

Excerpts from POLICY DOCUMENTS Related to Water Quality Goals

1. Letter from Judge Powers, Mayor Purcell and Council Member Slusher dated May 22, 2003, inviting other governmental entities to join in the Regional Water Quality Planning process:

” We, the undersigned, invite you to participate in a planning effort designed to develop implementable standards for protection of water quality within the Barton Springs Watershed (the “Project”).”

“The signatories have agreed to the following goals for this endeavor:

- A regional approach involving entities from both Hays and Travis counties must be used, with wide involvement of stakeholders and the public;
- The process must have a reasonable probability of leading to implementable ordinances of rules to be adopted by entities having jurisdiction within the study area;
- The entities that could enact those ordinances or rules must be involved, the goal would be to reach consensus on water quality protection measures; and
- There must be a reasonable likelihood that at the end of the process U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and other regulatory agencies if appropriate, would sign off on any such enacted ordinances as providing sufficient protection for the Barton Springs salamander.
- The effort should also focus on voluntary, cooperative regional approaches that will lead to water quality.”

2. Interlocal Agreement for the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer and its Contributing Zone Water Quality Standards Planning:

“Whereas the City of Dripping Springs, the City of Austin, Hays Count, Travis County, the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (the “Parties”) find that there is a need for a regional approach to developing water quality protection standards within the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer and Its Contributing Zone (the “Project”); and ...”

3. Section 4.0, Work Statement and Technical Specifications of the contract for consulting services with Naismith Engineering:

“The Cities of Dripping Springs, Austin, Bee Cave, Buda, Kyle, Rollingwood, and Sunset Valley, Hays County, Travis County, Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District, and Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District find

there is a need to develop a regional approach to water quality protection within the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer and its Contributing Zone (the PROJECT).”

“The scope of work will lead to the development of model water quality ordinances or rules to be considered by various governmental agencies in the area, including the aforementioned agencies, as well as plans for voluntary, cooperative best management practices and measures to protect water quality.”

“The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Regional Planning Process has begun a planning effort designed to develop implementable ordinances or rules for the protection of water quality within the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer and Its Contributing Zone. *Water quality being defined for this project as: "The condition of water, as affected by chemical, physical, biological and habitat factors, and its hydrological regime, for use as public and private drinking water supplies, for protection and propagation of the Barton Springs Salamander, and for aesthetic and recreational use within the contributing area and aquifer boundary for the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer."*