



News from the Helotes Heritage Association

Dear Readers,

Annalisa Peace, Executive Director for the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, received the following information from SAWS regarding the proposed Hills of Castle Rock development in NW Bexar County. SAWS will present plans to the Planning and Operations Committee for extending water service to the Hills of Castle Rock on:

Thursday, November 29th at 5:00 p.m. at the Executive Conference Room, SAWS Headquarters at 2800 U.S. Hwy 281 North.

This proposal will go before the SAWS Board for approval at their regularly scheduled board meeting on:

Tuesday, December 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the SAWS Board Room at SAWS Headquarters, 2800 U.S. Hwy 281 North.

SAWS has negotiated the following with Baruch Properties regarding their extension of service to the Hills of Castle Rock:

- Baruch will provide well water for temporary service to 700 homes
- Baruch will provide SAWS with groundwater availability models that indicate there is sufficient water to provide this service.
- Baruch will build a Reverse Osmosis Plant for treatment of groundwater (if necessary)
- Baruch will submit a pertinent guarantee (bond or other mechanism) that insures the cost of mitigating effects of additional pumping on existing area wells.
- Baruch will be responsible for the application to TCEQ for a permit to build sewage treatment plant
- Baruch will apply to TCEQ for CCN for sewage service for the Hills of Castle Rock
- Baruch will assume 100% of the cost of all water infrastructure.
- Baruch will build tanks and pumping stations and 5.4 miles of 24" water main and 2.1 miles of 16" water main.
- The Hills of Castle Rock project will comply with the conservation ordinances outlined in Chapter 34 of the Unified Development Code of the City of San Antonio.
- SAWS will not own or operate the wastewater treatment plant.
- Baruch will reduce the number of Hills of Castle Rock EDU's from 3,500 to 2,700.

If you recall, the Hills of Castle Rock development petitioned TCEQ for permission to construct a waste water treatment plant that would discharge effluent into San Geronimo Creek. That petition was opposed by almost 100 people during a public meeting in August. We are awaiting a decision whether TCEQ will grant a contested hearing to allow us to oppose the permitting of the waste water treatment plant.

The public will have an opportunity to voice its opinion at the December 4th Tuesday SAWS Board meeting. SAWS has been receptive in the past to public outcry. There is no guarantee SAWS will be swayed by our opposition this time, but it is imperative that we make our voices heard. Please attend this meeting and provide public comment. Now is the time when you can make a difference.

Sincerely,
Ron Green, President
Helotes Heritage Association