Through the approved budget for Fiscal Year 2019/20 (FY20) of $257.2 million the San Antonio River Authority (River Authority) is implementing projects and programs to support its commitment to safe, clean and enjoyable creeks and rivers. The River Authority, through its tax supported general fund of $47.6 million, is accelerating the completion of critically important, multi-year flood related public safety and water quality projects.

The funding amounts associated with the initiatives identified below are for FY20 only. Funding will be required over multiple fiscal years to complete some of these projects.
SAFE:
The River Authority prioritizes reducing flood risk and improving public safety in the FY 2019/20 budget. River Authority engineering expertise is continuing to advance community flood preparedness by fast-tracking the completion of vital flood risk management projects that will enhance community readiness and protection.

The River Authority is currently developing predictive flood modeling technology that will provide first responders innovative tools to assist in the effort to avoid loss of life and protect property during heavy rain and flood events. When storms are forecasted, the sooner a community knows when and where the impact will be greatest, the faster warnings can be given and actions taken to reduce threats to life and property. ($900,000)

The River Authority is providing the most up-to-date and dynamic floodplain maps, flood risk products and watershed master plans. This critical information will help individuals understand their level of flood risk and it will be used to guide investments in capital projects and inform future development decisions. ($1,000,000)

CLEAN:
The River Authority’s FY 2019/20 budget is dedicated to inspiring actions for healthy creeks and rivers which includes improving the health of creeks and rivers in the San Antonio River Basin. The River Authority’s scientific expertise is generating lasting and recognized improvements in the health of the San Antonio River and its tributaries by leading efforts to protect and enhance water quality and preserve and restore natural habitats and aquatic ecosystems.

- Freshwater Mussel Propagation ($90,798)
- River Road Stream Restoration ($200,000)
- Olmos Creek Trash Mitigation ($56,000)
- Wilson, Karnes and Goliad Household Hazardous Waste collection events ($256,000)

The River Authority is analyzing targeted growth zones to model the impact of unmitigated impervious cover. With a better understanding of the negative impact of impervious cover on water quality and flooding, the River Authority will be better positioned to propose more resilient development practices

- Impervious Cover Mitigation Project ($136,438)

The River Authority is advancing the use of sustainable development practices within our rapidly urbanizing communities. The River Authority is the champion promoting approaches that reduce the velocity of and filter pollutants from stormwater to ensure that the sustainability of our natural waterways is prioritized as we move toward the future.

- Watershed Wise Rebate Program ($400,000)
- Site Scale Model Development ($235,462)

ENJOYABLE:
The River Authority seeks to enhance appreciation and stewardship through community recreational opportunities within the San Antonio River Watershed. The quality of life and health of citizens who live in the River Authority’s District can be impacted through recreational access along creeks and rivers. Over the past decade, the River Authority has added nature-based recreational activities throughout the basin including hike and bike trails, paddling trails, picnic and camping areas, playgrounds, fishing, bird watching and even disc golf courses. These river-based recreational resources have attracted thousands of users to bask in the beauty and enjoyment of nature. With more access, people can develop a greater appreciation for the natural resources and quality of life benefits provided by the San Antonio River and its tributaries. This will in turn, promote increased preservation and conservation of these resources by individuals, businesses and government.

In FY 2019/20, the River Authority will acquire more park land in Bexar County and is continuing to invest in a community partnership to create a new park in Karnes County. The FY 2019/20 budget has funds to support the completion of phase 1 of the Escondido Creek Parkway in Kenedy, which will provide new recreational opportunities in the southern basin. ($3,047,705)