

Office of Emergency Management
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April 12, 2022

Sadie Smeck

By email only: Sadie.smech@sunset.texas.gov

Re: San Antonio River Authority Sunset Review Process

To whom it may concern,

As the Emergency Management Coordinator and Floodplain Administrator, I have had the privilege of working with many San Antonio River Authority (SARA) personnel, from various departments, throughout my twenty (20) years in this position.

SARA has played a vital role in mitigating the impacts of flooding in Wilson County. Updated FEMA floodplain maps for Wilson County and the Cities of Poth, Floresville, Stockdale and LaVernia would not have been possible without their funding and initiative. Their ongoing Risk Map Studies in the SARA River Basin continue to provide better map data for mitigating flood impacts to future developments. With SARA as a FEMA Technical Partner, Letters of Map Revision to the FEMA maps within their watershed counties are processed more efficiently. Thus, providing accurate maps in a timelier manner for development and permitting purposes.

SARA's implementation of a Predictive Flood Modeling System will be invaluable in our emergency response to flooding events. The ability to determine flood inundation areas via this web-based system will provide quicker and more accurate data to aid in our EOC's evacuation decisions.

I have worked with SARA personnel in scheduling biannual Collections Events which they sponsor in Wilson County. These events provide our citizens a means of disposing of household hazardous waste, oil, tires, electronics and pharmaceuticals, all of which may otherwise end up in dump sites on remote county roads and creeks on private property.

SARA's development of the Helton Nature Park has provided an opportunity for all ages to experience the beauty of nature. This community resource is a welcome retreat for nature lovers, hikers and bikers, and an educational forum for school children on field trips.

These various projects are indicative of their commitment to stewardship of the river. Without their expertise, experience and initiative these projects would not exist.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'LeAnn Hosek', written in black ink.

LeAnn Hosek, CFM, EMC/FPA
Wilson County, Texas