

Local Partner and Stakeholder Meeting 4.7.17 – Meeting Overview

The local Urban Waters Partnership would like to schedule a day/half day for Strategic Planning (**prospective dates: June 2nd, 9th**), where partners and stakeholders from all fields can outline goals and priorities they would like to focus on, such as:

- rewriting the partner plan to be thematic instead of project specific
- developing 2-3 key objectives for FY18 (Oct. 17-Sept 18)
- developing a plan to engage non-profits, NGO's, and community groups

In order to continue building relationships and expanding the partnership, partners will be encouraged to consider other agencies or community groups that should be part of the conversation. Environmental educators that were in attendance at the workshop will also be included as well. Other possible groups that could be part of this process:

- Neighborhood associations
- Housing Associations
- Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Lands
- Headwaters Sanctuary

Follow up sessions can be planned as needed.

The group is also open to exploring ways to restructure the workplan to alter language that makes the partnership seem exclusive to certain projects, thus impeding new partners from contacting us. Looking for a more secular description of the partnership

Next Steps:

We are currently in the process of determine facilitator for Strategic Planning Session, suggestions welcome

Prospective location: San Antonio River Authority has reserved a space for the session, suggestions are also welcome.

Partner Updates

World Heritage workplan is in the developmental stages. Colleen Swain mentioned economic development aspects she has focused on and how the resident experience improves the tourist experience.

A Word Heritage Neighborhood Leadership Academy (WHNLA) was established and will serve as a conduit to provide residents with an in-depth overview of how their local government works. The goal of the WHNLA is to educate community participants about City services and processes, neighborhood leadership, branding and communication, updates on World Heritage initiatives, and encourage coordination with the City of San Antonio to help preserve and protect the San Antonio Missions.

The Environmental Analysis for the Salado Trail project along Ft. Sam Houston was completed and they hope to receive the easement allowing them to begin construction of the trail this fall.

Partners are also encouraged to send upcoming events so they can be relayed to national Urban Waters and be included in the bi-weekly newsletter. We will also update partners when restrictions on posting new content on the EPA website have ceased. This includes updated 2016 accomplishments that have already been passed to Region 6 EPA.