

# Used Auto Parts Recyclers and Metal Recycling Entities

Planning and Community Development

June 27, 2024



# BACKGROUND

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- Original ordinance adopted in 2008
- Current ordinance adopted in 2012
  - Changed salvage yards and auto dismantlers to:
    - Used Automotive Parts Recyclers (UAPR)
    - Metal Recycling Entities (MRE)



# DEFINITIONS

## Metal Recycling Entities

MRE is defined in Ch. 16-203:

- Acquiring and purchasing scrap, used, or obsolete ferrous or nonferrous metal
- Performing the manufacturing process by which scrap, used, or obsolete ferrous or nonferrous metal is converted into raw material products



## Used Auto Parts Recyclers

UAPR defined in Ch.16-186

- Dismantling and reuse or resale of used automotive parts **and**
- Safe disposal of salvage motor vehicles or nonrepairable motor vehicles, including the resale of those vehicles



# COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST

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Submitted Nov. 27, 2023, by Council District 5

## Request

- Create a stakeholder group to assess and recommend amendments to Ch. 11 (Fire Prevention) and Ch. 16 (Licenses and Business Regulations) of the City's Code
- Include relevant stakeholders
  - Community
  - Neighborhood associations
  - Industry representatives

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST

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TO: Mayor and City Council

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FROM: Teri Castillo, District 5 Councilmember

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COPIES TO: Erik Walsh, City Manager; Tina Flores, City Clerk; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterrek, Assistant to the City Manager; Ana Bradshaw Assistant to City Council

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SUBJECT: Updating City Codes for Used Automotive Recycling Parts Recyclers and Metal Recycling Entities

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DATE: 11/27/2023

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### Issue Proposed for Consideration

Requesting the creation of a stakeholder taskforce charged with evaluating and recommending amendments to the San Antonio Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 11 Fire Prevention and Chapter 16 Licenses and Business Regulations, that ensure adequate enforcement of city codes relating to used automotive parts recyclers (UAPR) and metal recycling entities (MRE).

### Background

Used Automotive Parts Recyclers (UAPR) and Metal Recycling Entities (MRE) are facilities key to our city's recycling ecosystem and circular economy – many of them have been part of our community for decades. While they are part of what is considered the sustainable economy, the process of recycling used automotive parts and metals often results in serious pollution for the surrounding area that can cause detrimental health issues in people.

Air emissions such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), particulate matter and ozone, lead, mercury, and other hazardous air pollutants stem from much of the work UAPRs and MREs conduct during the breakdown process of onsite materials. These emissions, especially with long-term exposure, can lead to cancer, respiratory diseases, liver damage, neurological damage, and other dangerous health effects. While hazardous air emissions are most dangerous to people working and living near these facilities, they also threaten the health of all residents throughout the city of San Antonio as air pollutants can travel can travel hundreds of miles away from their original source.

# FOCUS AREAS

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- Timeline and process for issuing and resolving citations
- Fines for recurring violations
- Identifying a threshold for triggering heavier enforcement mechanisms until violations and citations are resolved
  - Temporarily ceasing operations
  - Requirements of fence line air monitors for limited time
  - Removal of non-conforming uses
  - Fines to recoup city services used to address violations and emergencies

# TASK FORCE MAKE UP

## Membership

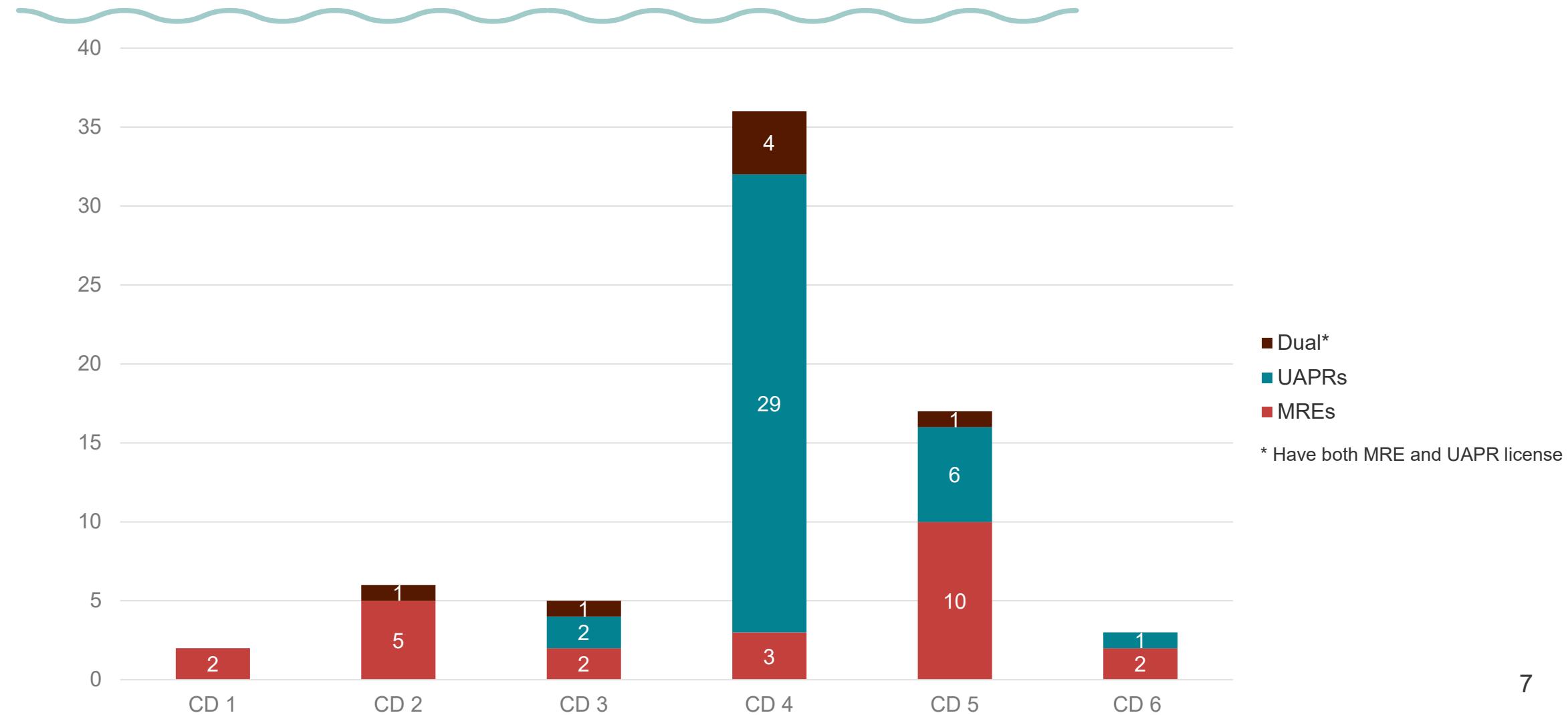
- 10 members chosen by City Council
- 10 industry representatives
  - 5 MREs
  - 5 UAPRs
- City staff (CAO, DSD, SAPD, MH, SAFD, SWD)
- Other agencies (TCEQ, SAWS)

## Industry Representative Criteria

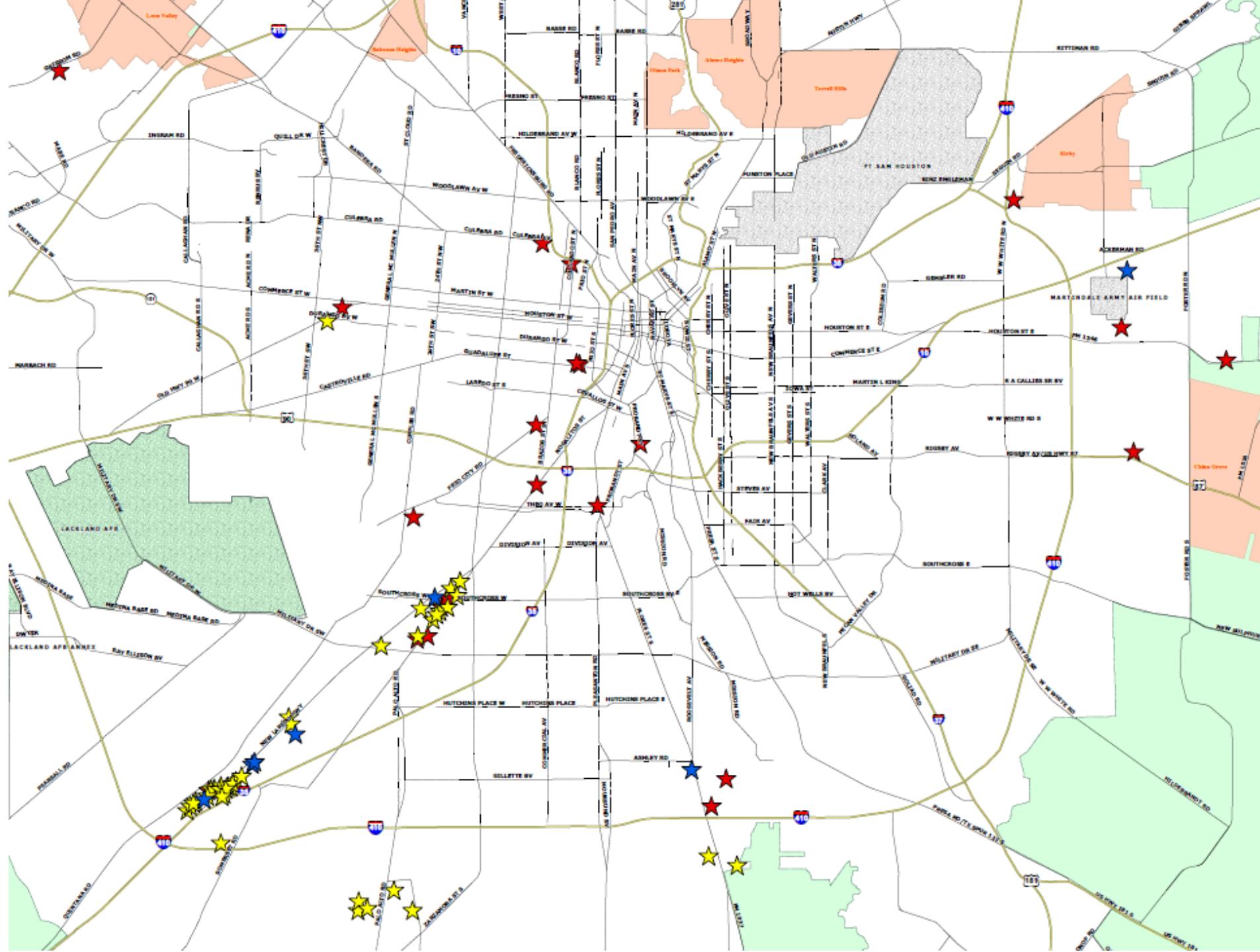
- Licensed operators
- Geographic diversity
- No violations in last code enforcement inspection
- No current citations



# METAL RECYCLING ENTITIES & USED AUTO PARTS RECYCLERS IN CITY



# MREs & UAPRs in City



- ★ Metal Recycling Entity
- ★ Used Auto Parts Recyclers
- ★ Dual

# Timeline



July

- Preparation and creation of Task Force
- Community meetings

Aug. – Jan.

- Task Force Meetings

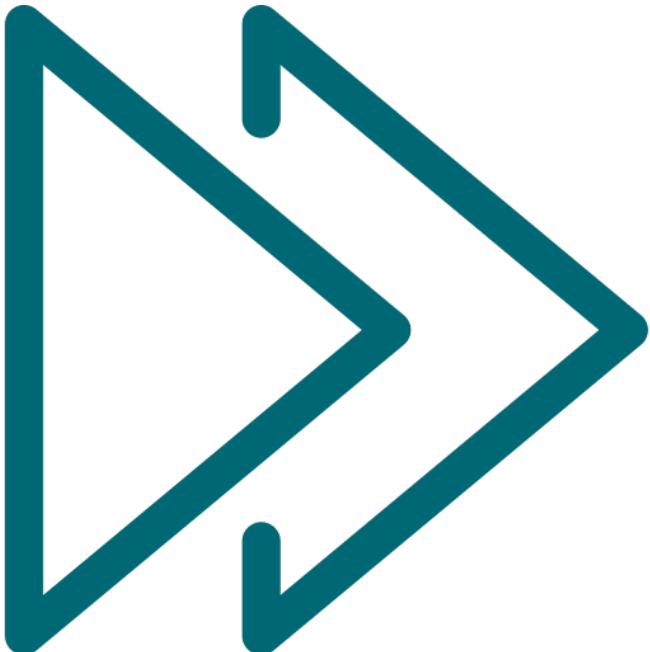
Jan. 2025

- Community meetings
- Task force recommendations

Feb. 2025

- PCDC briefing

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION



- Staff recommends creation of stakeholder group to review and propose amendments in Ch. 11 & Ch. 16
  - 10 members chosen by City Council
  - 10 industry representatives (5 MREs and 5 UAPRs)
  - City staff (CAO, DSD, SAPD, MH, SAFD, SWD)
  - Other agencies (TCEQ, SAWS)
- Hold Task Force meeting over 6-month timeframe
- Brief PCDC on task force recommendations Feb. 2025

# THANK YOU!

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