Dear San Antonio GEAA members and friends,

For some years now, GEAA has been working with the City Environmental Advisory Committee and others on a measure that will go a long way towards keeping our water clean. Next month, thanks to District 8 City Councilman, Ron Nirenberg, the San Antonio City Council will be considering a ban on coal tar sealants. The city-wide Coal Tar Ordinance would ban the use and sale of Coal tar-based sealants within the city limits. Coal tar is the black liquid sprayed or painted on many parking lots, driveways, and playgrounds that, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, emits polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), which negatively impact waterways and human health.

If this ordinance passes, GEAA will join San Marcos and Austin in moving to keep these contaminants out of our waterways - and out of our Aquifer. You can read more here, and here. Click here to read comments that GEAA sent to the City in support of this ban.

You have until May 29th to send your comments to Liza C Meyer at Liza.Meyer@sanantonio.gov. All we need is for you to send a message saying that you support the ban on coal tar sealants. It would also be helpful to send a message or call your City Council Representative to let them know that you support this ban.

We are most grateful Councilman Nirenberg for initiating this prohibition on coal-tar-based sealants. We feel that this is an excellent step forward to begin implementing the recommendations included in the comprehensive water study. Further, we compliment City Staff for writing a clear, comprehensive, and enforceable ordinance.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Annalisa Peace
Executive Director
Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

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