



**Minutes of the  
Westside Creeks Restoration  
Oversight Committee (WCROC) Meeting  
August 12, 2014**

The meeting was called to order in the San Antonio River Authority’s Boardroom, 100 East Guenther Street, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

**Committee Members Present:**

Olga Lizcano, Co-Chair	Robert Ramirez, Co-Chair
Abel Ramirez, San Antonio Wheelman	Evelynn Mitchell, St. Mary's University
Erwin DeLuna, United San Antonio Pow-Wow, Inc.	Cosima Calvin, Alternate Beacon Hill NA
Cary Guffey, Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU)	Abigail Rodriguez, Beacon Hill NA
Jude Valdez, University of Texas at San Antonio	Theodore Ozuna, Donaldson Terrace NA
Leonard Rodriguez, Westside Development Corporation	Joanne Walsh, Downtown Residents Association
Názirite Rubén Pérez, Prospect Hill Neighborhood Assoc.	

**Staff and Members of the Public Present:**

Lourdes Galvan, SARA Board Member	Gloria Rivera Rodriguez, SARA
David D. Garza, COSA	Marilyn Bradley, Five Points NA
Linda Whitaker, SARA	Jerry Geyer, San Pedro Creek Subcommittee Co-Chair
Jeff Tyler, SARA	Tomas Guadiano, Westend Hope in Action
Suzanne Scott, SARA	Walter Heard, Terra Design
Bridget Hinze, SARA	Fred Blumberg, Arcadis
Frank Monaco, Little Italy San Antonio	

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Welcome**

Co-Chairs Robert Ramirez and Olga Lizcano called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Calendar Items**

- Westside Creeks Restoration Oversight Committee Meeting – October 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at 100 E. Guenther, Board Room
- San Pedro Creek Subcommittee Meeting – August 14, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. at 100 E. Guenther, Board Room
- San Pedro Creek Public Workshop – August 23, at 9:00 a.m. at 201 Piazza Italia, Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall
- Elmendorf Lake Park Open House – September 4, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Rodriguez Elementary School

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2014**

Ms. Lizcano 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. 4: Update on Westside Creeks Linear Creekway Trails and Elmendorf Lake Park.**

Ms. Lizcano introduced Bridget Hinze, SARA staff, who will be working with the Committee.

Jeff Tyler gave an update on the Linear Creekway Trails and Elmendorf Lake Park.

Linear Creekway Trails

Mr. Tyler gave an update on the 2010 Proposition II funded Linear Creekway Trails Project. On June 10, the Committee was presented with the 95% pre-final designs. The designs are now finished for the trails on all four creeks and under review by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Comments from the Corps of Engineers are expected by the end of this month with construction anticipated to be awarded in December.

Elmendorf Lake Park

Mr. Tyler gave a presentation on the breakdown of the funding from the 2007 Bexar County Flood Control Capital Improvements Bond Money. The final designs were received and will be presented at the upcoming September 4<sup>th</sup> Open House. Bridget Hinze gave an update on the Open House regarding the distribution of the meeting notice, the agenda and speakers. Mr. Tyler said the construction award should be in October with construction beginning in December and continuing through December of next year.

Walter Heard presented an animated video on the Elmendorf Lake Park Design.

Discussion points:

- Parking spaces (doubled)
- Best management practices incorporated into design for improved water quality
- Emergency/First Aid measures
- Maintenance of plants
- Signage
- Interactive fountain
- Picnic tables and benches
- Lighting
- Bioswells
- Swimming pool

- Baseball field relocation
- Park hours
- Park police/Security
- Park usage regarding skate boards, bicycles, pedestrians
- Paddle boats
- Water fountains
- Pet waste receptacles
- Activities at the park
- Graffiti deterrence

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Update on San Pedro Creek Improvements Project.**

Mr. Ramirez said Mr. Tyler is taking over as Project Manager for Mark Sorenson who passed away unexpectedly. Suzanne Scott mentioned they are developing a memorial internship in Mark's honor. Mr. Tyler briefed on the following San Pedro Creek Improvements Project items:

- Information-gathering:
  - Subsurface mapping of existing utilities – approximately 90% complete
  - Geotechnical borings – approximately 75% complete
  - Phase 1 ESA of Lower Reach – Complete
  - Phase 2 ESA of Upper Reach – approximately 50% complete
  - Survey – approximately 50% complete overall
  - Research of available as-built information – approximately 95% complete
- Design Activities:
  - Development of Architectural and Civil 40% Design (ongoing)
  - Starting to program new gate facilities (this month)
  - Refining H&H analysis in coordination with the civil, architectural design
- August 23, 2014 Public Workshop
  - Objectives:
    - Public to understand the project
    - Identify desired uses and activities per character area
  - Format:
    - Groups arranged by character areas
    - Six character areas: Participants will choose four of the six character areas to participate in small group discussions (Four rounds of 25 minutes each)
    - Character Areas will be staffed with:
      - Design team member, facilitator, and note taker
  - Proposed Agenda:
 

• Presentation and overview of the project:	20 min
• Four rounds of 25 minutes:	100 min
• Passing time between rounds, 5 min each:	20 min
• Group reports, 90 second limit each:	15 min
• Wrap up and next steps:	5 min
- July 10, 2014 San Pedro Creek Subcommittee meeting
  - Project Activity Update
  - Presentation on Character Area Design Objectives
  - Public Workshop

- Conceptual Design Update
  - Inlet Tunnel Structure Concept

There was a discussion about the Character Areas. Gloria Rivera Rodriguez said they can be found on the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project Website.

Mr. Tyler briefed on the presentation provided to the San Pedro Creek Subcommittee Meeting. Mr. Tyler said a Lower Reach component has been added to the Project which will ensure connectivity between the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project and the Linear Trails Project.

Ms. Scott explained that the budget from the preliminary PER phase was \$175 million which included about \$13.9 million for this section which was added primarily for flood control benefits. This additional section was in the original estimate, however it was never designed or incorporated as a character area. For the last couple of months, the design team has been integrating it into the whole project limits. Of the \$175 million that was identified, \$125 million of that was funded by the County. Part of the \$50 million difference is for right-of-way costs that they hope will be donated by the property owners. They are working with the City and others to fund the remaining gap. They are hoping to refine the budget through the 40% design to see what the gap really is.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Citizens to be Heard**

There were no public comments made.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Miscellaneous Items**

Mr. Ramirez announced the next meeting will be Tuesday, October 14, 2014, @ 6:00 p.m.

Suzanne Scott said there was nothing new to report on the US Army Corps Feasibility Study.

The owner of the shopping center at 24<sup>th</sup> Street and Commerce has been briefed and provided with a report on the planned improvements at Elmendorf Lake. The desire is for the owner to recognize that the lake is just as much of an amenity as Commerce Street and to consider possible redevelopment opportunities that take advantage of the lake, Our Lady of the Lake University's population, and the lake and park improvements.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Adjourn**

Since there were no other comments or statements, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.