

**Minutes of the
Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee (WCROC) Meeting
February 7, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the San Antonio River Authority's Boardroom, 100 East Guenther Street, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Committee Members Present:

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| Robert Ramirez, Co-Chair | Olga Lizcano, Co-Chair |
| Abigail Kinnison, Beacon Hill N.A. | Jude Valdez, UTSA |
| Abel Ramirez, San Antonio Wheelmen | Ted Ozuna, Donaldson Terrace NA |
| Lourdes Galvan, West SA Chamber of Commerce | Gabriel Velasquez, Avenida Guadalupe |
| Rod Radle, San Antonio Alternative Housing | |
| Roberto Hinkson, San Antonio Conservation Society | |

Elected Officials Present:

Roberto G. Rodríguez, San Antonio River Authority Board Director, District 2

Staff and Members of the Public Present:

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| Suzanne Scott, SARA | Rudy R. Farias, SARA |
| Fred Blumberg, Arcadis | Brian Mast, SARA |
| Kerim Jacaman, Bexar County | Gloria Rodriguez, SARA |
| Jason Nelson, AECOM | Erin Newberry, SARA |
| David Parkhill, AECOM | John Espinoza |
| Dr. Gary Dryden | Mardi Baron |
| Miguel Orozco | Linda Ximenes, Ximenes & Associates |
| Jerry Geyer | Rosemary Geyer |
| Michelle Sorhan, Green Spaces Alliance | Narcisco Cano |
| Kevin Conner, Jacobs | Brady Haynes, SARA |
| Fernando Roman, Tetra Tech | Janie Robles |
| Xavier Gonzalez, WRZG Architecture | Cecil ? |

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Welcome

Chair Robert Ramirez called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Mr. Ramirez introduced San Antonio River Authority Board Director, Roberto G. Rodríguez and welcomed him to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Approval of Minutes for December 13, 2011

Mr. Ramirez presented the minutes to the Committee and asked if there were any corrections. As there were none, a motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The minutes were approved by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: US Army Corps of Engineers Feasibility Study Update

Ms. Nova Robbins, US Army Corps of Engineers, provided an update on the Westside Creeks (WSC) National Pilot Study via conference call. Ms. Robbins informed the committee that Decision Point (DP) 1 confirming Federal Corps Interest was completed and official approval has been granted to move forward with development of a Project Management Plan (PMP) and Federal Cost Share Agreement (FCSA). The Corps is currently working with SARA towards DP 2. The DP 1 authorization of national significance is based on migratory birds and intermittent streams.

Ms. Abigail Kinnison asked Ms. Robbins if the Westside Creeks committee could provide any assistance with any federal buy-in potential. Ms. Robbins stated the planning paradigm is currently in the analyses stage and not yet at potential federal agency buy-in.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Briefing on Market Square Cultural Zone Efforts (San Pedro Creek)

Mr. Xavier Gonzales, WRZG Architecture, provided a presentation on the long-standing vision created by the Market Square Cultural Zone group. The presentation/video detailed progress on projects within the Cultural Zone as well as proposed projects they hope to incorporate. Mr. Gonzales discussed the use of water, (i.e., the San Antonio River and San Pedro Creek as a catalyst to showcase downtown), the UTSA Campus Expansion, VIA's new multi model transit station, and the use of these downtown nodes to connect catalyst areas such as the Market Square area to Hemisfair Park. Mr. Gonzales stated the Cultural Zone supports the Mayor's SA2020 vision to showcase downtown.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Briefing on San Pedro Creek Preliminary Design

Mr. Rudy Farias, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), provided an update on the status of the preliminary design study for San Pedro Creek. Bexar County and SARA will enter into an interlocal agreement to perform the study, in coordination with the City of San Antonio (COSA). This preliminary design study will be funded by Bexar County. SARA will be the Project Manager and the study will include cost estimates and design alternatives for ecosystem restoration of the creek, landscaping and pocket parks, access and connections with the downtown areas, hike and bike trails, historical and cultural interpretation, signage, public use amenities, and tunnel modifications/reuse water/recirculation. The Request for Proposal has not been released at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Elmendorf Lake Concept Update (Apache Creek)

Mr. Farias provided an update on the Elmendorf Lake Study (Apache Creek) effort conducted by Malcolm Pirnie on behalf of SARA. Participants included the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU) and SARA. The purpose of the study was to develop a "Great People Place for the Westside." The Westside Creeks Restoration Conceptual Plan, Upper San Antonio River Master Plan, Elmendorf Lake Dredging Project, COSA 24th Street Improvement Project, COSA Linear Creekway Parks Project, COSA Hike and Bike Master Plan, OLLU Campus Master Plan and VIA Metropolitan 2035 Long Range Transportation contributed to the overall study and its conclusions.

Mr. Rod Radle asked Mr. Farias about the Elmendorf Lake dredging project. Mr. Farias reported that the dredging was not moving forward. Mr. Radle indicated this was the first he'd heard that the dredging project was not moving forward and asked for a report at the next oversight committee meeting to learn more about the study's recommendations for improving water quality if the dredging was not going to occur.

Mr. Gabriel Velasquez asked about Elmendorf Lake Park and if properties were identified for buy outs. Mr. Farias indicated that the recommendation in the study for Elmendorf Lake Park is to buy out a few

structures currently located in the flood zone to relocate Buena Vista street and widen the park which is currently constrained by limited space. Mr. Velsaquez indicated if the plan is going to move forward, the property owners will need to be briefed. Co-chair Robert Ramirez indicated if briefings were going to occur, he would like to be involved in the briefings.

Mr. Farias indicated the consultant would brief the WCROC at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: City of San Antonio 2012 Bond Election Update

Mr. Farias provided an update on the COSA 2012 Bond Election and the City Council approved funding allocations for Elmendorf Lake, Rosedale Park, West End Park, Mario Farias Park, and Elmendorf Lake Area Improvements. The total city bond amount is \$596 million. Of those funds, the Westside Creeks has funding identified in both Parks and Drainage which totals \$4.4 million. Mr. Farias informed the committee of targeted key dates; Thursday, February 16th, 2012 (City Council to adopt ordinance calling the Bond Election) and Saturday, May 12, 2012 (Bond Election day).

Mr. Rodríguez, SARA Board of Directors, noted Ms. Kinnison sat on the Parks Bond Committee and thanked her for her commitment and support for this endeavor.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: City of San Antonio Proposition 2 (2010) Linear Creekway Trails Update

Mr. Farias provided a brief update on the Linear Creekway Trails, Proposition 2, and the approved funding from the City. Mr. Farias stated SARA will administer and manage the project for the City, to include issuing a Request for Proposals, assisting with selecting the contractor, obtain necessary permits and oversee acquisition, design, and construction. Both the City and SARA are working on an Interlocal Agreement for SARA to manage both the Westside Creeks Proposition 2 (2010) trails and Elmendorf Lake Park improvements pending the results of the May bond election.

Mr. Abel Ramirez thanked Mr. Farias for the presentation and recognized Abigail Kinnison for receiving the “Great Texas Trail Head Planning/Design Award” at the 2012 Texas Trails and Active Transportation Conference. The committee congratulated her and thanked her for her outstanding service.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Miscellaneous Items

Ms. Sonia Jimenez, representing Basura Bash, solicited volunteers for Basura Bash on February 25, 2012. If there is any interest, please contact Ms. Jimenez or go to the website, www.basurabash.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 10, 2012

The next meeting for the Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee (WSCROC) will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:38 pm.

Approved by Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee at a meeting held on April 10, 2012

OLGA LIZCANO, CO-CHAIR

ROBERT RAMIREZ, CO-CHAIR