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NEWS RELEASE  
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**SARA TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS FOR DESIGN AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SERVICES ON SAN ANTONIO RIVER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) announces the selection of design teams to enter into contract negotiations for design and public participation services on the San Antonio River Improvements Project. Teams selected for contract negotiations are listed below:

<b>Museum Reach Design Services</b> (Lexington Ave. to Hildebrand Ave.)	<b>Mission Reach Design Services</b> (Lonestar Blvd. to Mission Espada)	<b>Public Participation Services</b>
<p><b><u>Ford, Powell &amp; Carson Architects &amp; Planners, Inc.</u></b> (San Antonio)            Project Manager: Boone Powell, FAIA  <i>Team Members:</i>  <i>Ford, Powell &amp; Carson</i>  <i>HDR Engineering</i>  <i>Interfluve</i>            * <i>Arias &amp; Kezar</i>  <i>UTSA Center for Archaeology</i>            * <i>Project Cost Resources</i>  <i>Edwards Aquifer Research Center</i>            * <i>NY*LA/Marek-Hill</i>            * <i>Garza Consulting Irrigation Buck Group</i>  <i>Kaplan Partners Architectural Lighting</i>            *<i>Rodriguez Engineering</i></p>	<p><b><u>Carter &amp; Burgess, Inc.</u></b> (San Antonio)            Project Manager: Kevin C. Conner, ASLA  <i>Team Members:</i>  <i>Carter &amp; Burgess, Inc.</i>  <i>Interfluve</i>  <i>Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center</i>  <i>Sprinkle Robey Architects</i>  <i>Raba-Kistner</i>  <i>The Center for Archaeological Research</i>  <i>Innovative Resources</i>            *<i>Overby Descamps Engineering, Inc.</i>            *<i>Arias &amp; Kezar, Inc.</i>            *<i>Garza Consulting</i>            *<i>Accutech Consultants, L.L.C.</i></p>	<p>* <b><u>KGBTexas Public Relations/Marketing</u></b> (San Antonio)            Project Managers: Angela Herrera and Mary M. Meek</p>

\*Denotes SMWBE, DBE or HUB certification

Design team selections were made after interviews on Friday, October 12, 2001; the Public Participation team selection was made after interviews conducted on Tuesday, October 2, 2001. Staffs from the City of San Antonio, Bexar County and SARA, along with members of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee, participated in the interviews and made the team selections.

“Ford, Powell & Carson has demonstrated expertise in designing urban river projects composed of diverse commercial and cultural elements,” said Steve Graham, SARA’s Technical and Projects Manager, who added that Carter & Burgess possesses the blend of technical and aesthetic design experience that will be required in the application of fluvial geomorphology to restore the Mission Reach to a more natural and stable condition.

“KGBTexas demonstrated unique skills in communicating with project stakeholders and the community at large,” stated Irby Hightower, co-chair of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee. “The selection team was impressed with the enthusiasm KGBTexas showed toward the river improvements project and the public participation responsibilities associated with it.”

The design phase consists of two steps, preliminary design and detailed design, to be implemented over the 10-year project schedule. Firms will be engaged to complete the entire design phase, with initial negotiations to focus on preliminary design services estimated to cost \$3.3 million and to be completed by fall 2002. Funding for the preliminary design phase is derived from the Bexar County Flood Tax and City of San Antonio Capital Improvement Funds.

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