

EDITORIAL

PUTTING MONEY INTO GROUND SAFETY

June 11, 2009

As we enter the summer season, most of us think about the heat and drought conditions. It is probably not the time of year most of us would really give thought to proactive measures to ensure the safety of our community through flood control. Last week, I was extremely proud that Precinct 1 in collaboration with County staff, the San Antonio River Authority, and the City of San Antonio held two public meetings that addressed the needs of the Precinct and how we can stay afloat.

It makes me proud to share with my constituents that some projects to ensure safety in Precinct 1 with flood control have already been completed. Those projects are the high water detection system implemented in the low water crossing at Jungman Road and Medina River, and the Benton City Road project which improved and restored the channel and low water crossing between Quintana and Interstate Highway 35. These two projects were completed in four and five months and will ensure the safety of the target areas and surrounding communities.

There are also some projects in the development process that are scheduled to commence in the next year. As you drive around Precinct 1, you may soon notice these areas under construction like Live Oak Slough and Shepherd Road. At Live Oak Slough our County engineers are working hard in planning a way to reduce the flooding along Trawalter Lane and Quintana Road. Shepherd Road will actually receive low water crossings at Elm Creek and Black Hill Branch. These two projects are estimated to be completed in one and two years to ensure safety to our neighborhoods.

Thanks to the support of my fellow Court members, last year we at Bexar County Commissioners Court, took a proactive lead and adopted the largest capital improvements plan in the history of Bexar County. What this means for us is we were able to reinvest into our community through improving the value of our neighborhoods and increase the useful life of our roads and drainage structures. We have re-invested more than \$5.6 million dollars into preserving Precinct 1!

There are other improvements scheduled to take place in Precinct 1. The revitalization and reinvestment does not have an end in sight. Everything is moving South in Bexar County and I could not be more proud to serve this largest Precinct and fastest growing community. Someone once told me *“be careful what you wish for because you just might get it.”* We asked for it and we definitely got it; growth, improvement, and beautification to Precinct 1! Thanks again for your continued inspiration.