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News Release

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SAN PEDRO CREEK GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION ON SEPTEMBER 8

Program to Feature a Performance of *Las Fundaciones De Béjar*

SAN ANTONIO — Bexar County, the San Antonio River Authority and 300 San Antonio will host a Groundbreaking Ceremony for Phase 1 of the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project. The event is scheduled for September 8, 2016 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Fox Tech High School Football Field, 701 North Flores Street.

Speakers include Bexar County Judge Nelson W. Wolff; Bexar County Precinct 2 Commissioner Paul Elizondo; City of San Antonio Mayor Ivy R. Taylor; and City of San Antonio District 1 Councilman Roberto Treviño. The ceremony will feature the first act of *Las Fundaciones de Béjar*, an original mythic opera that tells the story of the legacy of San Pedro Creek.

“As a child, I played, swam, and fished in San Pedro Creek, but over the years it became more of a drainage ditch. When this project is finished, it will reconnect our residents to history, culture, and to each other,” said Bexar County Commissioner Paul Elizondo. “I’m happy the project will improve infrastructure and encourage economic development. And I am proud to be part of an effort that will create the kind of memories I have from my youth.”

Phase 1 of the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project starts at the tunnel inlet near Fox Tech High School and continues on to Cesar Chavez Boulevard. A significant

segment of the project will be completed by May 2018, just in time to celebrate San Antonio's Tricentennial.

The project is being funded by Bexar County and managed by the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), in coordination with the City of San Antonio. The entire effort includes the two-mile segment from the tunnel inlet to the confluence under IH-10 and 11 acres of landscaped area, will improve flood control, revitalize natural habitat and water quality, and encourage economic development. The project will be completed in four phases.

Las Fundaciones de Béjar was commissioned by Bexar County. The libretto is the work of award-winning San Antonio author John Phillip Santos and the music was composed by Joseph Julian Gonzalez. Performers will include OPERA San Antonio, Alamo City Opera, San Antonio Symphony, American Indians of Texas, Ballet San Antonio, and The Children's Chorus of San Antonio.

For more information about the groundbreaking celebration, please contact Bridget Hinze at SARA at (210) 302-3257 or bridgeth@sara-tx.org, or visit the website at www.spcproject.org.

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San Pedro Creek Improvements Project

Bexar County and the San Antonio River Authority, in coordination with the City of San Antonio, are transforming San Pedro Creek as a cultural park to reflect its place in our cultural history, improve its function in flood control, revitalize natural habitat and water quality, and catalyze economic development. To learn more about the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project, visit the project website at www.spcproject.org.