

Dear GEAA members and friends,

Good news goes first – We are very pleased to announce that the City Council of San Antonio will consider contributing \$5 million from the City's Aquifer Protection funds toward the purchase of the Crescent Hills tract bordering the Bracken Bat Preserve at their meeting on Thursday, October 16th ([items 4 and 4A](#)). Contingent on approval of these funds, we are confident that the deal to purchase and permanently protect this unique piece of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone will move forward. Thanks to all of you who, through your participation in hearings, letters to Council, and other actions, have joined with GEAA and [Bat Conservation International](#) to make this possible. And, a big thank you to San Antonio City Councilman Ron Nirenberg for shepherding the negotiations that led to this happy conclusion!

In other news, San Antonio City Council will discuss the Vista Ridge Water Supply project at [2:pm this Wednesday, October 15th](#). We are quite disappointed that City Council still plans to vote on this \$3.4 billion dollar project on October 30th, a little over a month since the contract was released. We encourage San Antonio members to contact [Mayor Taylor and their City Council representatives](#) to ask them to engage outside expertise to advise on the best and most prudent course of action before voting to require the average SAWS customer to pay at least an additional \$144/year on their water bills. You can find out more about this project [here](#).

The San Marcos River Foundation has raised more than half of the funds needed to secure a matching donation of \$84,000 from Kirk Mitchell in honor of his mother, Cynthia Woods Mitchell. It is not too late to [make your contribution](#) to this wonderful organization to support land conservation and river preservation projects.

And, we are very pleased to announce that you can purchase your own copy of GEAA's newest publication, *Watershed Stewardship for the Edwards Aquifer Region, a Low Impact Development Manual*. [Click here](#) to download a copy for free. [Click here](#) to purchase a copy.

Looks like this week is off to an interesting start. Happy Columbus Day!

Annaisa Peace, Executive Director

www.AquiferAlliance.org