

RETIREE NEWSLETTER

2022 RETIREE MATTERS

News for City of San Antonio Retirees
Issue 55 - October



IN THIS ISSUE

BROWN BAG SESSION.....	PAGE 1
COSAPERKS DISCOUNTS.....	PAGE 1
CITY MANAGER MESSAGE.....	PAGE 2
HEALTH AND SAFETY.....	PAGE 3
JOINING YOUR RANKS.....	PAGE 4

COSAPERKS

RECOSA leadership asked if

employee discounts could be extended to retirees. We checked with a few of our vendors and they were more than happy to oblige. Please see below for current offers and how to access them.

Broadway Series at the Majestic

Tickets available online at shorturl.at/eft12. Use the promo code SAN ANTONIO.

UTSA Football

Tickets are available online at UTSA.SPINZO.COM/COSA.

San Antonio Zoo

Tickets available online at sazoo.org/partnerdiscount. Use code COSA22A for 20% off an Annual Pass. Use code COSA22 for 20% off a Single-Day Admission.

Monster Jam

Tickets available by calling 210-226-5967. Showtimes are:
January 21, 7 PM and January 22, 3 PM

BROWN BAG Lunch Series

You responded, now let's talk about it! Retirees answered RECOSA's ongoing, online survey and provided some excellent ideas to discuss at the upcoming Retiree Brown Bag session/RECOSA Annual Meeting on **Friday, November 18, at 11:30 a.m. at the Pre-K East Education Center located at 5230 Eisenhower Road.**

The Brown Bag session will include small group discussions about the survey results on topics like benefits, quality-of-life activities, and other items you are interested in. Groups will prioritize recommendations and provide feedback to the RECOSA Board and the City's HR Department. Additionally, this activity will offer a great opportunity to reconnect and visit with fellow retirees while enjoying lunch provided by Generations Federal Credit Union. The second half of the session will be RECOSA's Annual Meeting and include the election of 2023 RECOSA board members, and maybe you will win one of the door prizes! If you haven't already taken our survey, it's available until October 31 on RECOSA's website, www.recosa.org.

The Retiree RSVP Line is open, so be sure to reserve your seat and help to ensure enough lunches are available. Either call and leave a message for HR at 210-207-7000 or email AskHR@sanantonio.gov by **Monday, November 14.**

MESSAGE FROM THE HR DIRECTOR



Renee Frieda

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,

Welcome to fall!

I don't know about you, but I feel like this year has absolutely flown by—it's hard to believe October is already upon us and the holidays are just around the corner.

You may have read about this in a previous issue of Retiree Matters, but I want to encourage you to apply for a position on the Municipal Civil Service Commission, the Firefighters' and Police Officers' Civil Service Commission, and/or any of the other boards and commissions. Civil Service Commissioners, board, and commission members are vital to City accountability and improving its services to our community. Appointed Commissioners will be compensated \$20 per meeting and will have free parking for all meetings. You can apply online at <https://webapp9.sanantonio.gov/BoardCommApplication/>. We would be thrilled to have one of our retirees serve in this capacity, so please con-

sider applying.

I hope that you will all be able to attend the Brown Bag session next month. I had the opportunity to present during the Brown Bag session in August and was glad for the opportunity to meet some of you in person. We are happy to be able to host these events for our retiree community, and as long as our COVID risk is low, we will continue to host them in person.

I'd like to thank the RECOSA Board and members for their work on behalf of retirees this year. We appreciate the partnership we have with you and look forward to a prosperous and successful 2023. My wish is that the remainder of this year brings each of you and your families much joy and health.

Be sure to let us know if there are any topics you would like to see in this newsletter. If you have any ideas for a future issue or for an upcoming Brown Bag session, please email us at cosaretiree@sanantonio.gov.

Renee Frieda, HR Director

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



Erik Walsh

Dear City of San Antonio Retirees,

I'm so glad to be connecting with you under more positive circumstances than a few months ago. Fortunately, COVID seems to be under control and at this time, our community's risk level is low, and we are enjoying much nicer weather than what the summer months provided. Additionally, we wrapped up the FY 2023 Budget, and it was adopted by City Council on September 15. I hope you are pleased that within that budget is a 4.9% ad hoc Cost of Living Adjustment for retirees, the largest in 30 years. This increase will be effective in January 2023. I'm also happy to report that health care premiums for most retirees will not increase next year. Post-65 retirees hired after October 1 will see only a slight increase.

I'd like to take this time to thank those of you who supported our United Way Charitable Campaign this year – I sincerely appreciate your contributions to this important citywide initiative. Since this is the last newsletter of the year, I want to wish each of you a very happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season. Thank you for your service to our City organization and our community.

Until next time,

Erik Walsh, City Manager

WORDS ON RECOSA—A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Friends, to those of you who are newly retired – congratulations! RECOSA (Retired Employees of the City of San Antonio) welcomes you to our ranks. Our non-profit organization, comprised of volunteer retirees of the City of San Antonio, exists to help us keep involved in, advocate for, and inform each other about our retiree benefits. New and already retired COSA employees can join our organization easily and online at our website: www.recosa.org and there are no dues or membership fees.

We're happy to report that we continue to have increased participation in our open, on-line Zoom board meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month. Join us! We were thrilled to see so many retirees (52!) on August 16 at our first in-person Brown Bag Session in over two years at the Mission Library. Our speakers, including HR Director Renee Frieda, Budget Director Justina Tate, and health benefit representatives, exchanged information and good news about the City's budget, our TMRS Cost of Living Adjustment of 4.9%, and updates on health benefits and premiums. Subsequently, RECOSA was able to advocate for retirees with the City Manager and Human Resources Director to adjust the proposed Aetna contractual rate increases so that post-65 retiree premiums for those employed prior to 10/1/2007 will remain the same in 2023. We greatly appreciate the consideration and cooperation of City leadership on this issue.

Currently, we are working with City staff in preparation for the joint Fall Brown Bag session and RECOSA's Annual Meeting on November 18. Human Resources has booked a great venue for us at the Pre-K East Education Center at 5230 Eisenhower Road. This spacious venue will be a wonderful setting for our program, a complimentary lunch provided by Generations Federal Credit Union, and our popular door prizes. We will hold our annual board election at the same time, which makes it a very important meeting for RECOSA. On this topic, we urge new and existing members to consider volunteering and running for a board position – we need energetic, knowledgeable, and technically savvy individuals on our board and in our organization. Please email your statements of interest to the Nominating Committee chaired by Liz Garcia via info.recosa@gmail.com as soon as possible, but no later than October 31, 2022. Please note on the email's subject line "NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2023." For more board election details, see the September 6 post under the "Home" tab on the RECOSA website: www.recosa.org. Also, if you haven't completed the survey yet, please do so now on our website under the tab "2022 Survey" as the deadline is October 31, 2022. Your participation and input are critical to the success of RECOSA!

Best regards,

Rebecca Waldman, RECOSA Chair

Join/Contact RECOSA:
Website: www.recosa.org
Email: info.recosa@gmail.com.
Mail: RECOSA, P.O. Box 12973, San Antonio, Texas, 78212-0973
Phone: 210-504-9567 (please leave a message and you will receive a call back)

HEALTH & SAFETY



Annual Enrollment is here! This is your chance to change your medical plan for the 2023 plan year, which begins on January 1. Health Care premiums can be found in the Benefit Matters Guide along with more details about your plans and other benefits. You can also view the guide online at sanantonio.gov/EmployeeInformation/RetiredEmployees.

This year, information sessions about your health plan options will once again be held virtually. Below is information about how to join these meetings online or by phone from the comfort of your home. Feel free to invite a family member or anyone who helps you with your health care decisions to join.

Pre-65 Retirees

Dates: Annual Enrollment is occurring from now through October 31, 2022.

Information Session: An online information session will be hosted by the Employee Benefits team via WebEx. The WebEx will feature a presentation and an opportunity for you to ask questions. This WebEx will also be recorded and posted on the HR website at sanantonio.gov/EmployeeInformation/RetiredEmployees.

Date	Time	Phone Number	Meeting Number	WebEx Link
Monday, 10/17/2022	2 PM	1.415.655.0001	2458 910 7821	shorturl.at/btyEI

To attend this meeting by phone, dial the number above and enter the meeting number followed by the pound sign (#), when prompted. If asked to enter a password, enter ysSeAts3m38 (97732873 from phones). To view the live web presentation on your computer or tablet, enter the WebEx link above into your internet browser.

Post-65 Retirees

Dates: Annual Enrollment is October 17 through October 28, 2022.

Information Session: Aetna and Employee Benefits are teaming up to bring two information sessions to you. During these sessions, you will get more details about the 2023 Aetna Medicare Advantage Plans. The same information will be presented during each meeting.

Date	Time	Phone Number	WebEx Link
Monday, 10/17/2022	10 AM	800.909.4761	aet.na/csa17
Wednesday, 10/19/2022	10 AM	800.909.4761	aet.na/csa19

To attend either of these meetings by phone, dial the phone number listed above (the number is the same for both meetings). To view the live web presentations on your computer or tablet, enter the WebEx link above into your internet browser for the meeting you wish to attend.

All Retirees

Remember, **if you do not wish to make any changes to your medical or vision coverage for 2023, you do not have to take any action; your current plans will roll over to 2023.**

If you want to continue or add dental coverage, you will need to enroll with our new dental provider, Humana Dental. You can enroll by completing the form that will be mailed to you directly by Humana Dental.

Contacts

**City of San Antonio
Human Resources**

Customer Service

210-207-8705 (P)

210-207-6043 (F)

[sanantonio.gov/
employeeinformation/
retiredemployees](http://sanantonio.gov/employeeinformation/retiredemployees)

cosaretiree@sanantonio.gov

AskHR@sanantonio.gov

Vision Service Plan (VSP)

1-800-400-4569

cosaretirees.vspforme.com

Delta Dental

1-888-216-8566

Aetna

1-800-338-4533

www.aetna.com

Retiree Liaisons

Alan Janzen

Sara Mata

Ann Solis

210-207-0073

**Texas Municipal
Retirement System**

1-800-924-8677

www.tmr.com

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield of
Texas**

1-800-521-2227

www.bcbstx.com

CVS/caremark

1-866-808-7470

www.caremark.com

HSA Bank

1-855-731-5220

www.hsabank.com



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

PO Box 839966
San Antonio, Texas
78283-3966

JOINING YOUR RANKS—CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

Jesus Alvarez, 35 yrs.
Public Works

Juan Arreola, 28 yrs.
Aviation

Enrique Carrasco, 7 yrs.
Public Works

Jacob Cuellar, 18 yrs.
Development Services

Alma Cunningham, 30 yrs.
Aviation

Yolette Davis, 18 yrs.
Metro Health

Debra Diaz, 18 yrs.
Department of Human Services

Daniel Escobar, 38 yrs.
Aviation

Eric Fubara, 11 yrs.
Aviation

Henry Gallegos, 20 yrs.
Public Works

David Garcia, 20 yrs.
Development Services

Jesse Garza, 24 yrs.
Public Works

Oralia Garza-Rico, 27 yrs.
Municipal Courts

Erika Gonzales, 22 yrs.
Fire & EMS

Juan Gonzales, 32 yrs.
Development Services

Raul Gutierrez, 7 yrs.
Aviation

Dexter Katzman, 13 yrs.
Library

Jeannette Kreiner, 23 yrs.
Department of Human Services

Andres Leija, 20 yrs.
Convention & Sports Facilities

Dorelia Lopez, 7 yrs.
Department of Human Services

Richard Love, 22 yrs.
Solid Waste Management
Department

Treise R. McDaniel, 30 yrs.
Police

Timothy Medrano, 22 yrs.
Information Technology Services
Department

Jose Moreno, 21 yrs.
Police

Gilberto Morin, 18 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

James Noggle, 20 yrs.
Information Technology Services
Department

Carlos Perez, 16 yrs.
Fire & EMS

Efrain Ramirez, 29 yrs.
Solid Waste Management
Department

Ricardo Ramirez, 12 yrs.
Building & Equipment Services

Adelita Rivas-Franco, 22 yrs.
Police

Paul Rivera, 28 yrs.
Parks & Recreation

John Serrato, 21 yrs.
Center City Development &
Operations

Henry Tejeda, 21 yrs.
Public Works

Daniel Valdez, 20 yrs.
Police

Esther Villanueva, 20 yrs.
Convention & Sports Facilities

Robert Wanzenried, 16 yrs.
Police