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Subject: Chapter 10 this Thursday

Scenic San Antonio asks you to act on changes to Chapter 10 of City Code, coming before the City Council this Thursday, 1/15/09:

What is being proposed:

- The Electrical Supervisory Board (ESB) would be reduced to an advisory board. However, any citizen who wanted to appeal the staff's work could do so only if the staff and the Electrical Board chairman agree.
- Staff of Planning & Development Services Dept. would implement billboard regulations totally, with no input from ESB.

The problem Scenic San Antonio and other groups have had stem from the lack of genuine input into the decisions that are being made by City Council and the way the staff has implemented the off-premise billboard ordinance, especially digital multi-media messages. Access by those who care about the scenic and economic environment of San Antonio calls for:

1. Continued involvement by the Electrical Board in the implementation of billboard regulation, including digitals.
2. A way for the Zoning Commission to receive and act on public input about the enabling "Dark Skies" ordinance, not just on specific zoning overlay cases.
3. A way for the Planning Commission to consider the effect of off-premise signage on urban design. They advise the City Council on creation of and additions to a master plan for the physical development of San Antonio.

I know you are busy, and appearing before City Council to speak for 3 minutes can take hours of your time. And, this item is **No. 36** on the agenda. So, I suggest that you fill in the **Written Testimony** form available on the www.sanantonio.gov website, under the City Clerk's Home Page. The City Clerk reads these messages into the public record – as long as they are received before 9 a.m. on 1/15/09. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the City Council knew that there were at least 100 citizens who want processes that allow effective public input? Please do your part and pass this on to your friends and groups.

If you want more information about billboards, please look at our website: www.scenicsanantonio.org

I've also enclosed our reasons for opposing billboards, including digitals.