



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
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**Agenda Item Number:** {{item.number}}

**Agenda Date:** January 23, 2024

**In Control:** Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan Coordinating Committee Meeting

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**DEPARTMENT:** Development Services Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Michael Shannon

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide|Bexar County

**SUBJECT:**

Consideration and recommendation of the SEP-HCP budget for biological services for the current year.

**SUMMARY:**

Renewal of FY 2024 Blair Wildlife Consulting contract extension for biological services to the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In 2019 Bexar County entered into a contract with Blair Wildlife Consulting for biological services for the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan (SEP-HCP). The initial contract was for a maximum annual payment of \$220,000.00. The City of San Antonio and Bexar County each paid \$50,000.00 and any amount billed in excess of that amount would come from the SEP-HCP

revenues. Per the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) both Bexar County and the City of San Antonio share joint responsibility to fund and manage the SEP-HCP program.

The contract was extended in 2021. Bexar County and the City of San Antonio are seeking another contract extension.

#### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS CONTRACTS:

Initial Term: March 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020

Contract Total: \$220,000

- · \$50,000 from Bexar County
- · \$50,000 from COSA/DSD
- · Total \$120,000 to be paid from SEPHCP Revenues
  - \$70,000 from Deposit Warrant 385490 = SEPHCP Revenues for the construction of a fence around a previously donated karst feature which can only be done under certain weather conditions to avoid disturbance of the protected endangered species within the karst
  - \$50,000 from SEPHCP revenues
- A total of \$170,039.91 was actually paid.
- Services paid for:
  - GCSNA KFAS Management and monitoring
  - Meetings and coordination
  - Annual reporting
  - Application review and processing, and preserve evaluations
  - Karst Surveys to support potential preserve establishments
  - Northern preserve management and monitoring
  - Panther Springs preserve management and monitoring
  - Government Canyon preserve management and monitoring
  - Genetic studies of cave dwelling cicurina spiders

1st Extension: March 31, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Contract Total: \$220,000

- \$50,000 from Bexar County
- \$50,000 from COSA/DSD
- Total \$120,000 to be paid from SEPHCP Revenues
  - \$70,000 from Deposit Warrant 385490 = SEPHCP Revenues for the construction of a fence around a previously donated karst feature which can only be done under certain weather conditions to avoid disturbance of the protected endangered species within the karst
  - \$50,000 from SEPHCP revenues
- A total of \$170,039.91 was actually paid.
- Services paid for:
  - GCSNA KFAS Management and monitoring
  - Meetings and coordination
  - Annual reporting

- Application review and processing, and preserve evaluations
- Karst Surveys to support potential preserve establishments
- Northern preserve management and monitoring
- Panther Springs preserve management and monitoring
- Government Canyon preserve management and monitoring
- Genetic studies of cave dwelling cicurina spiders

2nd Extension: March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022

Contract Total: \$340,000

- \$50,000 from Bexar County
- \$50,000 from COSA/DSD
- Total \$120,000 to be paid from SEPHCP Revenues
  - \$70,000 from Deposit Warrant 385490 = SEPHCP Revenues for the construction of a fence around a previously donated karst feature which can only be done under certain weather conditions to avoid disturbance of the protected endangered species within the karst
  - \$50,000 from SEPHCP revenues
- A total of \$132,505.00 was actually paid.
- Services paid for:
  - GCSNA KFAS Management and monitoring
  - Meetings and coordination
  - Annual reporting
  - Application review and processing, and preserve evaluations
  - Karst Surveys to support potential preserve establishments
  - Northern preserve management and monitoring
  - Panther Springs preserve management and monitoring
  - Government Canyon preserve management and monitoring
  - Genetic studies of cave dwelling cicurina spiders

This contract increased the maximum payment to Blair Wildlife Consulting to \$340,000.00. This increase was attributed to the following:

- \$50,000 – Base contribution for program implementation services
- \$45,000 – Cicurina genetics study
- \$75,000 – Preserve establishment, management & monitoring services for 3 potential new karst preserves (estimated at \$25,000/preserve)

3rd Extension: March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023

Contract Total: \$340,000

- \$50,000 from Bexar County
- \$50,000 from COSA/DSD
- Total \$120,000 to be paid from SEPHCP Revenues
  - \$70,000 from Deposit Warrant 385490 = SEPHCP Revenues for the construction of a fence around a previously donated karst feature which can only be done under certain weather conditions to avoid disturbance of the protected endangered species within the karst
  - \$50,000 from SEPHCP revenues
- A total of \$132,505.00 was actually paid.

- Services paid for:
  - GCSNA KFAS Management and monitoring
  - Meetings and coordination
  - Annual reporting
  - Application review and processing, and preserve evaluations
  - Karst Surveys to support potential preserve establishments
  - Northern preserve management and monitoring
  - Panther Springs preserve management and monitoring
  - Government Canyon preserve management and monitoring
  - Genetic studies of cave dwelling cicurina spiders

4th Extension: March 1, 2023 – February 28, 2024

Contract Total: \$340,000

- \$50,000 from Bexar County
- \$50,000 from COSA/DSD
- Total \$120,000 to be paid from SEPHCP Revenues
  - \$70,000 from Deposit Warrant 385490 = SEPHCP Revenues for the construction of a fence around a previously donated karst feature which can only be done under certain weather conditions to avoid disturbance of the protected endangered species within the karst
  - \$50,000 from SEPHCP revenues
- A total of \$95,704.24 was actually paid through December 2023.
- Services paid for:
  - GCSNA KFAS Management and monitoring
  - Meetings and coordination
  - Annual reporting
  - Application review and processing, and preserve evaluations
  - Karst Surveys to support potential preserve establishments
  - Northern preserve management and monitoring
  - Panther Springs preserve management and monitoring
  - Government Canyon preserve management and monitoring
  - Genetic studies of cave dwelling cicurina spiders

#### **ISSUE:**

The existing contract expires in February 2024. This item is to renew the budget for this contract.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

**The contract extension mirrors the terms of the current agreement. This is the last extension for this contract.**

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The SEP-HCP Coordinating Committee may choose to not renew the budget for this contract.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends Approval of the renewal of FY 2024 Blair Wildlife Consulting contract extension for biological services to the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan.

Budget allocating a maximum payment of \$340,000.00 broken down as follows:

- Bexar County Maximum Contribution: \$50,000.00
- City of San Antonio Maximum Contribution: \$50,000.00
- SEP-HCP Fund Maximum Contribution: \$240,000.00