



100 East Guenther
P.O. Box 839980
San Antonio, Texas 78283-9980
210-227-1373 voice
210-227-4323 fax
sara@sara-tx.org

News Release

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For more information contact: Chelsea Giles
Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator
(210) 302-3228
cgiles@sara-tx.org

San Antonio River Authority Donates Community Benches in Commemoration of 80th Anniversary *Six benches delivered throughout Karnes County*

Karnes County, TX – In November, the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) delivered six benches to cities throughout Karnes County as gifts to the community to commemorate SARA's 80 years of service. Benches were delivered to the Karnes County courthouse, Karnes City, Kenedy, Runge and Falls City where local officials are installing them at their location of choice for the community to enjoy.

"In the 80 years since it was founded, the San Antonio River Authority has evolved into a tremendous resource for the entire river basin. Their professionalism, their staff and their dedication to the environment of the entire region has been amazing. The bench is a gift to the community to commemorate the years of service in Karnes County. Congratulations on hitting 80," said SARA Board Director for Karnes County H. B. Ruckman III.

SARA was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Watershed. For the past 80 years, SARA has implemented projects and programs to protect and enhance the creeks and rivers in the watershed through flood management, water quality and river recreation activities in its four county jurisdiction of Bexar, Wilson, Karnes and Goliad counties.

"Karnes County is very grateful for the gift of the bench presented to celebrate SARA's achievement. SARA has always been a great partner with Karnes County in various projects. Karnes County welcomes SARA as a partner," said Karnes County Commissioner Shelby Dupnik.

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Thanks to our local partnerships in Karnes County, SARA is able to successfully carry out its mission to protect and enhance our creeks and rivers through service, leadership and expertise.

It is with deep gratitude that we give the benches for community members to enjoy.

“The Chamber is proud of the bench, and it will be used by the public, because it is right there in town. We appreciate what SARA has done for us,” said Executive Director of the Karnes City Chamber of Commerce Mely Martinez.

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The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Watershed. The State of Texas empowered SARA to preserve, protect and manage the resources and the ecology of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. To learn more about the SARA, visit our website at www.sara-tx.org.