

GEAA Members and Friends,

Thanks to all who attended [TCEQ's Central Texas Environmental Summit](#) today. Lots of GEAA members took this opportunity voice concerns and make great suggestions regarding protection of our water resources to the State Representatives who hosted Town Hall meetings.

GEAA will be advocating a follow up action to engage all those who attended the Summit in planning to protect the most precious of our environmental resources and sites through "Greenprinting". [The Central Texas Greenprint for Growth](#), A Regional Action Plan for Conservation and Economic Opportunity released by partners Trust for Public Land, Capitol Area Council of Governments, and Envision Central Texas, reflects the results of a two year comprehensive planning process for preserving open space in Travis, Hays, Caldwell and Bastrop counties.

Given projections for growth along the IH 35 Corridor, a Greenprinting process engaging stakeholders from Bexar, Comal, Kendall, Guadalupe and Medina counties would go a long way towards protecting our water resources and securing adequate park land and open space for one of the fastest growing regions in the nation.

As noted in the report summary "Central Texas is incredibly diverse and rich in a variety of ecosystems, including cypress lined riparian corridors, tall piney woods, expanses of fertile grasslands, cool spring-fed swimming holes, and oak-topped hills. The character of this landscape defines Central Texas, and is a source of pride and passion for its citizens. It is, in fact, these wide-open spaces that many hope to pass on to their great grandchildren.

To preserve this outstanding quality of life and that quintessential Texas landscape, stakeholders within the four counties came together to address land use and conservation on a regional scale. The Central Texas Greenprint for Growth presents a unique opportunity to identify the attributes of the region that make it so extraordinary, to map these characteristics, to prioritize strategies for their protection, and to identify areas where future growth should best occur."

There is no doubt that we need to expand the Greenprint for Growth to include all of Central Texas. I hope you will join me in contacting our State Representatives and [TCEQ Commissioners](#) urging them to work with us to create a process for Greenprinting for the remainder of the IH 35 Corridor.

Annalisa Peace  
Executive Director