

Upper San Marcos River Watershed Protection Plan Updates

Mark Enders, CoSM Habitat Conservation Plan Manager

2026 Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee Meeting





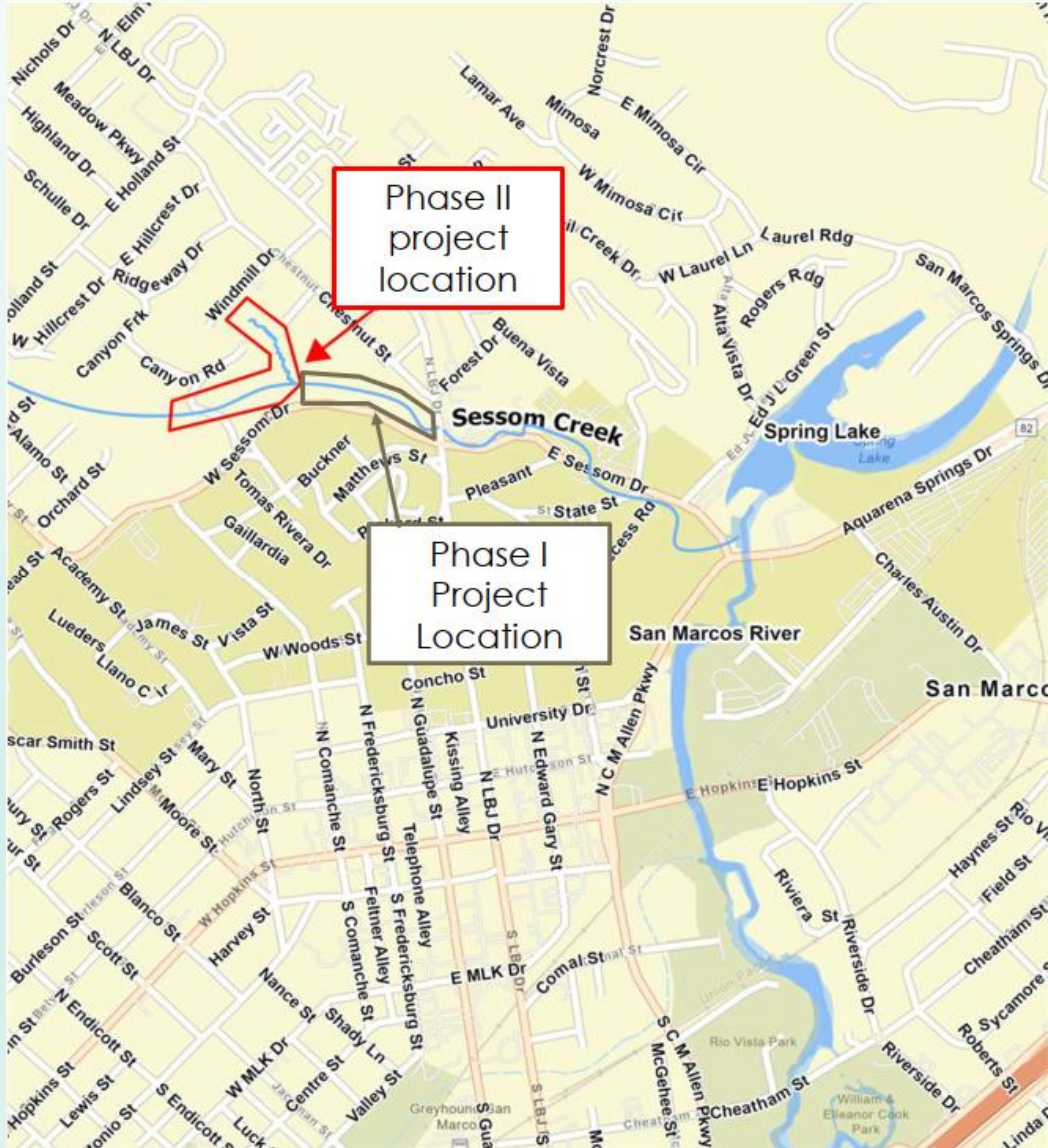
Background

- The San Marcos Watershed Initiative formed in 2012 to develop a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) for the Upper San Marcos River. Led by The Meadows Center for Water & Environment
- TDS impairment
- Upper San Marcos River WPP accepted by EPA & TCEQ in 2018
- City of San Marcos lead entity on WPP implementation



Sessom Creek Stream Restoration & Sewer Line Rehab Project

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- Phase 1 completed in May 2023
- Phase 2 began in May 2025. Project includes stream restoration using natural channel design, removal of paved street crossing, plant restoration & relocation of exposed sewer lines. To be completed in summer 2026.
- CoSM awarded \$120,000 FY24 CWA 319(h) grant through TCEQ NPS program
- Ph2 funded jointly between CoSM, EAHCP and TCEQ

Sessom Creek, Ph 2 Project Photos

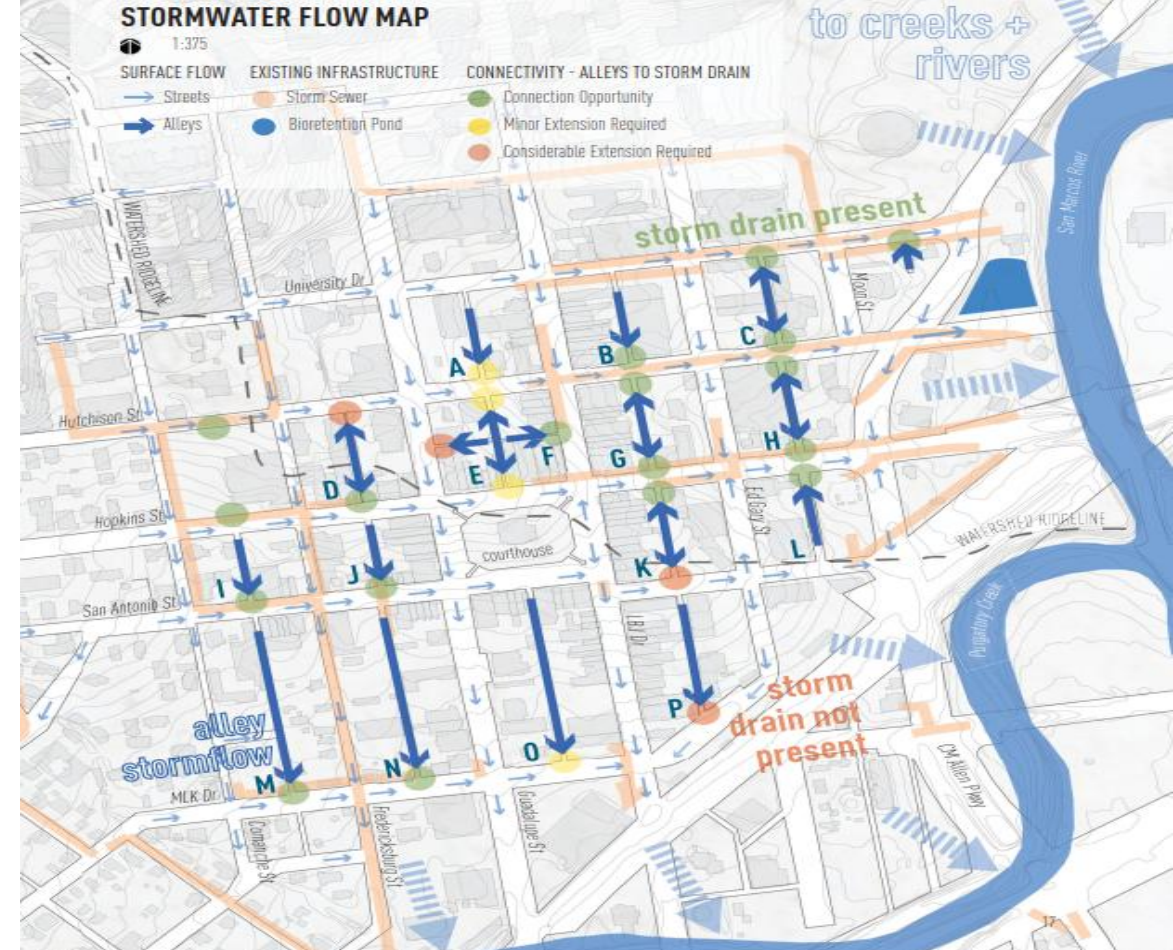


Sessom Creek, Ph 2 Project Photos



Downtown Alley Reconstruction Project

- Reconstruction of Kissing Alley and Jacks Alley in downtown San Marcos
- Project to include replacement of approx. 1,700 ft² of existing pavement with permeable paver surface & underdrain system
- Pilot project from the SM Green Alley Initiative
- Design finalized. estimated construction start: Summer 2026
- CoSM awarded \$200k FY24 CWA 319(h) grant through TCEQ NPS Program



Texas A&M Forest Service Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Grant

- CoSM recently notified of grant award up to \$50k for tree planting along the San Marcos River downstream of IH-35
- Project includes planting of +100 trees
- Grant contract still pending...



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WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION GRANT





Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) Implementation

- Continuing to implement endangered species habitat protection measures in the upper San Marcos River system as part of the EAHCP
- Ongoing projects include:
 - Mgmt of Recreation
 - TWR & Aquatic Plant Restoration
 - Litter Removal
 - Non-Native Species Mgmt
 - Riparian Restoration
 - Water Quality Protection

41st Annual Great Texas River Cleanup

- Held Saturday, March 7th from 9-11am
- Approximately 16 Clean Up Locations throughout the Upper SM River Watershed
- 552 participants
- Also hold the annual Fall River Cleanup event in Oct in addition to monthly hotspot cleanups.



Thanks, Questions?

Mark Enders
Habitat Conservation Plan Manager
City of San Marcos
(512) 757-2136
menders@sanmarcostx.gov