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News Release

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ESCONDIDO CREEK PARKWAY PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE APPROVES DESIGN FOR CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR PHASES 1 AND 2

\$30,000 Donation for Amphitheater Moves Project Forward

KENEDY, TX – On October 18th, the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) will host the regular board meeting at 1:30 p.m. in Kenedy City Hall, which will include a presentation and update on the Escondido Creek Parkway Project. On September 27th, the Escondido Creek Parkway Project oversight committee approved a motion for Dunaway & Associates to proceed with construction documents for Phases 1 and 2 of the park. This action took place during a special mid-month meeting following the announcement of a \$30,000.00 donation from the family of Ann and J. Truett Hunt for the project's amphitheater.

“In their lives, Truett and Ann (Hunt) placed God, family and community first. Our family's donation for the amphitheater at the Escondido Creek Parkway is a perfect fit, because Truett served as a Karnes County Director on the San Antonio River Authority board from 1977-2002, and as modest as they were, Truett and Ann would be secretly pleased to be part of the future stories of the parkway. We believe their stewardship for Karnes will be reflected in the enjoyment of the new parkway,” said Maggie Hunt.

Escondido Creek runs through the City of Kenedy and is a significant tributary in the southern basin of the San Antonio River Watershed. The Escondido Creek Parkway Project, under Hwy 181, will provide safe passage and recreational enjoyment for children and adults traveling between 5th Street, near the center of Kenedy, and connecting Joe Gulley Park, on the west of Kenedy.

“Thanks to the combination of the Hunt family's donation for the amphitheater and the oversight committee's diligence in approving the designs for Phases 1 and 2 of the park, - we are proud to announce that the project is moving forward. The park will be a welcoming

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place for our community to enjoy Escondido Creek with recreational trails, an amphitheater for shows, picnicking under the pavilion and much more,” said Gaylon Oehlke, San Antonio River Authority Board Director for Karnes County and Chairman of the Oversight Committee.

More information about the recently approved designs and timeline of the project will be presented during the SARA Board Meeting on October 18th.

Individuals can support the project by donating to the San Antonio River Foundation (SARF) by check (please note donations to the Escondido Creek Parkway Project). SARF was created by SARA to serve as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization to promote educational, cultural and scientific projects and activities that enhance the conservation, stewardship, restoration, preservation and enjoyment of the land and water resources of the San Antonio River Watershed and its tributaries. For more information on SARF please visit, www.sariverfoundation.org. For more information about the Escondido Creek Parkway Project, please contact SARA's Watershed & Park Operations Manager Kristen Hansen at 1-866-345-7272.

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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.