

Tech can help you track your furry friend

By Kelvin Chan
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — “Have you seen the cats?”

That’s a common refrain in my household because our two felines, Maple and Juniper, can venture outside through a flap in the backdoor. Like many other London house cats, they’re free to come and go, roaming the surrounding backyards and beyond, equipped with microchips to identify them if they get lost.

If your cat likes to prowl outdoors for long stretches, or your dog has a tendency to run off, it can be distressing when they don’t return as expected.

If you’re worried about your furry friend’s whereabouts, technology can help you keep tabs on them.

How pet tech works

Dedicated pet trackers are collar-worn devices that typically use GPS signals to pinpoint the location of the animal wearing them. They use a 4G cell-phone signal or your home Wi-Fi connection to relay the position to a smartphone app.

There are many products on the market. Trac-



Kelvin Chan/Associated Press

The Apple Air Tag and Chipolo Bluetooth tracker are collar-worn devices that help pinpoint a pet’s location.

cats. Devices for the latter are generally smaller and lighter.

Dog trackers with integrated collars are available from Fi and Whistle. PetTracer is a cat collar that uses both GPS and radio signals from a home base station. FitBark, also for dogs, has an Apple Watch app to monitor location and other activity.

Garmin has a range of GPS dog collars that work with handheld devices resembling walkie-talkies, but they’re pricey and aimed at outdoors enthusiasts like hunters.

designate a safe zone on a map, usually your house and surrounding area, and alert you if your pet has left it.

They usually operate on the 4G LTE spectrum commonly used by wireless carriers. It typically has the longest range of any cellular signal, said Andrew Bleiman, Tractive’s executive vice president for North America.

That means strong connectivity in most of Europe and North America “unless you’re in a really far flung place like the middle of a national park,” Bleiman said.

What it costs

Exact price depends on brand and model. Most devices sell for less than \$100. However, keep in mind you’ll also have to pay a subscription fee for the cell service to function.

While that could cost \$100 or more a year, for some pet owners it’s worth the “peace of mind,” Bleiman said.

Battery life

The collars usually have a built-in rechargeable battery but battery life varies. Most will be last at least two to three

One big factor is signal strength. The battery will drain faster if the device has to work harder to pick up the GPS or connect to Wi-Fi. Some save power by not sending coordinates in the safe zone.

Other features

Like fitness watches for humans, pet tracking apps offer health and activity monitoring features. You can see how long your cat or dog has spent resting or exercising on a daily or hourly basis.

But be aware, a tracker is “not going to keep your pet in the backyard,” Bleiman said. It will only “alert you when they leave the virtual fence area that you set up.”

How to use it

This One TechTip was inspired by Maple, who once went AWOL for days. It turned out he was hanging out in a backyard to doors down the street. We only found out after the residents got hold of a pet microchip scanner to look up our contact details to let us know so we could retrieve him.

Tractive provided a loaner device to try. Using the included breakaway collar, we put it on Maple,

through a hole in the fence.

Over the next day, I used the Tractive app to monitor his movements. It showed his travels back and forth onto various neighboring properties. He came back to rest for a few hours around midnight, went out to prowl again around 3 a.m., then came back after an hour to nap some more.

It was fascinating to see where he was spending his time. According to the app’s “heatmap,” one of Maple’s favorite spots was the same backyard where we had to retrieve him previously.

Losing track

About 24 hours after I attached the Tractive collar on Maple, I noticed he was no longer wearing it. It had somehow come off.

If you can’t find your pet’s exact location, or the device gets lost, Tractive has a “radar” feature to pinpoint it with your phone’s Bluetooth. Other brands have similar features.

On the app’s map, I could see it was in a nearby backyard and that I was getting closer because the circle was getting bigger. But I couldn’t figure

Bleiman recommends using a harness for cats that don’t like collars, but I’m not convinced.

More options

It’s common for cats and dogs to be implanted with microchips, with the details added to a database. That makes it much easier to reunite owners with lost dogs and cats, even if they’ve strayed hundreds of miles away or gone missing for years.

Pet microchips, about the size of a grain of rice implanted just below the skin, are legally required in some European countries. There’s no federal law in the U.S., though some places like Hawaii now require them, so check with state or local authorities.

But there’s some confusion about what microchips can do. Because they don’t have a power supply, they can’t be tracked in real time. Whoever finds your pet would need to take it to a vet or a shelter to can scan the device for contact details.

Many pet owners also use Bluetooth trackers like Apple’s Air Tags, Samsung’s SmartTags or similar devices from Tile, Cube and Chibol. which

Legal Notices

Legals/Public Notices

**CITY OF KIRBY
CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION
DISTRICT BOARD**

**Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed
2025-2026 Budget**

The City of Kirby Crime Control and Prevention District Board will conduct a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 at Kirby City Hall, 112 Bauman, Kirby, Texas 78219 on July 1st, 2025 at 5:30pm.

New Frontier Public Schools is holding a Public Hearing (in-person and virtual) to discuss the 2025-2026 Federal Grant Application. It is on Friday, June 20, 2:00pm at Greg A Garcia Early College Intermediate 9550 S. Zuercher, SA, TX 78224.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for Electromagnetic Pulse Test Facility Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) and Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA)-Lackland, Texas, announce the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) addressing the construction and operation of a new Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) test site at JBSA-Lackland, Kelly Field Annex. The USAF prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and USAF instructions on implementing NEPA.

The Draft EA describes the USAF proposal for the construction and operation of a new EMP test site. Under the Proposed Action, Air Force Materiel Command would operate either a permanent or portable mobile antenna at an existing paved area adjacent to the runway to perform EMP testing on aircraft. The antenna would be a portable Continuous Wave Measurement System antenna. The antenna would create a low-intensity electromagnetic field which would approximate EMP effects in a controlled setting.

The Draft EA evaluates potential impacts on the environment from the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. The Draft EA demonstrates that the Proposed Action would not significantly impact the environment. Based on this analysis, the USAF has prepared a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The Draft EA and Draft FONSI are available for review on the JBSA website at www.jbsa.af.mil/resources/environmental and at the San Antonio Central Library, 600 Solidad St., San Antonio, TX.

Comments (excluding this document) will be accepted for 30 days from the publication of this notice. Address written comments to the USAF 3025 CES/CEI ATTN: Mr. Frank Scheritz, 1565 Gov Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX 78225, or via email, frank.scheritz@us.af.mil. For a complete list of all email addresses, visit www.jbsa.af.mil/NEPA (email address in sidebar) or via phone: (210) 256-5942.

Notice of Public Hearing

The City of San Antonio Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to be held at 2:00 PM, on 7/1/2025 at the City of San Antonio Planning and Development Services Center, 1901 South Alamo, for the purpose of considering a capital request.

Legals/Public Notices

11600053 (Council District 10): A request to change the San Antonio International Airport Vicinity Land Use Plan land use classification from "Parks/Open Space" to "Community Commercial" on Lot 7-A, NCB 13732, located at 13900 Jones Malmshever Road.

PUBLICATION LIST NO. 378
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A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BEFORE THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO BUILDING STANDARDS BOARD ON JULY 3, 2025 AT 9:00 AM IN THE BOARD ROOM AT THE CLIFF MORTON DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS SERVICES CENTER, ONE STOP BUILDING LOCATED AT 1901 S. ALAMO ST. TO WATCH AND LISTEN TO THIS MEETING, VISIT WWW.SANANTONIO.GOV/DSB/BOARDS/MEETINGS/VIDEOS, TO LISTEN TO AUDIO ONLY, CALL 210-206-LIVE (5483) AND SELECT THE OPTION TO LISTEN IN ENGLISH OR IN SPANISH. ALL OWNERS, MORTGAGEES, OR LIEHOLDERS ON RECORD HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE BELOW LISTED PROPERTIES CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE IN NEED OF ABATEMENT. ANY PERSONS HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY OR WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE CONDITIONS OF THE PROPERTY SHALL BE AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD. FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION AT 210-307-5422.

Dilapidated Structure
306 Guadalupe
3437 Guadalupe Creek Dr
244 Delaney Dr
218 W. Dickson Ave
282 Wingate Ave
2536 Solley Ave (addressed structure)

Legal Bids & Proposals

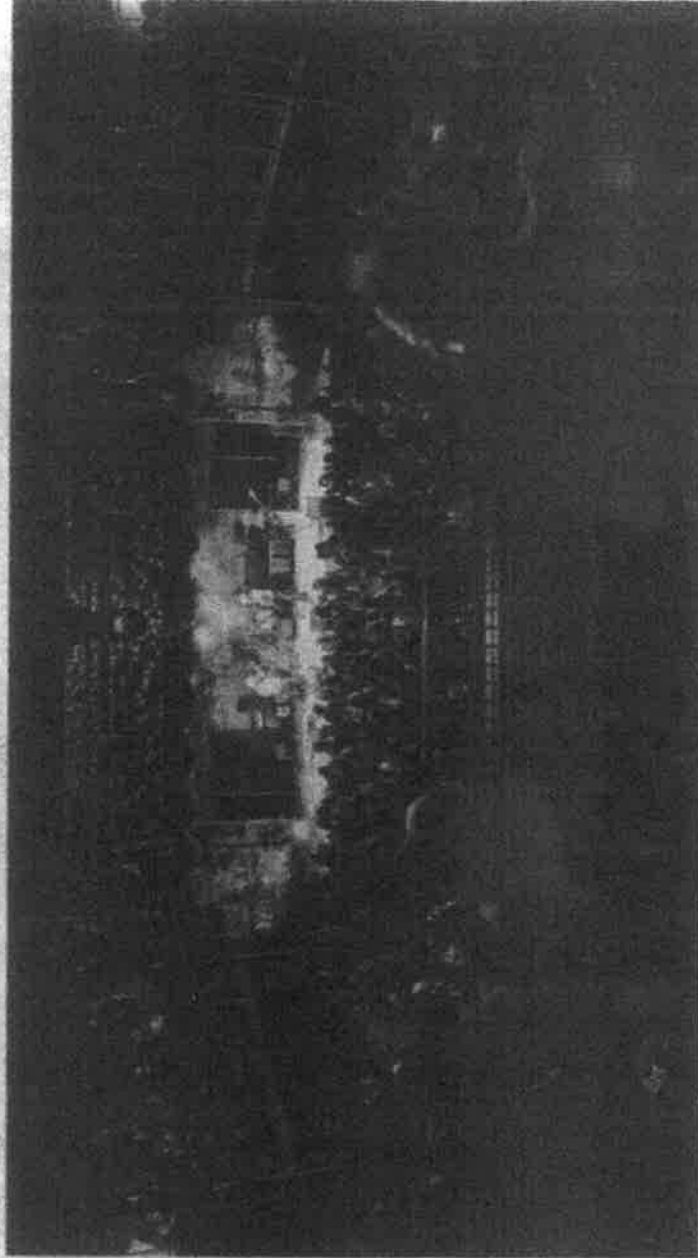
**CITY OF SCHERTZ
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ASO AND FULLY INSURED MEDICAL
AND STOP LOSS COVERAGE
RFP# 2025-003**

Sealed Proposals in response to this RFP will be received through the City's procurement portal at <https://schertz.bonfire.com/portal/116-0000003> until July 14, 2025 at 10:00AM Central. Submissions by other methods will not be accepted. All Bids must be in the City of Schertz's possession on or before the scheduled date and time (no late RFP will be accepted).

Solicitation documents can be obtained from the City's website above. You must register as a vendor through this portal to submit a bid or proposal. Any questions in reference to these Proposals may be directed to the Purchasing Department at (210) 619-1160 or purchasing@schertz.com.

The City shall evaluate the RFP on the basis of technical ability, experience, and ability to perform the work and factors identified within the attached RFP solicitation.

The City of Schertz reserves the right to refuse and reject any or all proposals.



Stable Hall LLC is accusing Dallas-based Wood Hall LLC of "abysmal financial performance" with Pearl's Stable Hall in a countersuit that came less than a month after Wood Hall sued over its ousting as manager.

Clint Datchuk/For the San Antonio Express-News

LAWSUIT

From page A8

Stable Hall LLC was its "purported expertise in live entertainment and restaurant venues of its principals," Brandt Wood and Brick Schlather, Stable Hall LLC says in the countersuit.

But it says Wood Hall's "track record is checkered at best," given that several venues it oversaw in the Dallas area collapsed and were part of a holding company's bankruptcy.

Wood and Schlather projected that Stable Hall would generate almost \$1.5 million in earnings in 2024 but ended up way off target, Stable Hall LLC says.

Stable Hall LLC cites various examples of Wood Hall's alleged mismanagement, including not timely applying for licenses from three performing rights organizations.

Wood Hall also struggled to book "a sufficient number of performances and events" on a weekly basis, Stable Hall LLC says.

The venue accrued losses of more than \$2.5 million before interest, taxes and other items in its first 10 months and was projected to lose more than \$2.8 million for all of last year, Stable Hall LLC says.

The financial performance represented a target failure under a formula outlined in a management agreement between the parties.

"The Venue's financial nose dive was unacceptable to Potluck," the countersuit says. It had made \$1.3 million in capital contributions to Stable Hall LLC and loaned \$2.5 million to fund the venue's operations during the revenue shortfalls, while "Wood Hall was contributing \$0.00."

Potluck representatives met with Wood and Schlather on multiple occasions to convey concerns about the "precarious financial condition," but the pair offered "no semblance of a plan forward that might hope to improve the Venue's bleak situation," Stable Hall LLC says.

Stable Hall LLC says it had no choice but to terminate the agreement.

Wood Hall on Oct. 28, Wood Hall should recover nothing from its lawsuit, Stable Hall says.

Wood Hall's suit also named Austin-based Soap Creek Entertainment LLC as a defendant. Soap Creek worked as subcontractor for Wood Hall, booking talent to perform at Stable Hall, the suit said. Soap Creek continued to provide talent services after Wood Hall's termination in violation of provisions in an agreement, the complaint said.

Stable Hall LLC denies Soap Creek continued to book shows or that it interfered with any arrangement. Soap Creek has denied the allegations against it.

Kirby
Crime Control & Prevention
2025 – 2026
Proposed Budget Worksheet

REVENUES	2022-2023	2023-2024	CURRENT	YEAR-TO-DATE	PROJECTED	REQUESTED	APPROVED
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	YEAR END	BUDGET	WORKSPACE
TAXES							
60-4015 CCPS SALES TAX	137,321	123,031	130,000	84,762	124,078	130,000	
TOTAL TAXES	137,321	123,031	130,000	84,762	124,078	130,000	
GRANTS							
MISCELLANEOUS							
60-4705 CCPS INTEREST INCOME	135	157	125	51	160	125	
60-4730 CCPS DONATIONS	0	1,742	0	120	1,500	0	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	135	1,899	125	171	1,660	125	
TOTAL REVENUES	137,457	124,930	130,125	84,933	125,738	130,125	

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2024-2025	2025-2026	2025-2026
ACTUAL	ACTUAL	CURRENT	YEAR-TO-DATE	PROJECTED	REQUESTED	APPROVED
600	3,800	3,600	2,100	3,800	3,600	
46	0	230	0	0	230	
646	3,800	3,830	2,100	3,800	3,830	

SALARIES & BENEFITS

60-500-0000	CCPD SALARIES	600	3,800	2,100	3,800	3,600
60-500-0020	CCPD FICA TAX	46	0	0	0	230
	TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	646	3,800	2,100	3,800	3,830

SUPPLIES

60-500-1000	CCPD OFFICE SUPPLIES	167	64	0	100	600
60-500-1003	CCPD COMM SERVICE PROGR	1,952	30,111	0	30,047	5,000
60-500-1004	BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT	0	0	0	0	5,000
60-500-1005	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVEN	0	0	0	0	2,500
60-500-1006	HALLOWEEN EVENT	0	0	0	0	6,000
60-500-1007	COOKIES WITH SANTA EVEN	0	0	700	700	1,000
60-500-1008	CCPD PROGRAMS	0	0	700	0	1,000
60-500-1009	MEET & GREET	0	0	6,000	0	5,000
60-500-1010	MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS	0	0	0	0	1,500
60-500-1011	BLUE SANTA PROGRAM	0	0	2,466	0	5,000
60-500-1012	OUTREACH EVENTS	0	0	1,070	0	1,000
60-500-1013	BIKE SAFETY EVENT	0	0	0	0	10,000
60-500-1014	ANIMAL SERVICES EVENT	0	0	0	0	3,000
60-500-1050	CCPD UNIFORMS	0	0	0	0	1,000
	TOTAL SUPPLIES	2,119	30,175	14,153	30,147	42,800

MAINTENANCE

60-500-2200	CCPD EQUIPMENT MAINTENA	0	0	0	0	200
60-500-2400	CCPD SOFTWARE MAINTENAN	0	129	0	129	250
60-500-2450	CCPD 411 TIPS SUBSCRIPT	0	6,000	0	6,000	3,000
60-500-2451	PM AM HCM SUBSCRIPTION	0	0	0	0	6,000
	TOTAL MAINTENANCE	0	6,129	450	6,129	9,450

CONTRACT SERVICES

60-500-3100	CCPD RENT	60	0	100	100	100
60-500-3110	CCPD PUBLICATION EXPENS	64	1,489	500	470	2,000
60-500-3330	CCPD INSURANCE & BONDS	104	910	1,000	910	1,000
60-500-3340	CCPD LEGAL FEES	0	0	1,100	0	1,100
60-500-3360	CCPD AUDITOR	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,000	2,500
60-500-3380	CCPD INTERNET & E-MAIL	19,407	14,332	20,000	15,000	20,000
60-500-3440	CCPD ELECTION EXPENSE	0	0	11,268	7,306	0
	TOTAL CONTRACT SERVICES	21,635	18,731	36,168	22,196	26,700
60-500-4000	CCPD TRAINING	972	0	1,000	0	1,000
60-500-4005	POLICE CHIEF OPERATIONS	0	4,485	5,000	1,096	5,000
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	972	4,485	6,000	1,096	6,000

TOTAL NONDEPARTMENTAL									
DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES									
2022-2023	2023-2024	CURRENT	YEAR-TO-DATE	PROJECTED	REQUESTED	APPROVED	WORKSPACE		
ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	YEAR-TO-DATE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	DR		
CAPITAL OUTLAY									
60-500-5000	POLICE VEHICLE/EQUIP. (	55,327	6,000	0	55,327	6,000			
60-500-5006	AXON LICENSE BUNDLE 2 Y	11,188	17,000	16,580	11,188	17,000			
60-500-5007	AXON BUNDLE - CAR VIDEO	5,478	0	0	12,799	5,000			
60-500-5008	TASERS CARTRIDGES	4,604	0	0	0	0			
60-500-5009	PARK SECURITY CAMERAS	8,792	0	0	0	0			
60-500-5011	BODY CAMERAS	0	9,943	0	9,943	0			
60-500-5012	OFFICERS EQUIPMENTS	0	0	0	0	5,000			
60-500-5013	BUILDING MAINTENANCE TECH	0	19,457	0	19,407	0			
60-500-5014	WEAPONS REPLACEMENT	0	0	15,000	14,528	0			
60-500-5050	PD DIGITAL SIGN	44,098	34,306	0	34,306	0			
TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY		67,670	143,021	39,074	31,108	33,000			
TOTAL NONDEPARTMENTAL									
93,042	206,340	125,807	70,653	207,556	121,780				

CITY OF KIRBY PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET AS OF: SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2026						

2022-2023	2023-2024	CURRENT	YEAR-TO-DATE	PROJECTED	REQUESTED	APPROVED
ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	YEAR END	BUDGET	BUDGET
WORKSPACE						

93,042	206,340	125,807	70,653	207,556	121,780	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES						
44,415	(81,410)	4,318	14,280	(81,818)	8,345	
REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES						

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES & USES						

44,415	(81,410)	4,318	14,280	(81,818)	8,345	
REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES OVER						
(UNDER) EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES						
44,415	(81,410)	4,318	14,280	(81,818)	8,345	

Estimated End of Year Balance for CCPD
As of 9/30/2025

Estimated Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2025 \$ 64,746.23

July

Estimated Sales Tax Revenue \$ 9,800.00
Estimated Interest Income 6.00
Salary Expense (300.00)
Contract Services (2,000.00)
Back to School (2,000.00)
Estimated Balance as of July 2025 \$ 70,252.23

August

Estimated Sales Tax Revenue \$ 10,600.00
Estimated Interest Income 6.00
Salary Expense (300.00)
Contract Services (2,000.00)
Estimated Balance as of August 2025 \$ 78,558.23

September

Estimated Sales Tax Revenue \$ 10,500.00
Estimated Interest Income 6.00
Salary Expense (300.00)
Contract Services (2,000.00)
National Night Out Expenses (6,000.00)
End of September Estimated Balance \$ 80,764.23