



Council questions and staff responses for items on October 24, 2024 City Council Meeting

7.11 Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS)

Sponsors: Sam Rivera

Question: How many additional radios did we request under this item last year?

Response: For FY24 we had 1027 radios. This request is for 1039 radios in FY25. The additional 12 radios were requested by:

- 4 Police (2 Tahoes and 2 portable)
- 5 Sanitation
- 2 Fire
- 1 Traffic

7.13 Rejection of received proposals for construction of the Stonebridge Drive and Scarborough Drive roundabout

Sponsors: Emily Fisher

Question: How may staff time hours were spent pursuing this traffic calming measure for this neighborhood? What is the approximate financial value of that time?

Response: Staff spent approximately 15 hours coordinating traffic calming for this neighborhood, which is probably between \$500-\$600. We have a consultant assist with both managing our traffic calming program and designing the traffic calming measures (if necessary). This contract with Kimley Horn is for \$60,000, of which \$48,800 has been expended. There will be no more expenses for this project.

7.16 William D. Fitch Parkway Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1

Sponsors: Jennifer Cain

Question: What is our city policy on when we replace asphalt with concrete in regard to road rehabs?

Response: Each project is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, regarding initial cost, long-term maintenance, usage, etc., to determine the best option for that particular project.

7.18 Pickleball and Futsal Courts at Anderson Park

Sponsors: Jennifer Cain

Question: What exactly is the shade structure intending to shade? Have any private groups approached the city about partnering with the cost of these pickleball courts?

Response: The shade structure will be at the end of the pickleball courts area to provide shade for those waiting. I'm unaware of any private groups offering to partner in the cost of the pickleball courts.

9.2 UDO Amendment – Conditional Use Permits in Northgate

Sponsors: Molly Hitchcock

Question: Please give examples of recent actions by council to approve CUP for bars in College Station (a list like angry elephant, etc.)

Response: In the past decade, the following bars requested CUPs. All were approved:

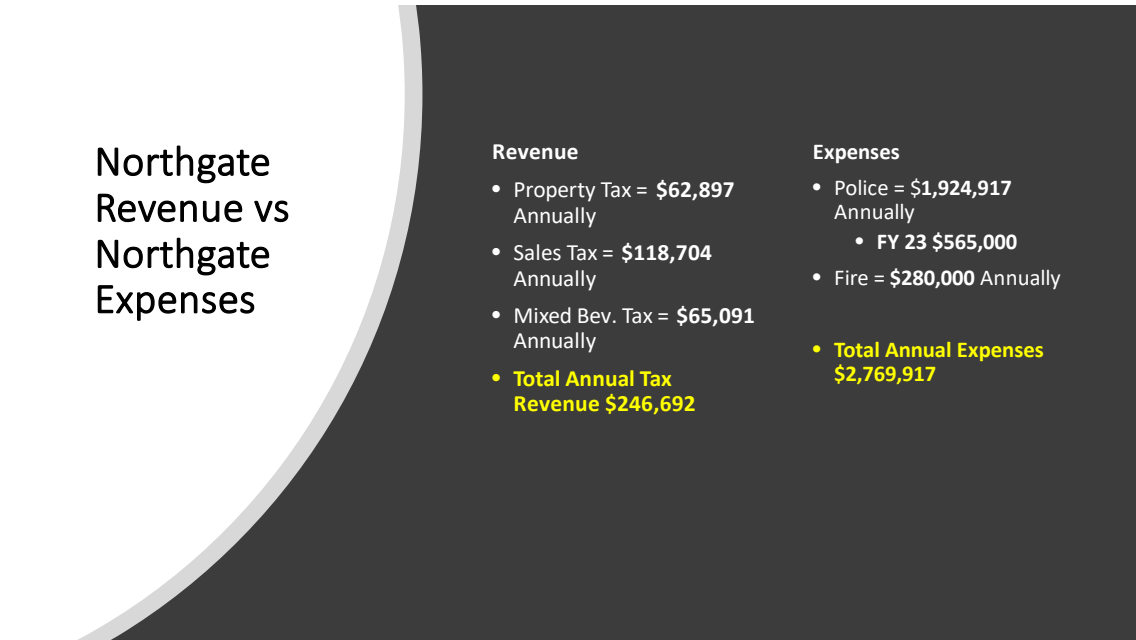
- 2023 – Holleman Tavern expansion
- 2022 – Holleman Tavern, approved with the conditions that live music on the rooftop be limited to non-amplified acoustic music and a 3-ft. perimeter barrier be installed on the south side of the open-air bar area
- 2019 – The Angry Elephant expansion
- 2018 – Daiquiri Barn
- 2018 – The Yard
- 2017 – The Angry Elephant

Question: Has Judge Spillane noted an increase in the number of MIP from the Northgate bars in the last several years? If so, can he offer some quantifiable measure of the increase?

Response: Yes, there has been an increase in alcohol related offenses in Northgate. For example, from July-September 2024, there were 649 alcohol related citations. July-September 2023, there were 398 alcohol related citations. Most of them were cited at Northgate. That was an increase of 251 citations within a year.

Question: Can you please remind me from the Aug 25th 2022 Council presentation on Northgate slide 15 how much money does the city receive from the Northgate bars and how much the city expends on first responders to calls in that same area.

Response:



Question: How does Item 9.2 relate to the staff recommendations on slide 18 from the Aug 25th, 2022, presentation?

Response: The conditional use permit suggestion was made in the third point of the attached slide referenced.



- Smart and effective long-term environmental planning
- Limit on the number of bars in the interim until a broader solution can be created
- Conditional Use Permit requirements need to be designed with legitimate conditions for all bars within the City
- Create a system for maximum number of bars by district within the city
- Proximity ordinances for licensed establishments
- Entertainment district fees
- Use existing city facilities to stimulate quality and safe re-development (Surface parking lot, Promenade, Parking Garage, and ROWs)

Question: Has Chief Couch seen a change in call volume since that 2022 meeting? Does Chief Couch believe that reducing the concentration of bars is still a key to increasing citizen safety or does he feel like increase in police numbers alone could best address the rising risks?

Response: The police department calls for service are consistent with the 2022 numbers. The concern is the volatility of the environment. The large concentration of bars in a such a small footprint contributes to the volatility of the environment. Individual bars in Northgate can have a negative impact on the environment as well, due to the operational decisions they make. To maintain a healthy environment during nighttime hours, the city should reduce the number or proximity of bars. Additionally, the bars who negatively impact the environment through criminal activity need to be held accountable. The long-term solution will not come from additional policing resources. Requiring a CUP on new bars in Northgate will allow the Council to make informed decisions.

Question: For people who have fond memories of Northgate 20 or 30 years ago, is there data to suggest Northgate has become more dangerous since then?

Response: Twenty to thirty years ago there were less than 10 bars in Northgate so the memories from that time will be very different than today. Fire Department numbers from 2022 indicate the environment has become more dangerous. In the slide of three-year totals, below, you can see the level of danger in the top 5 calls the fire department responded to in Northgate. These conditions are consistent today.

