

Dear San Antonio GEAA members and friends.

We know you have been inundated with Thanksgiving and Giving Tuesday requests from your favorite causes. So, we hope this request for action doesn't get lost in the shuffle.

An excellent report in yesterday's San Antonio Express News, <u>With a building boom comes higher flood risk</u>, warns us that "As development spreads upstream, particularly in the Hill Country, and trees and native grasslands are removed, the water flows downstream are only going to get bigger". Knowing this, the San Antonio City Council is scheduled this Thursday (12/1) to vote on <u>an item</u> that, if passed, will dramatically increase impervious cover in the Hill Country. Full purpose annexation of <u>areas</u> within the US 281 Commercial Corridor will increase the current impervious cover limits from 15% to as high as 85%.

We urge you to contact Mayor Taylor and the San Antonio City Council to vote NO on this annexation. Some heavy lifting is needed here. At the September 8th Council meeting, all but representatives Shirley Gonzalez and Ron Nirenberg voted to move forward with the annexation. To make it easier, we have created a petition on Change.org that will be sent directly to Mayor Taylor. Please post it to social media and share it far and wide.

The annexation also requires an ordinance to amend the North Sector Plan to allow for high density development. We see amendments to this plan routinely approved by special interests on the Planning Commission. It would appear that this administration has no respect for the Sector and Neighborhood Plans that many citizens worked on for years as a path toward sustainable growth.

New developments are also routinely approved with inadequate stormwater drainage plans by the Planning Commission, leaving the City – you and me – to pick up the tab for expensive drainage projects. Which leads me to <u>Agenda</u> item #15. Council will consider a slate of six appointments to the

Planning Commission that is top heavy with development representation. Learn more <u>here</u>.

Please contact Mayor Taylor and City Council to urge them to reject the proposed slate and appoint Planning Commissioners who will represent citizens' - and not developers' - interests. You can also join us at 9:am on Thursday at the City Hall Complex at 105 Main Plaza to address Council directly if you sign up before 9:am.

It is apparent from these items under consideration who is in charge of City government. We need your help to put the City on a path towards sustainability. These two items on <a href="https://example.city.com/Thursday's City Council agenda">Thursday's City Council agenda</a>, if passed, represent changes for the worst – not what is best – for our city. Please make your voice heard today.

Thank you,

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director
Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

You can donate to GEAA on line or mail a check to PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212

You can always keep up with interesting water news on **GEAA's Face Book page**