

City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: April 26, 2023

In Control: Conservation Advisory Board Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Homer Garcia III

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing and update on University of Texas at San Antonio's (UTSA) Proposition 1-funded water quality project.

SUMMARY:

San Antonio River Authority and University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) will provide a briefing and update on UTSA's Rooftop Retrofit water quality project funded through the 2015 Proposition 1 program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The 2015 Proposition 1 program was approved for \$100 million to support the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program; \$90 million was allocated for acquisition of land and conservation easements over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones to protect recharge quality and quantity and \$10 million was dedicated to fund Edwards Aquifer protection projects within urbanized areas of Bexar County's recharge and contributing zones with a focus of improving

Edwards Aquifer water quality.

In 2017, City Council approved a \$1,057,401 funding agreement with University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) through the Proposition 1 program permitting UTSA to retrofit 2.71 acres of rooftops amd 7.97 acres of parking, roadway, and sidewalks at the UTSA Main Campus through diversion of stormwater runoff into a newly constructed suite of connected projects including cisterns, pervious pavement, a vegetated bioswale and forebay, a rain garden, and a bioretention and sand filtration area. Through the capture of an estimated two million gallons of rooftop runoff on an annual basis, the project monitored the efficacy of Low Impact Development (LID) features and their ability to remove solids and pollutants, reduce heat, and provide aesthetic alternative stormwater treatments. The project additionally developed a cost analysis of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and offered educational opportunities in an outdoor LID classroom setting which will last many years beyond the term of UTSA's funding agreement. This project is complete and UTSA will be providing a summary of their final project report to the Conservation Advisory Board.

ISSUE:

UTSA will be providing a summary of the final project report to the Conservation Advisory Board for their Rooftop Retrofit project funded through the 2015 Proposition 1 program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is a briefing item only.