

Your Monthly Update for the Westside Creeks Restoration Construction Progress

Construction at the Elmendorf Lake Park and the Apache, San Pedro, Alazan, and Martínez Creek Linear Trails is underway! This monthly newsletter will keep you up-to-date on all the construction progress occurring with these exciting projects.

[Visit WestsideCreeks.com](http://WestsideCreeks.com)

Elmendorf Lake Park Improvements Project

All three bridges and the fishing pier have been delivered and are being assembled on-site for installation. The vacant building, located where Commerce and Buena Vista Streets split, is being



demolished to make way for added green space that will draw attention to the park and enhance both pedestrian and traffic safety. Work on the hike and bike trails is progressing along the southern bank between 19th and 24th Streets with much of the trail already constructed. Also, construction on the stormwater best management practices (BMPs) along Commerce Street is progressing. These BMPs will treat stormwater prior to it draining into the lake, helping to improve water quality. Removal of invasive plant species along the shore line is complete. Completion of the park improvements is estimated in summer 2016.

[More Information](#)

Alazan Creekway Trail

Construction on the Alazan Creek Trail has started. Work is underway at the Woodlawn Lake Casting Pond on Josephine Tobin and at the Waverly and Culebra Streets bridge crossings to provide for safe pedestrian crossings underneath these streets. The project is estimated to be completed in January 2016. This half mile trail segment will connect Woodlawn Lake Park and West End Park.



[More Information](#)

Martinez Creekway Trail

The closure and demolition of East Drive is complete. Construction barricades advising of the road closure have gone up. A majority of the trail between Woodlawn and Cincinnati has been constructed. Work will continue between Fredericksburg Road and Woodlawn with cul-de-sacs being constructed at the ends of Magnolia and Mistletoe. Also along Cincinnati, work will continue on trail-head improvements. Upon



completion, the Martinez Creekway Trail will extend approximately half a mile from Fredericksburg Road to Cincinnati. The trail will provide connections to VIA Metropolitan's Primo bus line serving the Medical Center and Downtown along Fredericksburg Road. Completion of the trail has been extended to April 2016.

[More Information](#)

Apache/San Pedro Creekways Trail

Work on the Apache/San Pedro Creekways Trail from Cassiano Park located at Zarzamora and the Apache Creek to the confluence of the San Antonio River near Conception Park is underway. The project is being constructed in segments beginning at Cassiano Park. Much of the trail has been completed between Cassiano Park and San Jacinto. Work is progressing towards Brazos Street. Upon completion of the entire trail, the trail will be approximately three and half miles in length connecting San Antonio's west side community to Downtown through the trail system along the San Antonio River. Construction is estimated to be complete in March 2016.



More Information

San Pedro Creek Improvements Project

For an update on the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project, please [click here](#). The 70% design concepts can be viewed [here](#). The next San Pedro Creek Improvements Project Subcommittee meeting will be on November 12, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. at the San Antonio River Authority, 100 East Guenther Street.

October Community Events

Since Elmendorf Lake Park is currently closed for improvements, see below for a list of community events in October at surrounding parks and facilities!

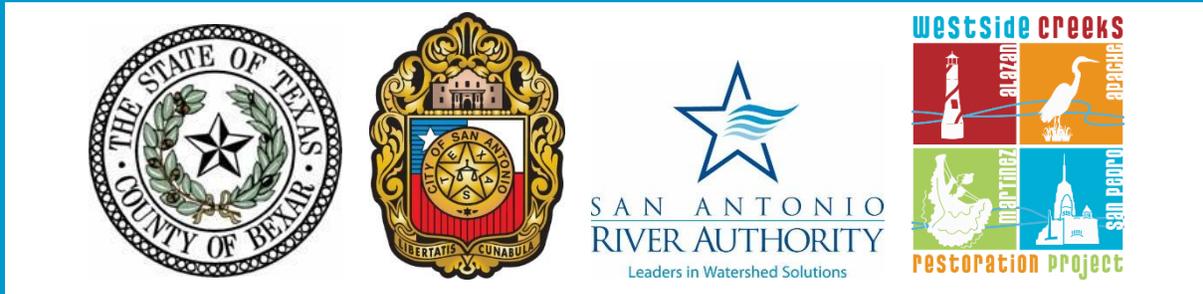
Woodlawn Theater: <http://woodlawntheatre.org/events-calendar>

October 30 & 31 @ 7:30 p.m.: Showing Green Day's American Idiot

City of San Antonio:

For City of San Antonio park events:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/parksandrec/calendar.aspx>



For more information, please contact Bridget Hinze at bridgeth@sara-tx.org or (210) 302-3257.

Olmos Basin Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project – The City of San Antonio and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers entered into a Project Participation Agreement (PPA) in August, 2015. The \$2.5M project will include water quality improvements such as improving flow and temperature of the creek by removing non-native invasive plant and tree species and restoring the ecosystem to create a more natural habitat through the planting of native plant species and native hard mass trees. Initial preliminary engineering design work is just getting underway with 30% design anticipated being available in late December 2015.

The 501c(3) Friends of Hondondo Creek are raising private funds to preserve and enhance urban hiking trails along the Hondondo Creek a tributary of the Olmos. The trail work is a multi-generational project, and your children and grandchildren will have fond memories of walking the woody trails in the morning, and seeing rare plants, birds, and friends with strollers and canes.

World Heritage Designation (San Antonio Missions, Trails, History and Water Recreation)

SAN ANTONIO, (October 17, 2015) – The nine years of work to have San Antonio’s five Spanish Colonial Missions and the Rancho de las Cabras inscribed as a World Heritage site culminated today with an elaborate ceremony at the “Queen of the Missions,” Mission San José. Dignitaries from around the world plus thousands of people from the San Antonio area gathered at the historic site to celebrate the official World Heritage designation.

The Missions were approved as a World Heritage site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on July 5 in Bonn, Germany. The San Antonio community has been celebrating ever since.

Before the official ceremony, Mariachis greeted the crowds with festive music. San Antonio Charros, or Mexican horsemen which originated among the Spanish conquistadors in the sixteenth century, paraded onto the grounds of Mission San José, and indigenous dancers moved onlookers with a solemn but uplifting dance and blessing.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell represented the United States government. Spanish Consul General Enric Panés and Mexican Consul General José Antonio Larios participated in the ceremony representing their respective home countries. San Antonio Mayor Ivy Taylor and Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff led San Antonio officials and Alamo Director Becky Dinnin spoke on behalf of the State of Texas.

"In Germany this summer, the World Heritage designation announcement was an electrifying moment which validated the deep pride we have in our heritage, our historic Missions and our community," said San Antonio Mayor Ivy R. Taylor. "That was a great day and today was also a great day. Together we celebrate and will redevelop the most beloved landmarks in San Antonio so that citizens and visitors see a complete historic interpretation of our rich and layered history."

"The San Antonio Missions are universally admired for their representation of the unique, interwoven heritage of Spanish and indigenous cultures in the U.S., and warrant worldwide recognition," said Secretary Jewell. "Today's ceremony recognizes the many years of hard work and dedication put forth by individuals and organizations to achieve this designation, sharing an important chapter in the history of America with the world. Their efforts will help make San Antonio a top tourist destination."

Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff noted, "Bexar County led the efforts to determine the economic impact of the Missions being named a World Heritage site and the restoration of the Mission Reach of the San Antonio River, which connects the Missions. It's an honor for our Missions to be officially inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site today, but our work is just starting to protect, preserve and promote these assets."

The lengthy and technical nomination process began in 2006 at the initiation of the San Antonio Conservation Society, and attaining World Heritage status has truly been a massive community-wide effort. The San Antonio Missions are now the first World Heritage Site in

Texas and only the 23rd in the United States. U.S. World Heritage sites include the Statue of Liberty, Independence Hall, Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Parks, Louisiana's Poverty Point (2014) and others.

Major Economic Impact

A UNESCO designation is a catalyst for socio-economic change, with increased visitation and tourist spending. According to the U.S. Travel Association, \$928 billion was generated by domestic and international travelers in 2014, placing tourism as one of our nation's largest economic generators and spurring an additional \$1.2 trillion in other industries.

For San Antonio, the impact will be even more significant, as tourism is one of the city's top five industries, providing one in eight jobs and more than \$12 billion annually. By 2025, the World Heritage site economic impact on San Antonio and Bexar County is expected to generate an additional \$44 million - \$105 million in economic activity, with over 1,100 newly created jobs.

Official World Heritage celebration videos, interviews and photos can be found at:

www.WorldHeritageSA.com

San Antonio Urban Waters Federal Partnership location recently welcomed Perla Alarcon as the location's Ambassador. Perla is a CDC Fellow working with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health Department.