



## News Release

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### **SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY ADOPTS FY 2017/18 TAX RATE**

**SAN ANTONIO** – The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) Board of Directors adopted a tax rate today of \$0.01729 per \$100 in taxable property value to support SARA’s \$241.7 million budget for fiscal year 2017/18. The approved tax rate remains unchanged from the previous two years.

SARA is authorized by the State Legislature to collect an ad valorem tax at a maximum of \$0.02 per \$100 of assessed value. The tax rate must be set at the same rate throughout SARA’s four-county district including Bexar, Wilson, Karnes and Goliad counties and may only be used for planning, operations and maintenance activities. The adoption of the tax rate at \$0.01729 per \$100 in property value will equate to an annual tax payment of \$31.30 for the average homestead.

“This adopted tax rate will allow SARA to continue to effectively protect and enhance the San Antonio River Watershed for the enjoyment residents and visitors alike,” said SARA Chairman of the Board Michael W. Lackey, P.E. “The Board of Directors and SARA staff serve as stewards of tax revenue to meet our operational needs throughout our four-county district and ensure prudent management of these vital public resources.”

The approval of the tax rate allows for the implementation of SARA’s long-term vision of inspiring actions for healthy creeks and rivers. It also provides the opportunity for SARA to focus on the fiscal year 2017/18 goals, objectives and projects to support watershed health and safety, community appreciation and recreation throughout the basin.

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“The adopted tax rate reflects our work to manage the growing demand for services within our watershed without an increase in the rate,” said SARA General Manager Suzanne Scott.

SARA’s fiscal year began July 1, 2017 and runs through June 30, 2018. A summary of the fiscal year 2017/18 total budget of \$241.7 million for each of SARA’s five service areas is as follows: General Fund - \$41.1 million; Capital Improvements - \$118.3 million; Utility Operations - \$17.9 million; Grants, \$6.5 million and Debt Service, \$5.4 million. The fiscal year 2017/18 budget is available for review at [www.sara-tx.org](http://www.sara-tx.org).

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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 Basin. 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](http://www.sara-tx.org).*