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\$75,000 Contribution from San Antonio River Authority to support Edwards Aquifer Authority Next Generation Sustainability Initiatives

San Antonio, TX – A \$75,000 contribution to the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA), provided by the San Antonio River Authority (River Authority), will help further the evaluation and development of certain nature-based sustainability concepts on the recharge and contributing zones of the Edwards Aquifer within the San Antonio River Basin, where the two agencies' missions intersect and provide opportunity for collaboration. General Manager Roland Ruiz, announced the contribution at today's EAA Board of Directors meeting, expressing appreciation for the River Authority's partnership and noting that the EAA's 2021-2030 strategic plan, *The Edwards Aquifer: The Next Generation, and Beyond*, presents great potential to work with partners across the region to conserve, protect, and enhance both groundwater and surface water in the years to come. The EAA strategic plan is available <u>here</u>.

EAA and River Authority staff will meet to discuss the specific projects that these funds will support, placing emphasis on furthering conservation and sustainability efforts at the EAA Field Research Park, which are slated to take place at the end of this year and early next year.

"Throughout the River Authority's history, we have collaborated with partners like the EAA on projects that align with our mission and vision as part of our commitment to



safe, clean, and enjoyable creeks and rivers," said River Authority's General Manager Derek Boese. "We have been an active supporter of the efforts to protect and preserve the recharge and contributing zone of the Edwards Aquifer and look forward to the new opportunities that will come from our continued support through this contribution."

The EAA is a groundwater conservation district committed to furthering the long-term sustainability of the Edwards Aquifer through a responsible balance of regulatory, education and conservation-focused programming and partnerships that perpetuate shared value in the aquifer among all uses and needs. The mission of the EAA is to manage, enhance and protect the Edwards Aquifer, a major groundwater system serving approximately 2 million South Central Texans with a jurisdiction spanning across 8 counties including Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, and parts of Atascosa, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Comal and Hays counties.

The San Antonio River Authority was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage, and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Basin. The State of Texas empowered the River Authority to preserve, protect, and manage the resources and the ecology of the San Antonio River and its tributaries.

More information can be found at www.edwardsaquifer.org