



**Meeting Notes
March 8, 2018**

SARA Board Room, 100 E Guenther Street

ATTENDING

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES:

Scott Baird, Deb Bolner-Prost, Lynn Evans, Kathy Krnavek, Maria Nelson, Patti Radle, Andi Rodriguez, Trey Whiddon

STAFF & CONSULTANTS:

Carrie Brown, Allison Elder, Steve Graham, Patrice Melancon, Jeff Mitchell, Chad Yount, Matthew Driffill, Lindsey Campbell, Anamaria Suescun-Fast

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Richard Garcia, Tony Cantu, Jordan Kizzart, Cathy Meyer, Rosemary Geyer, Jenna Stoeltje, Robert Ramirez, and Jack Finger

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jerry Geyer, Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. He asked attendees to introduce themselves and then reviewed calendar items.

CALENDAR ITEMS

- a. March Phase 1.2 Property Owner Mixer, April 9, 2018 6:30 to 8:30 – Community Gallery – Plaza de Armas
- b. San Pedro Creek Art & Culture Alliance Meeting, March 13, 2018
- c. San Pedro Creek Culture Park Press Conference, April 5, 2018 at 11 a.m. at the Plaza de Fundacion
- d. San Pedro Creek Subcommittee meeting, April 12 at 8:30 a.m. at the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) Board Room
- e. San Pedro Creek Culture Park Grand Opening Celebration, May 5 from 12 to 9 p.m. at the San Pedro Creek Culture Park

APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES FROM January 11, 2018 and February 8, 2018

There was no quorum at the March 8, 2018 meeting, therefore the January and February minutes could not be approved. Minutes will be considered for approval at the next San Pedro Creek Meeting on April 12, 2018.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY UPDATE

Kerry Averyt, San Antonio River Authority, reported the following:

Design Update:

Phase 1.1 Update

- Contractor is on schedule to complete this segment by May 5.
- Travis St. impoundment gate is onsite and scheduled for installation.
- Mr. Averyt shared drone videos of the construction progress with the group. The video can be viewed ...

Phase 1.2 Update

- Demolition of the Dollar General building has been completed.
- Construction crews are looking at how to treat the wall of the existing structure that was exposed by the demolition of the Dollar General building. The wall looks to have been built as an interior wall but is now exterior facing.
- Utility relocations in early work package 11 are ongoing.

- Utility relocation in early work package 12 unearthed artifacts from the Spanish colonial era. This work will pause for further investigation.
- Construction crews are currently starting artifact investigation work by digging investigative trenches at least seven feet deep.

Phase 1.2 Timeline

- Full construction to begin late summer or early fall with an earliest completion in mid-2020, possibly as late as mid-2021.
- The 90% submittal has been provided to the contractor
- The completion date is due to multiple layers of coordination, scheduling public and stakeholder meetings
- Coordination with Commerce Street Project to minimize the impact to downtown activities
- Biggest impact with the VIA routes – SARA is still meeting with VIA to work out routes and ensure buses will be able to turn right off of Commerce St. as late as possible
- Stakeholders along the route have made requests for design revisions – these changes could potentially push the submittal date for the 100% design back from May 31.
- Savings have been realized out of the cost of segment 1.2, SARA will have an update on the budget by the end of May
- The art – including the artistic finishes – in phase 1.1 is estimated to be between five and six percent of the overall project cost. Approximately one percent is standard.
- The San Antonio Federal Complex (GSA) granted an easement to Sundt Davilia that covers the anticipated footprint of the project in Nueva St. where the federal courthouse will be. This area is being used to store equipment and materials.
- Angled parking lot adjacent to the creek on the east bank was parking for city employees – this parcel has been donated to SARA for the San Pedro Creek expansion

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM UPDATE

Carrie Brown, San Antonio River Authority Public Art Curator, provided the following update on the public art program.

- A series of artist vignette videos are being produced with each of the artists that are contributing to phase 1.1
- Ms. Brown shared rough cuts of the artist vignettes for Diana Kersey and Adriana Garcia.
- Artist vignette will launch with the San Pedro Creek Culture Park website.
- Installation of the first mural is nearly complete with installation of the second mural to begin next week.
- Ms. Brown shared information about her visit to the tile fabricator studio on February 20-21.
- Ms. Brown shared photos of the first mural installation and tile around the manantial area.
- Programming for the San Pedro Creek Culture Park is being planned and will include regular tours around art, history and nature; temporary art installations and other site appropriate events.

Programming

- Programming will include regular tours around art, history and nature; temporary art installations and other site appropriate events.
- Programming throughout the month of May will help to carry on the celebration of the grand opening.
- Currently planning for events Tuesday nights (5 to 8 p.m.) and Saturday mornings (9 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- Looking at creating a “Summer Kick-Off” event on May 26 to launch temporary art program.
- The next Arts and Culture Alliance meeting is scheduled for March 13 and will include a site tour.
- Working with the design team to plan artwork installations for phase 1.2
- Coordinating with San Antonio Public Art Program staff to utilize some of their funding for permanent and temporary artwork installations in phase 1.2

HENRY FORD ACADEMY PRESENTATION

Students from the Impact Team at Henry Ford Academy provided the following presentation

- The SARA Education Team has been providing tours of the San Pedro Creek construction site to local schools

- Three schools – Lanier High School, Harris Middle School and the Advance Learning Academy – are scheduled to tour the site in March
- Impact is a national award-winning high school program, created by SAWS, that promotes science, water education and civic responsibility through service-based learning that provides meaningful community service with academic study
- Henry Ford’s Impact Team was started in Fall 2016 by sponsor Jordan Kizzart and founder Jemma Tremillo. The original team consisted of a small group of students interested in protecting the Earth and making meaningful change in the community.
- There are currently 47 Impact Teams participating in the program – they present their final project at an annual Confluence event
- The San Antonio River Authority created a request for a proposal for an Impact Team to answer seeking a design feature that could be added to the creek
- Henry Ford Academy – a school with a focus on art – answered the proposal. The team of 20 students toured the construction site and talked to Sundt Davilia project manager Chad Yount, Carrie Brown and Kerry Averyt.
- The students worked with Artpace San Antonio to create a project entitled “Hands for Humanity”
- The project was inspired by the Eridanus constellation, which is identical to the original path of San Pedro Creek – the constellation will align over San Pedro Creek on Dec. 22, 2018
- Original idea was to use a 20-foot tall pillar featuring protruding hand sculptures that provide bird bath opportunities with water going up the inside of the structure and cascading down the outside
- SARA returned feedback that prompted the team to consider irrigation, algae buildup and plumbing
- The team revised the idea based on the feedback and developed a prototype that includes elements of sculpture, light and running water

GRAND OPENING AND WEBSITE/APP UPDATES

Monica Trevino-Ortega, San Antonio River Authority Special Projects, provided the following update on San Pedro Creek Culture Park grand opening and website and app updates.

- The mobile app will feature an audio tour with 18 stops along phase 1.1
- Audio tour stops are coordinated with the interpretive signage planned along San Pedro Creek.
- Ms. Trevino-Ortega shared previews of the recordings for the audio tour.
- News conference planned for April 5 to kick off the 30-day countdown to the San Pedro Creek Culture Park grand opening celebration
- Speakers and agenda for the kick-off news conference are still being finalized
- The news conference will serve as the first opportunity in more than a month for media to tour the construction site
- The grand opening celebration has been revised to an illumination celebration, which will be an evening event between 4 and 10 p.m.
- The Duke and Duchess de Bejar will be in attendance for the dedication ceremony
- The Illumination Celebration will take place on W. Martin St. facing the Alameda Theater and will feature the illumination and unveiling of Adriana Garcia’s mural at approximately 8:15 p.m.
- The evening celebration will feature performances by Urban 15, the Canary Islanders and the Heart of Texas Orchestra, among others.
- Uber and Lyft will be collaborating with SARA to create a drop off station adjacent to the creek that will ease parking and safety issues
- A grand opening invitation will be distributed on April 5 following the news conference

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND SUBCOMMITTEE:

- Due to the change in the grand opening from a daytime to an evening event, SARA should have staff available along the creek during the day on May 5 to interact with the public
- Concerns about Plethora were discussed and addressed by the committee

ITEMS TO PRESENT TO Westside Creeks Oversight Committee:

- Westside Creeks Oversight Committee meets quarterly and will not meet prior to May 5

ADJOURN

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.¹

¹ Text in bold italics indicates a decision made by the subcommittee.