

County flood projects worth inconvenience

Express-News Editorial Board

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The \$500 million in improvements will enhance life quality.

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It is good to see Bexar County's ambitious \$500 million flood control program moving along even if it means traffic delays and headaches for the folks who live and work in the vicinity of the construction.

The 56 projects, which will be completed over a 10-year period, are being funded with flood-control tax funds. The flood-control plan developed in 2007 was a response to the horrific flooding in 2002 that claimed 12 lives.

Phase I which began late last year is a \$200 million investment and includes 21 projects over a three-year period.

Phase II calls for 28 additional projects with an investment of \$150 to \$200 million over the following three-year period.

Precinct 3 Commissioner [Kevin Wolff](#) recently met with residents who live near Evans Road and Elm Waterhole Creek which is part

of the Salado Creek. County officials explained to them some of the traffic woes they might experience during the next 15 months of construction on the \$4 million bridge that will alleviate some of the flooding problems in that area.

Earlier this month, the county unveiled its plans for turning a former shopping center on the Northwest Side into a park that during heavy rains will hold 78 million gallons of floodwater and prevent flooding on Fredericksburg Road.

In April, work began on a lengthy storm sewer improvement project that will help improve drainage in the Alta Vista neighborhood and get rid of a dangerous low-water crossing on San Pedro Avenue in front of [Twain Middle School](#).

In droughts such as the one we are experiencing, it is sometimes difficult to recall the flash flooding that is all too common across our county in times of heavy rain. These projects have been long overdue.

Too many precious lives have been lost in flood waters.

A few months of inconvenience are a small price to pay to ensure the future safety of motorists who travel these roads and protect the property of residents in the flood-prone areas.