

## Project Description

### San Antonio River Improvements Project

#### April 2010 (Revised May 2014)

The San Antonio River Improvements Project reflects a comprehensive community vision to improve 13 miles of the San Antonio River from Hildebrand Avenue downstream to Mission Espada through enhancements to the river's ecosystem, flood protection, recreational amenities and aesthetics. Below is a general description of each reach of the project and the planned improvements to be funded by Bexar County, the City of San Antonio and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

#### Museum Reach

Park Segment: Hildebrand Avenue downstream to the Josephine Street

Cost Estimate: \$17,077,000 (as of 12/08-funding of \$12,572,000 is currently committed- Ph I \$2,449,954 & Ph 2 \$10,122,046)

The Park Segment is approximately 2 miles in length and is broken up into two phases. The Improvements are made possible through a combination of funding sources including Bexar County visitor tax funding, flood tax funding and City of San Antonio funding. Project improvements include hike and bike trails that link to the park's existing trail system. Phase One's trail begins at the Josephine Street entrance to the San Antonio River Tunnel Inlet parking lot. It then runs north through the parking lot and continues until it reaches the north side of U.S. 281. The trail turns east and continues until it reaches its end at Avenue B. Phase Two's trail begins where the Phase One trail ends and continues north as it links with various trails in Brackenridge Park until it reaches its end near Hildebrand Ave. The hike and bike path could include bridges across the river and Catalpa Creek, street crossings, way-finding signage, fencing and landscaping. In addition, the project proposes environmental restoration along the San Antonio River and the Catalpa Creek as well as along the Catalpa- Pershing Channel. The exploration and possible establishment of a bird sanctuary along Ave A is also programmed within the project scope. The project concept also includes the creation of a wetland near the Witte Museum and restoration of a section of the historic Acequia Madre, which originally provided water to the Alamo.

Urban Segment: Josephine Street downstream to Lexington Avenue Cost

Estimate: \$72,213,524 (as of 12/08)

The Urban Segment is approximately 1.5 miles in length. Improvements are made possible through a combination of funding sources including Bexar County flood control tax, City of San Antonio funding, San Antonio River Authority funding (for operations and maintenance), San Antonio Water System funding and private funds through the San Antonio River Foundation. The project began construction in May 2007. The project extends the distinctive San Antonio River Walk experience to an undeveloped section of the river north of downtown and will include a lock and dam system, scenic overlooks, boat landings, walkways, landscaping, lighting, water features and pocket parks. Private funding is adding art enhancements along the walkways, at overlooks and on and under bridges. Project scheduled for completion in May 2009.

### Downtown Reach

Project Limits: Lexington Street downstream to Houston Street  
 Completed Cost: \$13,587,893 (completed 10/02)

The reach is approximately one mile in length. Funding was provided by Bexar County flood control tax and the City of San Antonio. Improvements renovated and repaired 60-year-old walkways, the river channel, and flood retaining walls, and it enhanced the appearance of the River Walk from Houston Street to Lexington Avenue. The project also added access ramps for the mobility impaired along with more walkways, increased lighting, more visible and aesthetic signage, enhanced landscaping, and artwork.

### Eagleland Reach

Project Limits: Guenther Street downstream to Lone Star Boulevard  
 Cost Estimate: \$8,825,907 (ns of 4/10)

The reach is approximately one mile in length. Funding is provided through a combination of sources including Bexar County visitor tax and flood control tax, the City of San Antonio, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Highway Administration, Texas Department of Transportation and the San Antonio River Foundation/King William Neighborhood Association. Improvements to the reach will be accomplished through a series of 11 individually authorized projects which together result in the ecosystem restoration of the river, addition of hike and bike trails and associated recreational amenities, and improve the erosion control. The visitor tax funded betterments and enhancements will add access and amenities to the Alamo Street Bridge area, add a picnic area near the Big Tex site, add landscaping and lighting, enhance the crib structure, and add art enhancements to the bridges. Construction on aspects of the project began in 2004 and will continue through 2010; based upon the funding schedule for the various funding sources (refer to Exhibit C).

### Historic Mission Reach

Project Limits: Lone Star Boulevard downstream to near Mission Espada  
 Cost Estimate \$271,449,345 (as of 4/10) (\$271,779,349 as revised 5/14)

The reach is approximately 8.5 miles in length and is designed in multiple phases. Funding is provided through a combination of sources including Bexar County visitor tax and flood control tax, the City of San Antonio, San Antonio Water System, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and private funding through the San Antonio River Foundation,

Phase 1: Phase I is 1.25 miles length extending from Lone Star Boulevard downstream to the confluence of the San Antonio River with San Pedro Creek. Planned improvements include restoration of approximately 34 acres of riparian habitat, addition of 3,034 native trees, addition of 0.7 acres of embayment habitat, addition of eight weir structures and two riffle structures, hike and bike trails all the length of the project, addition of two

pedestrian footbridges and associated recreational features (picnic tables, benches, overlooks, drinking fountains). Construction will result in the excavation of more than 366,000 bank cubic yards of soil. The visitor tax funded betterments and enhancements could include the design and construction of enhanced weir and riffle structures, additional and enhanced trails, water edge landings, adding the potential for addition of lighting, enhancements to footbridges, under bridge enhancements, signage, a portal for Mission Concepcion (which may be moved to Phase II), recreational enhancements, implementation of the all master plan, and additional landscaping. Construction began in June 2008 and is scheduled for completion in December 2009.

Phase 2A: Phase 2A is a one miles segment extending from the confluence with San Pedro Creek to Mission Road, Planned improvements include the restoration of 40 acres of native riparian habitat, addition of 2,200 native trees, addition of 2 acres of embayment habitat, addition of approximately 6 riffle structures, addition of hike and bike trails and associated recreational amenities, and instream foot bridges. Construction will result in the excavation of 800,000 bank cubic yards of soil. The visitor tax funded betterments and enhancements could include the design and construction of enhanced riffle structures, additional and enhanced trails and trail heads, water edge landings, adding the potential for addition of lighting, enhancements to footbridges, under bridge enhancements, signage, the addition of a portal for Mission San Jose, overlooks, recreational enhancements, implementation of the art master plan, and additional landscaping.

Phase 3 (formerly Phase 1B, 1C, 3 and 4): Phase 3 is 6.25 miles in length extending from Mission Road to south of Mission Espada. Planned improvements include the restoration of approximately 250 acres of native riparian habitat, the addition of approximately 15,000 native trees, addition of a hike and bike trail along the project length, addition of in-stream pedestrian footbridges, and associated recreational amenities. Construction will result in the excavation of over 2,000,000 bank cubic yards of soil. The visitor tax funded betterments and enhancements could include improvements to the outfall at Asylum Creek, additional and enhanced trails and trail heads, water edge landings, adding the potential for addition of lighting, enhancements to footbridges, under bridge enhancements, signage, the addition of an overlook at Espada Park, addition of a portal for Mission San Jose, the addition of a portal for Mission San Juan and Mission Espada, overlooks at bottomland hardwood forest area, recreational enhancements, implementation of the art master plan, additional landscaping, and funding to assist the National Park Service in the implementation of a demonstration farm near Mission San Juan.