

Talking Points

Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez

Announcement of Stimulus Bill Funding for Bexar County

February 14, 2009

- Good morning.
- The event which occurred last night brings with it an exciting opportunity for Bexar County and San Antonio.
- The economic stimulus bill passed by Congress yesterday will bring wonderful growth to our community.
- Projects in Bexar County and San Antonio now have a great potential to receive additional funding from the federal government through this bill and those projects will create jobs and even save jobs for this community.
- One of the projects that add to our community’s beauty is one in the backyard of Precinct 1; the Mission Reach project.
- It was under the leadership of Congressman Rodriguez that the initial phase of the Mission Reach project received federal funding.
- Chico always finds a way to bring the money back home, where it belongs.
- I have full confidence that Chico will continue to bring funds into Bexar County and San Antonio.
- The Bexar County and San Antonio community has an economy that thrives on local participation and tourism and that is why the Mission Reach project is one of the important projects of this community.
- Our world-renowned River was part of a vision that started decades ago as a project from a federal initiative aimed to bring the nation out of a declined economy.
- A couple of years ago, the local leadership of this community gathered together to start this project as a collaborative effort for the San Antonio River Improvement Project to enhance the attraction of the River and to connect it more to its surrounding community.

- The Mission Reach will come to completion as an eight mile extension from Lone Star Boulevard to Mission Espada where trails will reconnect the River to the four Spanish Missions, a military base, and residential and conservation areas.
- Native grasses, trees, 113 acres of aquatic habitat, and 320 acres of landscape features that support wildlife and fish in nearby waters, will restore the river remnants.
- The development of the Southern reach of our River completes a vision set forth by our local leadership and provides a beautiful environment for our community to come together and enjoy.
- Thank you to everyone here who continues to work hard to see this dream come true and offers support.
- Thank you.