the next issue.

Until next time,

Erik Walsh
City Manager

Words on RECOSA—A Note From the Chair

To all those who retired in 2025, welcome to the beginning of a new chapter in life. I'm sure 2026 will have many new adventures. I would like to thank all the members who attended our Annual Meeting and Brown Bag on November 21, 2025. Ben Gorzell was our keynote speaker. He made a wonderful presentation, updating us on the Airport Expansion Project, the Downtown Ballpark project, and the Sports and Entertainment District. There are a lot of exciting changes going on downtown. We also welcomed Wanda Williams as our newest RECOSA Board member.

RECOSA posted our 2025 Annual Report in February. The report highlights our 2025 Brown Bag Sessions including our visit to the San Antonio Food Bank. We appreciate everyone's attendance and participation. The attendance at our Brown Bag Sessions continues to grow, so we are looking for larger facilities with more parking to accommodate the demand.

Speaking of Brown Bag Sessions, our March Brown Bag will be on Friday, March 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The location is the new Pre-K 4 SA South. We are excited to check out this brand new facility. Our topic for this session will be estate planning. Not financial planning, you've done that to get to retirement, but is your estate prepared for anything that might happen? For example, do you have a Last Will and Testament? So many of us procrastinators have put this off for too long. How about a medical power of attorney and/or a HIPAA Authorization Form? It seems like our calendars have more medical appointments than ever before and medical providers cannot speak to you or your partner without one. The same goes for Advanced Medical Directives. How will your medical providers know what you desire if you are not able to communicate with them? These are just a few of the topics we will cover. We will have presenters from the WellMed SOS Foundation, from ACOG's Senior Programs, and GFCU's partner who developed the GenTrust application.

Want to serve on the RECOSA Board of Directors or assist us with our Brown Bag Sessions? You can reach us at info@recosa.org or you can visit our website at www.recosa.org.

Hope to see you soon.

Respectfully,

Stephen W. Haney
RECOSA Chair

Join/Contact RECOSA:

Website: www.recosa.org

Email: info@recosa.org

Mail: RECOSA, P.O. Box
12973, San Antonio, Texas,
78212-0973

Phone: 210-504-9567 (please
leave a message and you will
receive a return call)

Health & Safety



With springtime comes tax time. If you are in need of assistance with your 2025 income tax return, the Department of Human Services can help. Through their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, free tax return preparation is available to individuals and families who earn up to \$65,000 annually.

VITA locations are available through April 15 across the City at the Claude Black Center, Guadalupe Community Center, Family Service Neighborhood Place, Family Service Presa Community Center, Henry Guerra Library, Hill Country Community Needs Council, Igo Library, Palo Alto College, St. Mary's University, St. Philip's College, Thousand Oaks Library and the Willie C. Velasquez Center. Hours vary, so please call 2-1-1 or 210-227-4357 for specific hours of operation or if you have any questions.

The following documents will be needed to prepare your tax return:

- Driver's License or photo I.D.
- Social Security Card or Individual Tax Identification Number for all members in your family
- All W-2 Forms/1099-R (pensions, annuities and retirement plans)
- 1099-INT (interest from your bank)

For more information, you may visit the VITA website at vitasas.org.

Speaking of tax season, AARP offers the following reasons to file your taxes early.

- **You'll get your refund sooner**—One reason to file early is that you will likely receive your refund faster. The agency says most taxpayers receive their refund within 21 days when filing electronically, barring any issues with processing their returns.
- **You'll have more time to pay Uncle Sam**—Taxpayers have until April 15 to make a payment regardless of when they file, so if you owe the IRS money for the 2025 tax year, filing early provides more time to manage paying off the debt, says Desmond Hudson, owner of Hudson Tax Services in Philadelphia. It also gives you more time to explore the option of a payment plan if you can't afford to pay what you owe in full by April 15. The IRS offers both short- and long-term payment plans. You can find more information at IRS.gov/paymentplan.
- **You can get a head start on planning for a tax-friendly 2026**—Completing your 2025 filing promptly allows you to start preparing for 2026. If you owe taxes this year, you may want to increase your withholding or estimated taxes so that you're not in the hole in 2027. The sooner you adjust your withholding or estimated taxes, the less likely you'll owe Uncle Sam money next year.
- **You'll have more time to fix errors**—Filing as soon as possible provides you more time to address any surprises that may pop up, like an inaccurate tax form from your employer.
- **The IRS typically has shorter wait times if you need to call them**—Generally, the earlier you file, the easier it is to reach an IRS representative if you have a question or encounter a problem.
- **It's your best defense against tax-related identity theft**—Filing early can reduce the risk of fraud, such as a bad actor submitting a return in your name using stolen personal data like your Social Security number.
- **You'll get more face time with your tax preparer**—If you're using a tax professional to help prepare your return, scheduling meetings with them is usually easier earlier in the tax filing season, because many taxpayers procrastinate.

Contacts

Aetna

1-800-338-4533
www.aetna.com

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

1-800-521-2227
www.bcbstx.com

City of San Antonio Human Resources Customer Service

210-207-8705, option 1 (P)
210-207-1455 (F)

sanantonio.gov/employeeinformation/retiredemployees

cosaretiree@sanantonio.gov

AskHR@sanantonio.gov

City of San Antonio Retiree Liaison

Maricela Toral/
Angelica Romo
210-207-0073

CVS/caremark

1-866-808-7470
www.caremark.com

HSA Bank

1-855-731-5220
www.hsabank.com

Humana Dental

1-855-330-8060

Texas Municipal Retirement System

1-800-924-8677
www.tmrns.com

Vision Service Plan (VSP)

1-800-400-4569
cosaretirees.vspforme.com



**HUMAN
RESOURCES**

PO Box 839966
San Antonio, Texas
78283-3966

Joining Your Ranks—Congratulations to Our Newest Retirees!

May 2025 through August 2025

Laura Acosta, 16 yrs.
Municipal Courts

Alice Aguirre, 23 yrs.
Mayor & Council

Norma Alcalá, 30 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Frank Alvarez, 24 yrs.
Public Works

Arturo Arispe, 24 yrs.
Aviation

Norma Avila, 2 yrs.
Police

Epifanio Barrera, 21 yrs.
Public Works

Charlotte Barrett, 26 yrs.
Development Services

Mark Beavers, 14 yrs.
Fire

Lisa Biediger, 25 yrs.
City Attorney's Office

Mark Bigler, 20 yrs.
City Auditor

Ruthann Blea, 17 yrs.
Convention & Sports Facilities

Jacqueline Bolds, 3 yrs.
Mayor & Council

Martin Briseno, 10 yrs.
Police

Harvey Brown, 3 yrs.
Convention & Sports Facilities

Suanne Callow, 25 yrs.
Development Services

Guadalupe Campos, 7 yrs.
Health

Pedro Cardenas, 17 yrs.
Human Services

Michael Constantino, 25 yrs.
Development Services

Bruce Davidson, 7 yrs.
Mayor & Council

Rosario De La Garza, 32 yrs.
Fire

Gerardo De Los Santos, 24 yrs.
Aviation

Mark Diamond, 27 yrs.
Aviation

Juan Dominguez, 23 yrs.
Police

Deborah Flores, 30 yrs.
Solid Waste Management

Michael Flynn, 6 yrs.
Development Services

Yvonne Gamez, 19 yrs.
Health

Adriana Goetz, 21 yrs.
Development Services

Maryalice Guedea, 2 yrs.
Aviation

Edward Guerrero, 16 yrs.
Fire

Stacy Harris, 24 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Carlos Heras, 11 yrs.
Solid Waste Management

Hector Hernandez, 45 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Salvadore Hernandez, 4 yrs.
Health

Irma Jasso, 30 yrs.
Finance

Dean Kloss, 20 yrs.
Aviation

Frederick Labar, 18 yrs.
Development Services

Catherine Lacey, 41 yrs.
Police

Mark Lawson, 24 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Jose Ledezma, 19 yrs.
Public Works

Debra Light, 26 yrs.
Finance

Hector Lopez, 15 yrs.
Public Works

Juanita Lozano, 21 yrs.
Fire

Morris Martin, 32 yrs.
Aviation

LD McGarity, 17 yrs.
Building & Equipment Services

John Mojica, 13 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Francisco Molina, 25 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Jeffrey Moore, 24 yrs.
Fire

John Oates, 20 yrs.
Health

Dawn Oppermann, 17 yrs.
Finance

Richard Pacheco, 20 yrs.
Solid Waste Management

Edmund Palionis, 11 yrs.
Building & Equipment Services

Mike Pena, 10 yrs.
Public Works

Jose Perez, 5 yrs.
Solid Waste Management

Emilio Pizana, 16 yrs.
Convention & Sports Facilities

June Puente, 22 yrs.
Development Services

Gregoria Rendon, 22 yrs.
Library

Amy Roberts, 22 yrs.
Library

Hilmer Rosales, 9 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

Jose Ruiz-Alvarez, 7 yrs.
Library

Espiridion Sandoval, 19 yrs.
Solid Waste Management

Evelyn Shorter, 10 yrs.
Pre-K 4 SA

Norma Silva Cantu, 28 yrs.
Development Services

Andrew Smart, 30 yrs.
Development Services

Elsa Smithwick, 18 yrs.
City Auditor

Irene Valdez, 10 yrs.
Police

Joe Valdivia, 17 yrs.
Police

Rosalie Valenzuela, 22 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

James Wilson, 18 yrs.
Finance

Hope Wuellner-Brooks, 24 yrs.
Information Technology Services

Kathy Zuniga, 39 yrs.
Health