

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E., Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Amendment #2 to Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program Interlocal Agreement (Storm Water Runoff E-Contours)

DATE: July 14, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance amends the existing Interlocal Agreement (ILA) on Regional Flood Control, Drainage and Storm Water Management (BRWM) Program between the City of San Antonio (COSA), Bexar County (County) and the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) that was approved through Ordinance No. 96902 on December 12, 2002 and authorizes the City Manager or his designee to execute an agreement amendment which documents the understanding that the City of San Antonio will participate in the digital terrain mapping of Bexar County, digital orthophotography, and ultimate hydrologic model development by contributing funds in the total amount of \$1,884,030 available from the Storm Water Regional Facilities Fund and the Information Technology Services Department operating budget.

Staff recommends the approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

After experiencing two major flood events in four years, the Bexar County community requested that the local flood control entities explore ways to improve the effectiveness of existing flood control, storm water management, and water quality programs and enhance service delivery. As a result of several recommendations from a citizens advisory committee, in December 2002 the Bexar County Commissioners Court, San Antonio City Council, and the San Antonio River Authority Board of Directors approved an Interlocal Agreement (ILA). The ILA establishes a partnership between the three major entities in Bexar County – Bexar County (County), City of San Antonio (City), and the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) – with roles and responsibilities for flood control and storm water management. The partnership was created for the purpose of implementing a consistent, unified, equitable flood control, drainage, and storm water quality program for the citizens of Bexar County. Eighteen of the twenty-four suburban cities within Bexar County have also passed resolutions or ordinances and have become a part of this partnership.

Combining the technical expertise, leadership, and resources of these entities has promoted an approach that manages issues relating to flooding and storm water runoff by watershed, rather

than by political jurisdiction. The ILA, now known as the Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program, is designed to provide a basis for cooperation, collaboration, and communication in providing regional flood control, drainage, and improved surface water quality. The goal of this comprehensive regional program is to improve quality of life, protect life and property, and provide for safe transportation during heavy rain events.

One of SARA's responsibilities, outlined in the ILA, is to serve as the regional planning entity. SARA is also the Coordinating Technical Partner (CTP) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the ongoing Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) modernization program. With active participation from COSA and the County, FEMA is producing a digital FIRM for Bexar County. The hydrologic and hydraulic modeling effort to support this map modernization requires the development of a digital terrain map of the floodplain areas.

The map modernization effort currently underway provides an excellent opportunity for COSA participation in extending the digital terrain modeling effort throughout Bexar County and to also provide the digital Orthophotography used by COSA and the Bexar Appraisal District. The Storm Water Runoff E-Contours (digital terrain model) will be a marked technological improvement for the BRWM to finalize specific watershed master plans, to review new development and significant redevelopment, and to find solutions to local drainage issues. Along with the regional models under development by SARA, the Storm Water Runoff E-Contours will be a tremendous tool for the respective staff of BRWM to use not only in positioning regional storm water detention facilities but also in evaluating the potential benefit of the project on a watershed basis. Currently, the development community has to develop site-specific digital terrain models as part of their storm water management plans. The development community is expected to benefit greatly from the centrally stored and maintained digital terrain model as part of the Master Development Plan and plat submittal process.

Bexar County is also participating in this project by authorizing SARA to reprogram an amount not to exceed \$350,000 from the Flood Tax Revenues.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Approval of this ordinance will be a continuation of the City Council's commitment to work with Bexar County and the San Antonio River Authority and other agencies on the planning and development of drainage improvements in all watersheds within Bexar County.

FISCAL IMPACT

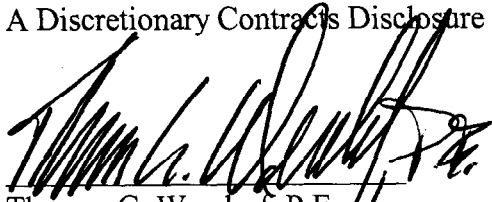
This is a one-time expenditure within budget and a portion of the funds in the amount of \$1,500,000 is included in the FY 05-10 Capital Improvement Program Budget. Funds in the amount of \$1,884,030 are available from the Storm Water Regional Facilities Fund and are authorized payable to the San Antonio River Authority.

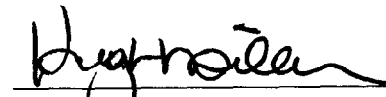
COORDINATION

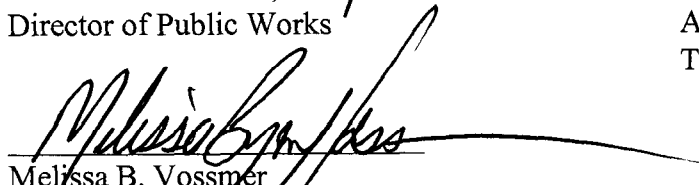
This request for ordinance has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, Information Technology Services Department, San Antonio River Authority, and Bexar County.

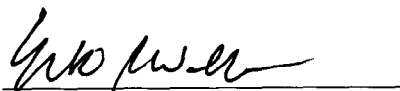
SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

A Discretionary Contract's Disclosure Form is not required.


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