



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 5

Agenda Date: August 23, 2023

In Control: Conservation Advisory Board Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Homer Garcia III

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A discussion and update regarding the Scenic Loop Property and S.A. MUD No. 1 Phase II projects by Edwards Aquifer Protection Program staff.

SUMMARY:

Edwards Aquifer Protection Program staff will present an update on the Scenic Loop Property and San Antonio Municipal Utility District No. 1 Phase II projects which may be considered for fee simple acquisition through the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Edwards Aquifer Protection Program staff will present an update on the Scenic Loop Property and San Antonio Municipal Utility District No. 1 Phase II projects for the Conservation Advisory Board's consideration of fee simple acquisition (Scenic Loop Property) and conservation easement acquisition (SA MUD No. 1 Phase II) through the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program (EAPP).

The Scenic Loop Property is approximately 155.7-acres located in Bexar County over the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone and is located adjacent to the 453-acre Scenic Canyon Natural Area preserve which was acquired through the EAPP in 2007. This property ranks in the Top 10% of the SET model. EAPP staff will be requesting consideration for Stage 2 due diligence for this project as a geological assessment and appraisal have been completed. This acquisition project proposes to leverage EAPP funding with a 50% funding match through the Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program through partnership with Compatible Lands Foundation for military buffer protection within the established Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape target area.

The San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II projects are located in NW Bexar County over the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone and rank in the Top 10% of the SET model. In 2020, the EAPP and San Antonio MUD No. 1 (SA MUD) partnered on an acquisition project in which the SA MUD donated a conservation easement on 67 acres. The SA MUD currently owns four (4) additional parcels totaling approximately 55 acres located in the San Antonio Ranch development which are located in close proximity to the previously protected parcels. SA MUD desires to donate a second conservation easement to the EAPP which would result in a substantial cost savings over the traditional conservation easement acquisition process. The EAPP is requesting consideration for Stage 2 due diligence for this Phase II project in order to proceed with surveys and environmental reporting.

ISSUE:

This is a presentation to the Conservation Advisory Board on the Scenic Loop Property and San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II projects. The Conservation Advisory Board may elect to approve Stage 2 due diligence for these projects.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Stage 2 due diligence for the Scenic Loop Property and San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II projects.