



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Agenda Date	December 12, 2023
Requested Action	PRESENTATION, OVERVIEW OF THE CITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM OBJECTIVES WITH A FOCUS ON WATER CONSERVATION, SURFACE WATER QUALITY, URBAN FORESTRY AND DARK SKIES
Contact Person	Ryan Bass – Environmental Program Manager (830) 248-1501, rbass@boerne-tx.gov Jeffrey Carroll – Engineering & Mobility Director
Background Information	Staff has prepared a work program for FY2024 for the City's environmental program initiatives (Attached) to coincide with the Environmental Responsibility goals outlined in the Boerne Strategy Map, existing master plans and direction from Council. The purpose of this item is to review and discuss existing and proposed programs for FY2024. Additional discussions with the Council and community will take place throughout the year. Water Conservation: A new collaborative effort between City of Boerne Utilities, Customer Care and Billing, Communications, and Planning Departments will work to engage citizens on a variety of water conservation strategies. The program will explore incentive and rebate opportunities to encourage reductions in landscape irrigation. Outreach and education on both indoor and outdoor water efficiency will be a key component of this program. Dark Skies: The Unified Development Code provides dark sky regulations that apply to public and private outdoor lighting within the city limits. All development projects that provide parking, street or security lighting must provide an approved illumination plan and photometric study that ensures all outdoor fixtures are shielded from uplighting and does not generate offsite light trespass. The City recently initiated work to become certified as an international dark sky community.

	Surface Water Quality Monitoring: <u><i>Boerne City Lake Water Quality Monitoring Program:</i></u> The City collects surface water samples monthly at three locations on Boerne City Lake and one on Upper Cibolo Creek upstream of the lake. Data collected as part of this non-regulatory city program are compared to water quality criteria established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to ensure safe contact recreation. <u><i>Clean Rivers Program:</i></u> The City is a participant in the TCEQ Clean Rivers Program (CRP) where we collect water quality data quarterly on Upper Cibolo Creek at River Road Park. Data collected as part of the CRP program is managed by the San Antonio River Authority and is used to evaluate the streams health overtime. Urban and Community Forestry: The Urban and Community Forestry Program provides care and maintenance of trees on City-owned properties and advocates for the preservation of existing trees on residential and commercial development projects within the City limits. The Unified Development Code (UDC) strengthened our tree preservation ordinance resulting in more trees being preserved on development projects. The UDC expanded the use of our tree restoration fund and provides opportunities to assist private landowners in the management of oak wilt within the city limits. Low Impact Development: Low Impact Development (LID) is a stormwater management approach that can reduce rainfall runoff and pollutants from leaving a built environment by managing runoff as close to its source(s) as possible. Work to develop local LID guidance began in 2016 and was adopted into the subdivision ordinance in 2020. The Shoreline Park Subdivision was the first project to incorporate LID as a major component of their stormwater management strategy.										
Item Justification	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>☒ Legal/Regulatory Obligation</td> <td>☐ Infrastructure Investment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Reduce Costs</td> <td>☐ Customer Pull</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Increase Revenue</td> <td>☐ Service Enhancement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ Mitigate Risk</td> <td>☒ Process Efficiency</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ Master Plan Recommendation</td> <td>☒ Other: <u>Program Updates</u></td> </tr> </table>	☒ Legal/Regulatory Obligation	☐ Infrastructure Investment	☐ Reduce Costs	☐ Customer Pull	☐ Increase Revenue	☐ Service Enhancement	☒ Mitigate Risk	☒ Process Efficiency	☒ Master Plan Recommendation	☒ Other: <u>Program Updates</u>
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Strategic Alignment	Environmental Responsibility, B2 Advancing master plan recommendations, C3 Collaborating with community partners to enhance quality of life.
Financial Considerations	N/A
Citizen Input/Board Review	N/A
Legal Review	N/A
Alternative Options	N/A
Supporting Documents	Attachment 1 – Environmental Program Manager Work Plan FY24