

Legislation Text

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Presenter/Contact

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SUBJECT:

Update on the Dry Comal Creek/ Comal River Watershed Protection Plan and associated bacteria monitoring plan.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:

Staff has been working with local agencies and stakeholders to develop a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) to address bacteria loading to the Dry Comal Creek and Comal River. The draft WPP was submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) for review. Staff has received and is addressing comments received back from TCEQ and the TSSWCB. Staff is planning to submit to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review and approval. An approved WPP will help the City and project partners obtain federal grant funds to implement water quality improvement projects outlined in the WPP.

The City, in conjunction with the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA), have been monitoring bacteria concentrations in the Dry Comal Creek and Comal River on a monthly basis at twelve locations (six on the Dry Comal Creek and six on the Comal River). The WPP stakeholders and project partners recently reviewed the existing monitoring locations and have considered adding and relocating the existing monitoring stations.

ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The WPP stakeholder group recommends submittal of the Dry Comal Creek/ Comal River WPP to the EPA and revising the existing bacteria monitoring plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submittal of the Dry Comal Creek/ Comal River WPP to the EPA and revising the existing bacteria monitoring plan per recommendations from the WPP stakeholder group.