



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: May 24, 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 Roadway Vegetation 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 Roadway Vegetation 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 2019, City Council approved a \$798,636 funding agreement with University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) through the Proposition 1 program permitting UTSA to evaluate soil and vegetation composition and density along six roadways in the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones in Bexar County for control of sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants and make recommendations of xeric species of vegetation most adaptable to roadway conditions. The project aimed to fill a data gap within the Edwards Aquifer by providing information on native evergreen and perennial vegetation that can be propagated and planted along roadways to survive periods of drought and short periods of inundation and to slow runoff and control pollutants from entering the aquifer. The project also will allow for better management and design of stormwater retention sites, provide better information on native vegetation that is applicable to xeriscaping requiring lower maintenance along highways, and the project results may be used in other LID residential and commercial projects to decrease stormwater runoff and improve water quality.

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 Roadway Vegetation 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.