



SAN ANTONIO

RIVER AUTHORITY

EAC Strategic Plan Update

March 29, 2019



Background

- Dec. 7, 2018 – EAC provides recommendations
- Dec. 18, 2018 – River Authority begins strategic planning
- Feb. 13, 2019 – EAC recommendations presented to River Authority board members
- June 19, 2019 – River Authority board to vote on budget



Strategic Opportunities – EAC Requested

- Environmental Resiliency Position Paper is in draft process.
 - Anticipated Completion Date: June 2019
 - EAC will have opportunity to review/comment on draft before it is provided to SARA's board for final review and approval.



Strategic Opportunities – River Authority Staff

- Influence behaviors through education, advocacy and mitigation projects to achieve trash-free waters
- Continue to advance SARA's participation and influence in capital projects along creeks and rivers
- Engage in actions to protect and conserve the habitat of the San Antonio Bay
- Strategically position the Utilities Enterprise to support growth within existing and new service areas



Strategic Opportunities – River Authority Staff

- Position the River Authority as a leader in advancing sustainability development practices
- Improve water quality to support designated public swimming opportunities within creeks and rivers
- Engage in the state flood planning process to maximize the benefits to the district

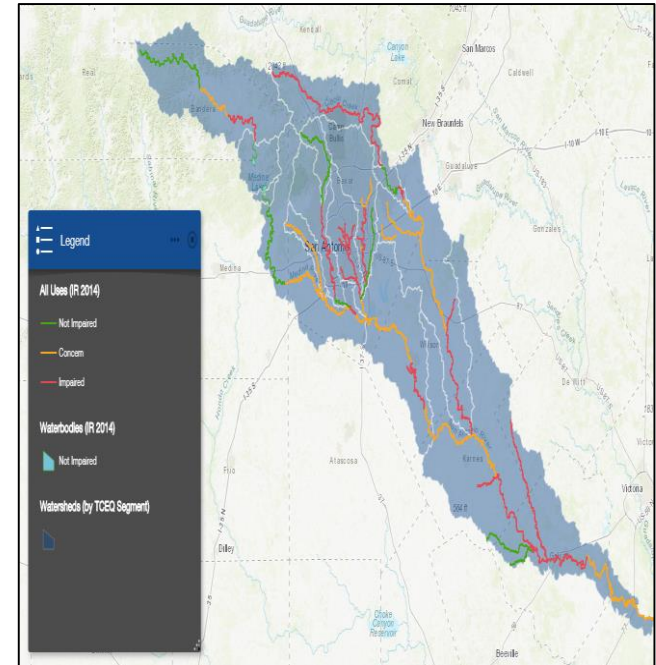




Advance Science and Engineering Expertise and Data

PROPOSED FOR FY20

1. Target Investments to maintain SARA's technical leadership in flood, water quality and ecosystem modeling, mapping and analysis; and watershed master planning
2. Advance the capability for consumers to easily access and use models, data and master plans through development of tools





Enable Policy, Projects, and Actions

PROPOSED FOR FY20

1. Target investments in projects and incentives that result in quantifiable water quality benefits.
2. Promote healthy ecosystems through proactive ecological restoration projects.
3. Proactively address the threats to creeks and rivers.
4. Drive adoption of sustainable design and development policy.





Enhance Community Appreciation and Recreation

PROPOSED FOR FY20

1. Increase positive public awareness of and engagement with SARA.
2. Grow the use of SARA parks and trails.
3. Engage with community partners to expand recreational opportunities.



Making Spirits **BRIGHT**





Maximize Strategic Use of Resources

PROPOSED FOR FY20

1. Pursue implementation of the facilities improvement and expansion plan.
2. Increase service delivery of the utility enterprise.
3. Improve service delivery of the utility enterprise.
4. Review and update business processes and practices that mitigate organization risk.
5. Ensure GIS data, applications and guidance documentation are easily accessible, intuitive and user-friendly, for both internal and external customers.





Inspire Employees and Build Expertise

PROPOSED FOR FY20

1. Advance the River Authority's culture by improving employee resiliency through programs that support employees personally and professionally.
2. Develop and implement a SARA training program that improves ease of use and employee experience of technology and other resources.
3. Implement organization wide processes that assist with human capital management (capacity planning)



EAC Recommendation

EAC proposes the following projects as High Priority:

- **Clean Rivers Program 2019**
 - Staff supports funding and inclusion in the FY 20 budget
- **Inflow Scenarios for San Antonio Bay Modeling Project 2018**
 - No new funding requested by staff; however, staff supports use of existing funding to continue project into FY 20 budget
- **Stormwater Training and Tools**
 - Staff is moving this from a project into the Environmental Sciences Department



EAC Recommendation

EAC proposes the following projects as High Priority:

- **Edwards Aquifer Watershed Protection**
 - Staff supports funding and inclusion in the FY 20 budget
- **River Road Stream Restoration**
 - Staff supports funding and inclusion in the FY 20 budget
- **Impervious Cover Mitigation**
 - Staff supports funding and inclusion in the FY 20 budget
- **Watershed Wise River Discovery**
 - This project is coming to an end and closing by June 30, 2019



EAC Recommendation

Two other projects were noted:

- Trash and Floatables Mitigation - Olmos Creek
 - Staff supports funding and inclusion in the FY 20 budget
- Green Stormwater Infrastructure Master Plan: Upper SAR Watershed
 - This project is grant funded and will continue with existing grant funds.



EAC Recommendation

One additional item to note as to Storm water Training and Tools:

The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) is open to work on securing grant funding as needed in collaboration with the River Authority for several of the projects listed which are consonant with GEAA goals.



Questions?

