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## **Request for Coverage**

### **So much for the “Comprehensive” in SA's Planning process?**

What: Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, Alamo Group of the Sierra Club, and others will hold a Press Conference prior to the City Council B Session where Council will be briefed on the San Antonio Comprehensive Plan

When: Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 pm

Where: The east steps of San Antonio City Hall (100 Military Plaza)

Over the past year, San Antonio has worked with the community to plan for one million additional residents by 2040 through its SA Tomorrow planning process. The resulting comprehensive plan, transportation plan, and sustainability plan set important targets for the city's health and safety and will be considered for approval by City Council on August 11.

Last week the San Antonio Planning Commission voted 5-4 to exclude recommendations for impervious cover limits and dark skies protections from the proposed [Sustainability Plan](#). We are outraged that five members of the Planning Commission would favor a request from the Real Estate Council of San Antonio over the recommendations of an inclusive panel of stakeholders.

Light pollution is a serious issue for our local military bases. Our adjacent Hill Country remains one of the darker areas of the state. A dark skies initiative will save money and energy as lights are updated to direct more light down where it is needed and not wasted in the sky.

Impervious cover, such as streets, rooftops, and parking lots, does not allow infiltration of storm water and is a major contributor to flooding and habitat destruction. This is an especially important to protecting the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

We will be calling on Mayor Taylor and City Council to reject the recommendation of the [Planning Commission](#) and to adopt the Sustainability Plan submitted by the Stakeholders Group. After the Press Conference, we will attend the [City Council B Session](#) at Municipal Plaza, where this item will be discussed.

GEAA will also be asking City Council representatives to replace the five Planning Commission members who voted to disregard the Sustainability Plan process when their terms expire this October. According to GEAA executive director, Annalisa Peace, “Having San Antonio embrace sustainability seems like something everyone would support. We need a Planning Commission that supports these goals. Otherwise, the Comprehensive Plan was just a waste of time.”

She continued, “The dark sky maps I have seen indicate that light pollution around Camp Bullis has gotten worse since the passage of the lighting overlay district.”

“Developers have had over a year to participate in SA Tomorrow. It's past time they stop obstructing progress and start building a better San Antonio.”, said Alamo Sierra Club Chairman, Terry Burns.