

April 12, 2022

Sunset Advisory Commission

Ms. Jennifer Jones

Executive Director

P O Box 13066

Austin, Tx. 78711-3066

Dear Ms. Jones:

San Antonio River Authority (SARA) serves the citizens of Karnes County. SARA provides many services to Karnes County as well as other counties within the San Antonio River Basin. SARA flood planning services with mapping, website, and staff provide guidance and leadership. Rural counties such as Karnes lack the staff and expertise in managing the San Antonio River and tributaries within our County.

Growing up in Karnes County the San Antonio River was not clean. Nobody would use the river for recreation purposes other than to water their livestock. Today through SARA's efforts the river is cleaner and continues to get better. Water plans, environmental monitoring, along with monitoring the heavy rains that create flooding events. Karnes County has Thirteen Flood control dams. These dams such as one near the City of Kenedy retain water and stop potential major flooding.

SARA works with local communities to enhance the way of life. Escondido Parkway was a project that SARA brought to be reality. The Escondido Parkway is a shining star that provides recreation such as a walking trail, splash pad, picnicking, bird watching as well as providing educational opportunities. Escondido Parkway is just one of the parks that SARA manages and maintains within the river basin.

Hazardous Household Waste Collection an activity that happens twice a year. County residents look forward to this event to get rid of electronics, tires, expired medication, oil, every day cleaning supplies. All of these items are collected and disposed of properly and don't make their way into the river basin or local sewer facilities.

SARA has become a great partner always eager to help with projects and responding to questions. SARA is truly an asset to Karnes County and the Great State of Texas.

Sincerely

Shelby J Dupnik

Karnes County Commissioner PCT1