



Supporting the Alamo Area's Civilian and Military Community



Table of Contents

	Page
Letter from AACOG Board Chairman & Vice Chairman	3
2017 Management Team	4
2017 Board of Directors	5
Alamo Regional Transit	6
Area Agencies on Aging	7-10
Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services	11-13
Natural Resources	14-17
Public Safety	18-20
Regional Services	21-22
Resource Recovery	23-24
Weatherization Assistance Program	25
Member Governments & Strategic Partners	26
2017-2018 Budgets	27



Dear AACOG Members and Residents of the Alamo Region,

We want to take this opportunity to thank our membership, partners, staff, and our Board of Directors for your strong support and commitment in 2017. Our 49th year as your Council of Governments has been a memorable one. Your unwavering support and commitment to our mission continues to help us build a strong foundation and have positive impact on the residents of the Alamo Region.



Executive Director Diane Rath, Chairman Schuchart, and Vice Chairman Fails

That commitment to serve and forge strong relationships was recognized by both the Altus, Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce and U.S. Air Force's Air Education and Training Command (AETC) with the Altus Trophy. The trophy is awarded to a community that embodies the strongest of commitments to the mission of AETC. In addition, the Association of Defense Communities recognized our region as a Great American Defense Community. Similarly, the designation also recognizes the region's commitment and unwavering support for our military and veteran community. It is such an honor for the Alamo Area to be recognized by these organizations.

As a testament to our ongoing commitment to the military community, AACOG, in partnership with the Military Veterans Community Collaborative, launched TxServes in June 2017. This web-based service is the first of its kind in Texas. The program offers active duty service members, veterans, and their families and dependents access to fifteen services through partner providers that include housing, employment, transportation, utility assistance, money management, clothing and education.

We are proud the Agency again received the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Excellence in Regional Transportation Award. The award recognized our partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Transportation Institute, for the 10 to 20-Year Transportation Plan developed by the Alamo Area Regional Planning Organization. AACOG also received first place in the NADO Photo Contest in the Retrospective/50th Anniversary category, with a photo taken when the COG first formed in 1968.

We want to recognize three unique and innovative partnerships between AACOG's Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy and the community. First, the Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy partnered with our IDD Services program to bring law enforcement personnel and individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to better understand and relate to each other through classroom training and instruction. Second, the Academy worked together with the San Antonio Airport to develop state-of-the-art training for airport security. This model is currently being assessed by other airports in the state. Third, the Academy worked with JBSA-Lackland and our County Sheriff departments to provide joint SWAT training to their respective personnel.

The loss of State funding through TCEQ for our Natural Resources program was a difficult challenge, but our strong partnerships with CPS Energy, the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, South Texas Energy & Economic Roundtable (STEER), the Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association (TACA) and its individual members, allowed us to continue our critical work as the region continues to address air quality issues.

Other internal changes this year included a new member to the Executive team. Dr. Stella Garcia joined us in August as Senior Director of Operations. She previously served as Provost at TSTC-Harlingen. In addition, a Compensation System Design Report was completed to ensure AACOG stays competitive in the market place and able to attract and retain qualified committed employees.

As we enter our 50th year in 2018, an Anniversary Celebration is currently in the works. We are planning for an early spring event for our members and partners.

In conclusion, we look forward to the future as we enter our second half-century of serving the residents of the Alamo Region. It is our hope each of you will join us in telling the story of the great work this Agency does and will continue to do for many years to come.

County Judge Chris Schuchart
Medina County
AACOG Board Chairman

Mayor Chris Fails
Town of Hollywood Park
AACOG Board Vice Chairman

2017 Management Team



Diane Rath
Executive Director



John Clamp
Chief Financial Officer/
Senior Director



Stella Garcia
Senior Director
of Operations



Clifford Herberg
General Counsel/
Senior Director



Susan Lodge
Senior Director of
IDD Services &
Agency Coordination



Tim Treviño
Senior Director of
Strategic Partnerships
& Communications



Roger Arriaga
Natural Resources
Director



Annie Erickson
Area Agencies on Aging
Director



Marcela Medina
Public Safety
Director



Sean Scott
Regional Transportation
Director



Blanca Tapia
Controller



Gloria Vasquez
Regional Services
Director

Board of Directors



- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Chris Schuchart, Chair | County Judge, Medina County, Representing Medina County |
| Chris Fails, Vice Chair | Mayor, Town of Hollywood Park, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Luana Buckner | Board Chair, Edwards Aquifer Authority, Representing Special Districts |
| Tommy Calvert | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 4, Representing Bexar County |
| Cris Eugster | Chief Operating Officer, CPS Energy, Representing Public Utilities |
| Richard A. Evans | County Judge, Bandera County, Representing Bandera County |
| George Green | Councilman, City of New Braunfels, District 1, Representing Urbanized-City of New Braunfels |
| Robert W. Gregory | Mayor, City of La Vernia, Representing Area Cities (Group B) |
| James C. Hasslocher | Board Member, University Health System, Representing Hospital/Health Districts |
| Robert L. Hurley | County Judge, Atascosa County, Representing Atascosa County |
| Richard L. Jackson | County Judge, Wilson County, Representing Wilson County |
| Andy Keller | Mayor, City of La Coste, Representing Area Cities - Group A |
| Sherman Krause | County Judge, Comal County, Representing Comal County |
| Walter R. Long, Jr. | County Judge, Karnes County, Representing Karnes County |
| Arnulfo Luna | County Judge, Frio County, Representing Frio County |
| Darrel L. Lux | County Judge, Kendall County, Representing Kendall County |
| Andrew Murr | Representative, State of Texas, District 53, Representing Urban and Rural Areas |
| Manny Pelaez | Councilman, City of San Antonio, District 8, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Clayton Perry | Councilman, City of San Antonio, District 10, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Tom Pollard | County Judge, Kerr County, Representing Kerr County |
| Katie N. Reed | Board President, Northside ISD, Representing School Districts |
| Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 1, Representing Bexar County |
| Ana Sandoval | Councilwoman, City of San Antonio, District 7, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Tom Schoolcraft | Mayor, City of Helotes, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Mike Schultz | Mayor, City of Boerne, Representing Area Cities-Group C |
| Mark Stroehrer | County Judge, Gillespie County, Representing Gillespie County |
| James E. Teal | County Judge, McMullen County, Representing McMullen County |
| Carlos I. Uresti | Senator, State of Texas, District 19, Representing Urban and Rural Areas |
| John Williams | Mayor, City of Universal City, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Kevin A. Wolff | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 3, Representing Bexar County |
| Jim O. Wolverton | Commissioner, Guadalupe County, Precinct 3, Representing Guadalupe County |
| Kyle Biederman | Representative, State of Texas, District 73, Ex-Officio Member |
| Ryan Guillen | Representative, State of Texas, District 31, Ex-Officio Member |
| Felipe "Fil" Jimenez | Joint Base San Antonio, Ex-Officio Member |
| John Kuempel | Representative, State of Texas, District 44, Ex-Officio Member |
| Judith Zaffrini | Senator, State of Texas, District 21, Ex-Officio Member |

Alamo Regional Transit

Alamo Regional Transit (ART) is a service that provides public transportation originating in the 12 rural counties (Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson) outside of San Antonio and Bexar County. Transportation is a critical component and it is ART's mission to provide safe, reliable, professional, and courteous transportation at the lowest cost to residents in the Alamo Region service area. In 2017, ART provided 101,394 trips to residents of the region for medical appointments, work, school, adult day care, and personal needs such as shopping, just to name a few.

ART operates a deviated fixed route in the City of Seguin, the only one in the 12-county Alamo Region, called "Connect Seguin." This route is an hour long loop that stops at major destinations around the city and continues to grow in ridership from the collaborative efforts between the City of Seguin and AACOG. In November 2016 this route was revised to 15 stops, which increased efficiencies, timings, and ridership. The low cost service provided over 14,260 rides during 2017 and plans to exceed this ridership during 2018 by continuing outreach and increasing advertising efforts.

In 2018, ART plans to continue elements of the five-year coordinated plan that was approved in 2017 by focusing on increasing ridership and coordination through mobility management, rideshare/van pool services, and coordinating with other Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) services, dialysis, and other human service programs.

To that end, ART plans to improve efficiencies by purchasing new vehicles that will reduce overall operating costs, purchasing new software for reservations and scheduling, and developing rideshare and/or van pools throughout the region. ART will also work towards improving the image of the program through coordination with other agencies and programs, bus advertising, and continued outreach.

Call-A-Ride 4 Vets (CARV)

Through continued funding from the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Fund for Veterans' Assistance, CARV enrolled 3,418 veterans, surviving spouses, and family members in 2017, surpassing the goal of 3,000 by 114%. CARV provided over 950 VIA bus passes and over 6,000 rides for members to medical appointments, senior centers, job interviews, and many other destinations throughout the 13-county AACOG region. With the great success this program has obtained, TVC has granted the renewal of the program through 2017-2018.



Albert Baca escorts Ms. Josephine Reaves, WWII Vet & Bronze Star recipient, to San Antonio City Hall where she was recognized for her military service.



Area Agencies on Aging

The Alamo and Bexar Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) are part of a nationwide network coordinating supportive services for the elderly, with funding provided by the Older Americans Act of 1965 and its subsequent amendments. The agencies plan and contract services for senior citizens throughout the AACOG region. With the AAAs acting as an advocate, awareness of the needs of the elderly increases through services and assists them and their families with options that promote independent, well-being, and dignity. Programs and services provided by the AAAs include case management; family caregiver support and respite; support for grandparents raising grandchildren; legal assistance; home delivered and congregate meals; health and wellness coaching, including Chronic Disease and Diabetes Self-Management programs; A Matter of Balance program; Stress Busting for Caregivers (Dementia) Program; Ombudsman Services; and home modifications for safety and independent living.

Alamo Service Connection (an Aging and Disability Resource Center)

The Alamo Service Connection (ASC) is the gateway to the public's access to services and is part of the "no wrong door" network of social service agencies in the AACOG region. It is one of the 22 statewide Health and Human Services Commission-designated Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) and provides a wealth of unbiased information to individuals seeking long term care and supports in the community. Moreover, the ASC helps seniors, people with disabilities, Veterans, and caregivers to navigate the maze of available options to ensure they are receiving the services and support that best fit their situation. During fiscal year 2017, the ASC provided 45,294 referrals to 25,902 callers, of which 5,521 were Veterans, spouses, or dependents.

Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Program

The Care Coordination program provides case management services to persons 60 years of age and older, caregivers caring for a loved one who is 60 years of age or older, and persons 55 and over who are raising their grandchildren/kinship who are 18 and under. Services provided include residential repair (installation of grab bars, handrails, and appliances) and health maintenance (providing incontinence supplies, and eyeglasses), and in-home services (homemaker and personal assistance). These services allowed 2,716 senior clients to remain in the community and age in place with dignity, security, and enhanced quality of life.



The AAAs provide support to older Texans raising children in the 13-county region. The Alamo Area Agency on Aging and AACOG staff collected and donated school supplies and backpacks to 76 grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the Alamo Aging Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program to start their school year. The Bexar AAA Caregiver Support program provided back-to-school voucher assistance to 397 children as part of the "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren event."

Area Agencies on Aging

The Bexar Senior Advisory Committee's Access and Assistance Subcommittee sponsored the second annual Elder Fraud Summit, on June 7, 2017, at the Northeast Senior Center in San Antonio. Five hundred seniors attended this free educational seminar, which provided those in attendance with tips on elder abuse prevention. The keynote speaker was District Attorney Nicholas "Nico" LaHood. Other speakers included Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar and Detective David Brinkman from the San Antonio Police Department. There were also presentations by experts from Adult Protective Services, AARP, Frost Bank, and the Social Security Administration. Those in attendance were able to visit resource tables, receive give-a-ways, and utilize the free shredding truck.



The Bexar AAA and the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Coalition collaborated to present the First Older Relative Caregiver Conference on September 12th at CentroMed. More than 150 older relative caregivers attended the conference; and more than 20 community partners provided support, information, and resources to attendees. 225th District Court Judge Peter Sakai spoke at the conference, addressing advocacy and other issues affecting grandparents and older relative caregivers who assume the responsibility of caring for children placed in their care. In addition, Paul Zambie, Managing Attorney with the Texas Legal Service Center, provided an overview of legal issues specific to *Transfer on Death Deeds*; and Cynthia Hazel, M.A., Reiki Master, Quantum Healer, spoke about *Re-parenting Grandchildren: A Joyful Journey*. The conference concluded with an expert panel including Tammy Lampkin; Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families); Erica Banuelos; Texas Department of Family & Protective Services; and Delilah Trevino, Compliance Coordinator with Edgewood Independent School District (Special Ed), who presented on various topics.



Judge Peter Sakai with Caregiver Conference Participants



Older Relative Caregiver Conference

Area Agencies on Aging

Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Program

Ombudsmen are advocates for residents of licensed nursing homes and assisted living communities. They work to resolve problems of individual residents and to bring about changes at the local, state and national levels to improve residents' care and quality of life. Some of the ways in which LTC Ombudsmen serve residents include telling residents about their rights, empowering, and supporting residents and their families to discuss concerns with staff. In 2017, the Alamo and Bexar Ombudsman Programs made 1,510 visits to nursing homes and 1,212 visits to assisted living communities in the region.



Two Volunteer Ombudsman working with Aging Sensitivity Training Kits

Age Well, Live Well

The *Age Well, Live Well* Network hosted a financial wellness event for seniors at Bibliotech West in May; which highlighted online budgeting tools, the cost of food waste, and end of life planning. The network includes approximately 20 community agencies and organizations, with the intent of promoting and supporting opportunities for all individuals to be active and healthy throughout their lives.

Health and Wellness

The Health and Wellness Program ensures seniors have access to evidenced-based courses that prevent falls and promote healthy living in the 13-county AACOG Region. Classes offered throughout the year were *A Matter of Balance*, *Chronic Disease Self-Management*, and *Diabetes Self-Management*. The AAAs also received a *Falls Free Reduction Empowerment and Education (FREE)* grant from United Way of Tarrant County. This grant allowed AAA staff to conduct free *Matter of Balance* classes, which helped seniors prevent and protect themselves from falls and fall hazards. More than 230 seniors attended these free classes.



Larry Johnson and Anthia Murray lead Matter of Balance Class at Virginia Gill Community Center

Area Agencies on Aging

Veteran Programs

TxServes – San Antonio is part of a national network of coordination centers developed by the Institute of Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) at Syracuse University. The Walmart Foundation generously funds the network. AACOG was selected in April 2017 as the 10th Coordination Center, and the first for Texas. TxServes – San Antonio officially launched on June 27, 2017.

TxServes – San Antonio specifically serves our military, veterans, and dependents. The program can be described as a collective impact group that serves the military-connected community.

TxServes is a web-based platform that connects all service providers [both locally and nationally] in the network. It covers 15 service categories, including transportation, employment, food and housing. Individuals seeking assistance through TxServes can access us three ways: 1) TxServes.org; 2) telephone 1-888-SA-4-VETS; or 3) walk-in directly to AACOG and request assistance.

Veteran-Directed Home and Community Based Services (VDHCBS) is a

program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for self-directed care.

VDHCBS empowers Veterans to choose and manage services and supports in their own homes as an alternative to living in a long-term care facility. The Veteran or the Veteran Representative (Employer) hires, supervises, evaluates and pays the employee to provide specific services and supports that the Veteran needs to live in his or her own home. VDHCBS serves Veterans within 100 miles of San Antonio. To date, VDHCBS has served 41 Veterans in the region.



TxServes Providers Training



TxServes - San Antonio Launch at Texas A&M San Antonio Patriots' Casa

IDD Services

Intellectual & Developmental Disability Services (IDD)

Since 2006, AACOG has served as the single point of access and "front door" to publically-funded services and supports for persons with IDD in Bexar County. AACOG is responsible for planning, policy and resource development, and oversight of IDD services, whether the program is provided by a public or private entity.

Our Service Coordinators/Case Managers help people access medical, social, educational, and other appropriate services and supports. These services help them achieve an acceptable quality of life and community participation. Our Service Coordinators/Case Managers are actively involved in the lives of more than 5,000 community members and their families.

Service Coordination is provided to individuals enrolling in, participating in, or transitioning from:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Nursing Facilities (NF); | Home and Community-based Services (HCS); |
| Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF/IID); | Texas Home Living (TxHmL); |
| State Supported Living Centers (SSLC); | General Revenue (GR); and, |
| | Community First Choice (CFC). |

Safety Net Services provided to individuals with IDD in 2017:



As AACOG embarks on a new era, so too does our local services for individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and related conditions. One of the most visible signs of our efforts to demystify services available to the community is our name change. Formerly known as the Alamo Local Authority for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, this name was frequently shortened to Alamo Local Authority, or simply ALA, leaving a sense of confusion for many of the most vulnerable citizens in the community with little understanding of the actual services and resources available. To further increase transparency and efficiency, the Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Services department has eliminated separate branding and adopted the AACOG logo.



IDD Services

In addition to rebranding, we have engaged the community through more than 25 community education & outreach events with more than 20 agencies; given our brochures and publications a refreshed look with simplified language; and forged new partnerships with community agencies and Independent School Districts.

Finally, in a show of intra-agency coordination and the removal of internal silos, IDD Services and the Regional Law Enforcement Academy partnered to create and produce a first-of-its-kind training for the Alamo region and State of Texas. The *Recognition & Response to the IDD Community* is a two-way street training model for law enforcement and first responders. This is an innovative, inclusive training of relevant content; includes the most recent recommendations from the Department of Justice; provides a replicable, sustainable, hands-on interactive model; and, provides trained officers the opportunity to meet and mentor community members with IDD. The goal of this training model is to inspire a shift in thinking, feeling, and action; and to teach officers how to better interact with the IDD community. This training is part of the effort to change misperceptions about persons with disabilities and to provide law enforcement experiences that will help them see people with disabilities as people first.



Jose Robledo, Academy Instructor, with other law enforcement officers from George West Police Department, Kendall County Sheriff's Office, and Comal County District Attorney's Office, and IDD community members, interacting as part of the *Recognition and Response to the IDD Community* course.

Preadmission Screening and Resident Review

Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) is a federal requirement to help ensure that individuals are not inappropriately placed in nursing homes for long term care. PASRR requires that 1) all applicants to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility be evaluated for serious mental illness (SMI) and/or intellectual disability (ID); 2) be offered the most appropriate setting for their needs (in the community, a nursing facility, or acute care settings); and 3) receive the services they need in those settings. PASRR protects the rights of individuals with disabilities to receive care in community-based settings. PASRR also reinforces person-centered planning by ensuring that an individual's psychological, psychiatric, and functional needs are considered along with personal goals and preferences in planning long term care. In 2017 more than 250 individuals admitted to nursing facilities were evaluated for specialized services as a result of an intellectual or developmental disability.

IDD Services

IDD Crisis Services

One of the greatest obstacles individuals with IDD and their supportive family members face is access to adequate behavioral crisis respite support services and training opportunities. In a continued effort to address the significant need for behavioral crisis resolution services, we continue to enhance our IDD crisis respite program which provides therapeutic respite in-home (72 hours) or out-of-home (up to 14 calendar days) to stabilize the situation. Therapeutic respite is a flexible array of services. It includes behavioral support provided to individuals with IDD, who require varying therapeutic and habilitative levels of intervention to holistically address the stressors that result in challenging behaviors. In 2017 more than 327 individuals were served through our IDD Crisis Intervention and Crisis Respite services.



IDD staff participate in Day of Service working at various non-profits in the San Antonio area

IDD staff participate in Day of Service working at various non-profits in the San Antonio area

SPIRIT Project

IDD Services and the Regional Law Enforcement Academy were recently awarded a grant from the Texas Workforce Commission for a targeted job readiness and skills training program at Morgan's Wonderland. The grant will help strengthen the regional workforce by forging stronger linkages between families and individuals with IDD, employers, and educators, to meet workforce needs in the San Antonio area. This pilot project, titled Skills Pipeline – Investment in Regional Innovation & Training (SPIRIT) Project – Job Readiness for Individuals with IDD, develops employment opportunities for individuals with IDD who may have previously been excluded from the workforce, and provides them with the assistance and training necessary to access and retain these opportunities.

Academy Training at Morgan's Wonderland

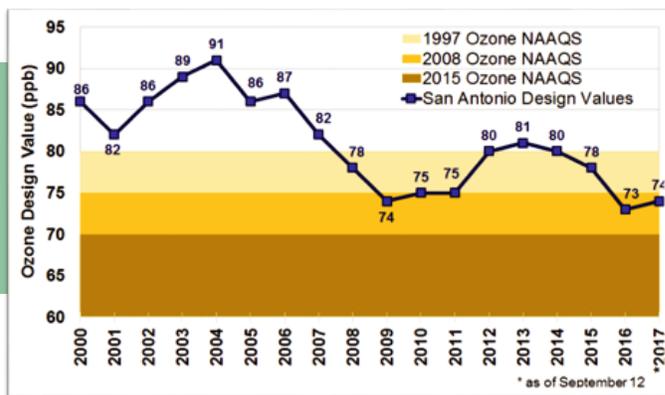


Natural Resources

Air Quality Overview

AACOG's Natural Resources department focuses on data and strategies to improve air quality in the region by reducing ground-level ozone pollution. The Air Quality program encompasses projects that help us better understand the complex makeup of our air, and what may be most effectively done to improve it.

In 2015, to make its ozone standard more protective of human health and the environment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lowered the acceptable concentration for ground-level ozone to 70 parts per billion (ppb). The new ozone standard poses a particular challenge to the area due to our rapidly growing population. The Alamo region is anticipating an air quality nonattainment designation by the EPA; which could have far reaching impacts on transportation projects, economic development, and the local cost of living. AACOG is working with local government and business leaders to meet this challenge by adopting strategies that will help lower air pollution in the Alamo Region.



A primary goal of the air quality program is to determine how ozone in the lower atmosphere responds to influencing factors, such as meteorological conditions.

Key Regional Events

Cost of Nonattainment Study

At the direction of the AIR Executive Committee, AACOG contracted for a study of the potential economic impact of nonattainment to the region. The report summarized the potential costs to the metropolitan economy that could be anticipated under a marginal or moderate nonattainment determination. It concluded that the metropolitan economy could experience losses of up to \$1 billion per year upon official designation by the EPA. As mentioned in the report, much of the impact would be attributed to economic opportunity costs as businesses choose to expand or relocate to regions deemed as being in attainment. However, the losses would also result from a variety of costs, including:

- Cost of Additional Permitting
- Cost of Project Delays
- Costs of Mandated Program Operations
- GRP Losses Due to Additional Inspection Fees
- GRP Losses Due to Road Construction Delays
- Costs to Reduce Point Source NOx Emissions

Natural Resources

Air Quality Overview

Rider 7 Termination and AACOG Program Transition

In an unanticipated action at the end of the 85th Texas Legislative session, Governor Greg Abbott vetoed 2018-19 biennial funding from what has been known as the Rider 7 Air Quality Planning Program. This long-standing program originated in 1995 for the specific purpose of assisting near nonattainment areas across the state with air quality planning, including the Alamo Region. The resulting loss of \$1.4 million over the 2018-19 biennium for air quality programming in the AACOG region represents an estimated reduction of 70 percent of AACOG’s Natural Resources Department funding.

In response to this action, AACOG staff developed a revised work plan which focused on preserving sufficient funding to continue essential activities through June 2018. Activities that AACOG prioritized and recommended for continuation with remaining TCEQ funding include: Development of the Conceptual Model; Eagle Ford Shale, Commercial, Residential Emissions Inventories; Photochemical Modeling; Data Inputs; and Local Control Strategies. These recommendations were approved by the TCEQ in November 2017.

Stakeholder Support

Once the impacts of reduced funding to the region were assessed, the AIR Executive Committee and the AACOG Board of Directors supported efforts to work with community air quality stakeholders to identify additional funding opportunities. As a result of these efforts, a significant portion of funding and in-kind services have been identified to extend technical activities which were originally slated for discontinuation.

AACOG's sincere appreciation is offered to the following entities for their contributions and commitment toward air quality planning activities:

Stakeholder Contributions

Entity	Activity	Commitment
CPS Energy	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	Continue management of six AACOG-owned air quality monitors to continue the collection of air quality data for the foreseeable future as well as the addition of a new monitor at Government Canyon Natural Area
City of San Antonio (COSA)	Photochemical modeling, emissions inventory, local control strategy	\$125,000 to continue technical air quality planning activities through 2018
Bexar County	Photochemical modeling, emissions inventory, local control strategy	\$125,000 to continue technical air quality planning activities through 2018
South Texas Energy and Economic Roundtable (STEER); Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association (TACA); Capitol Aggregates; Martin Marietta; Cemex; and Alamo Cement	Emissions inventories	\$57,500 to continue air quality planning activities through 2018

Natural Resources

Air Quality Overview

Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition

The Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition (AACCC) supports local actions to reduce petroleum use in transportation by providing technical assistance to fleets, seeking grant and funding opportunities, and hosting educational events, as well as other services that expand the use of alternative and renewable fuels, idle-reduction measures, fuel economy improvements, and emerging transportation technologies.



In 2017, the AACCC focused on consultations with fleet managers and public outreach events. In June, the AACCC hosted a workshop providing information on Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust funding. These funds result from an emissions-related lawsuit settlement through which it is anticipated that the AACOG region may receive access to an estimated \$23 million for repowering or replacing outdated vehicles. Representatives from over thirty area public fleets attended this workshop.

In September, the AACCC hosted Drive Electric Day – San Antonio at the Pearl Brewery’s Farmers Market. With more than a dozen electric vehicles (EV) on display and available for test drives, the event drew more than 500 attendees. Chris Langston, who attended the event and rode in a Tesla Model S and BMW i3 Rex commented, “The best part of the event was being able to interact with local EV owners. Being able to talk, question, and ride along with an EV owner far exceeds anything you can get from talking with a car salesman. You know you are getting straightforward answers and not a sales pitch.”



*Drive Electric Day – San Antonio
at the Pearl Brewery’s Farmers Market*



Natural Resources

Air Quality Overview

Commute Solutions Program

Commute Solutions strives to help reduce traffic congestion, and thus ozone emissions, through transportation alternatives. It promotes and facilitates carpooling, mass transit, biking, walking, compressed workweeks and telecommuting; and it features a carpool matching and emergency ride home service. The program highlights include meeting with businesses and school administrators to help establish employer-based, commuter-friendly programs. Among Commute Solutions' highest achievements for 2017 was reaching business leaders through presentations at meetings of the Northside, South San Antonio, Seguin, New Braunfels, and Bulverde-Spring Branch Chambers of Commerce; as well as the San Antonio Manufacturers Association Environmental Affairs Committee, San Antonio Traffic Coalition, Greater Bexar County Council of Cities, and the San Antonio Mobility Coalition.

The Commute Solutions program hosted its annual commuter challenge in May, in which a record breaking 20 area employers competed against each other to see which had the highest percentage of employers using transportation alternatives. The 2017 winning organizations were: Southwest Research Institute, the City of Leon Valley, and Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson. The 2,726 participating individuals recorded an estimated 103,000 trips taken by alternative means that month, and reduced vehicle miles traveled by 1.84 million. Teresa Maillard, a UTSA employee who participated in the challenge by logging her bus commutes during May, commented "I

know I am doing a small portion to save our quality of air, but I am also saving on gas expenses. I am not crowding the freeways, I am meeting new friends, I am reading again, and I am supporting the sustainable San Antonio VIA transportation."

In addition to working with employers and schools, program outreach includes social media, news media, and public events. For example, staff made a special effort during 2017 to meet with and encourage television meteorologists to post regular ozone updates and help the public to understand the nature and causes of ground-level ozone, and what individuals may do to help prevent ozone pollution through transportation choices. One of the results of this interaction was a special segment on air quality by KSAT during July.



Lisa Martin (left), representing the City of Leon Valley, with Lily Lowder, Natural Resources Outreach Specialist, at 2017 Walk & Roll Challenge Award Ceremony.

Public Safety

ALAMO AREA REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

For over forty-five years, the Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy has trained future Texas Peace Officers, Correction Officers, and Emergency Telecommunications personnel. This year, three cadet classes graduated a total of 85 cadets. In addition, the Academy provides dozens of specialized in-service (continuing education) courses for law enforcement personnel. In total, the Academy provided 162,575 hours of training to 8,698 law enforcement personnel from 154 counties throughout Texas this year.



Participants in the Mexico Police Professionalization Exchange Program discuss strategies and challenges with Academy staff and instructors.

In 2017, the Academy continued its innovative police use-of-force training for in-service peace officers. The course incorporated real-world scenarios in both its upgraded video simulator and role player exercises. The Academy also provided two different use-of-force presentations to civilian policy makers working with law enforcement agencies so participants could better comprehend such practices and experience life-like use-of-force scenarios.

Funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of State, for a US and Mexico Police Professionalization Exchange Program,

the Academy partnered with a local non-profit to host three week-long trainings for police administrators from Mexico and teach courses on *US/Texas Police Structure*, *Use of Force Law*, *Incorporation of Reality Based Training Scenarios*, and *Basic Crime Scene Investigation Techniques*.

Other notable accomplishments and activities for the Academy in 2017 include:

- Received authorization and approval from the Texas Department of Public Safety to become one of six schools in the State to offer a Breath Test Operator School for peace officer training.
- Established a unique partnership with Joint Base San Antonio and Air Force Security Forces to provide specialized training such as New Supervisor, Firearms Instructor, and Basic Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) courses.
- Designated as part of the Career Skills Program through JBSA, allowing military veterans to join the Academy Basic Peace Officer Course as part of their transition out of the military.
- Provided Active Shooter Response Training to Valero Corporation security officers, and Executive Protection and Patrol Rifle Courses to the Federal Reserve Bank.

Public Safety

Below are comments from students of the Academy's various in-service classes:

"I thoroughly enjoyed this class and I feel I learned quite a bit more than I thought I would."

– In-service student from Intermediate Spanish Class #2109.

Great Class. Very energetic presentation. Highly informative and very motivating for the students.

– In-service student from Police Use of Force Training.

"What a terrific class! Thank you."

– In-service student from Recognition & Response to the IDD Community.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING

This program conducts grant workshops, provides information regarding funding opportunities, and offers technical assistance in the grant process, including performing technical reviews for law enforcement and non-profit agencies seeking funding from the Office of the Governor – Criminal Justice Division. In 2017, the program completed over 2,000 hours of technical assistance and provided grant management assistance to more than 85 funded projects. The projects included: victim assistance, violence prevention, juvenile delinquency prevention, law enforcement equipment, and other programs that meet a need in the community.

To close out 2017, the program will sponsor a grant management workshop through Grant Writing USA®, and potentially train up to 70 individuals throughout the AACOG Region that were awarded grants in 2017.

HOMELAND SECURITY

This program supports the region's first responders, local jurisdictions, and local agencies through coordination efforts, and by ensuring regional cooperation, to maximize preparedness initiatives regarding terrorism related activities. This program aids in the incorporation of these aspects into regional planning initiatives by identifying threats and security weaknesses to ensure they are included in the annual multipurpose planning documents prepared for the region. Some of the regional planning documents include the *Regional Homeland Security Strategic Plan*, the *Alamo Area Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Plan*, the *Alamo Area Implementation Plan*, the *Regional Interoperable Communications Plan*, and *Regional Mutual Aid Agreements*.

Public Safety

In addition to these efforts, the program works towards increasing efficiencies by assisting jurisdictions in administering federal and state homeland security grant programs that benefit from regional cooperation and to eliminate duplication of services. In 2017, the Homeland Security Program worked with regional partners to better prepare the Alamo Area Region in responding to Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks (CCTA). This initiative is not just regional, but nationwide, based upon the types of terror attacks that have occurred in recent history. To date there have been three tabletop exercises, including the initial CCTA Tabletop, a Senior Leadership CCTA Tabletop, and a Public Information Officer CCTA Tabletop exercise.



Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack Tabletop Exercise

REGIONAL 911

This program works on a number of projects and issues. Its primary activity is maintaining and monitoring essential dispatch equipment and software at seven of the rural county 9-1-1 emergency call centers. These counties include Atascosa, Bandera, Frio, Gillespie, Karnes, Kendall, and Wilson Counties. In 2017, the call center system served 74,746 landlines and represents 210,187 residents. Funding for the program is provided through the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) and is used for the purchase of equipment and supplies for the seven county public safety answering points (PSAPs). This ensures rural communities have a robust and sustainable system to handle 9-1-1 calls and provide quick response services to each community. Coupled with this activity is the program's effort to provide improvements to the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) throughout the region.

As part of the program's efforts, the team is actively working towards implementing a "Next Generation 9-1-1" system. The emergency system will use the latest technology and information to better serve our communities. Enhanced capacity will include text to 9-1-1; short message service (SMS); photos; and video streaming. The new system is expected to be fully implemented in the region and public education materials will be rolled out in 2018.

Regional Services

As the designated Economic Development District (EDD) for the region, AACOG coordinates economic development activities in response to the specific challenges faced by our local economies. In partnership with counties and municipalities, Regional Services program staff works to address issues related to economic and community development, workforce development, business recruitment and retention, entrepreneurship, small business support and strategic planning. The program also offers grant information, resource development and technical assistance.

Annually, Regional Services hosts a series of workshops that includes grant writing, training for Elected Officials, and Planning & Zoning. A new initiative with the Economic Development Administration was the Federal & State Resources workshop. Federal and state partners discussed funding opportunities with regional partners and provided one-on-one technical assistance. AACOG also hosted the US Census Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) workshop to assist counties and cities with the decennial count of regional

residents. In 2017, AACOG made available, at no cost to its members, licensed access to a grants resource database in order to assist local communities apply for much needed funding.

Every year, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development provides federal Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) funds directly to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). AACOG, in partnership with TDA, provides administrative and technical support to entities in the region. From 2012 to 2017, TDA has

provided \$17.6 million in TxCDBG funds to more than 60 entities in the AACOG region. In 2017, 22 entities in the AACOG region applied for more than \$6 million for a variety of water and sewer projects.

Of significant economic impact to the region is military influence. Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) has a substantial impact on the local economy in San Antonio and in Texas. In 2016, JBSA contributed almost \$49 billion to the Texas economy. In fact, JBSA contributes 65% of Texas' total military Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and generates an annual disposable personal income of approximately \$17 billion. With one in eight people in Bexar County associated with JBSA, the Alamo Region's military employment accounts for 3.4% of the area's total employment and 64% of Texas' total military population.



Diane Rath addresses Federal & State Resources Workshop attendees.

Contributions of Joint Base San Antonio to the Texas Economy, 2016

TYPE	CONTRIBUTION
Total Employment ³	282,995
Output ⁴	\$48,701,573,000
Gross Domestic Product ⁵	\$28,799,441,000
Disposable Personal Income ⁶	\$17,081,991,000

Source: REMI Model for Texas

Regional Services

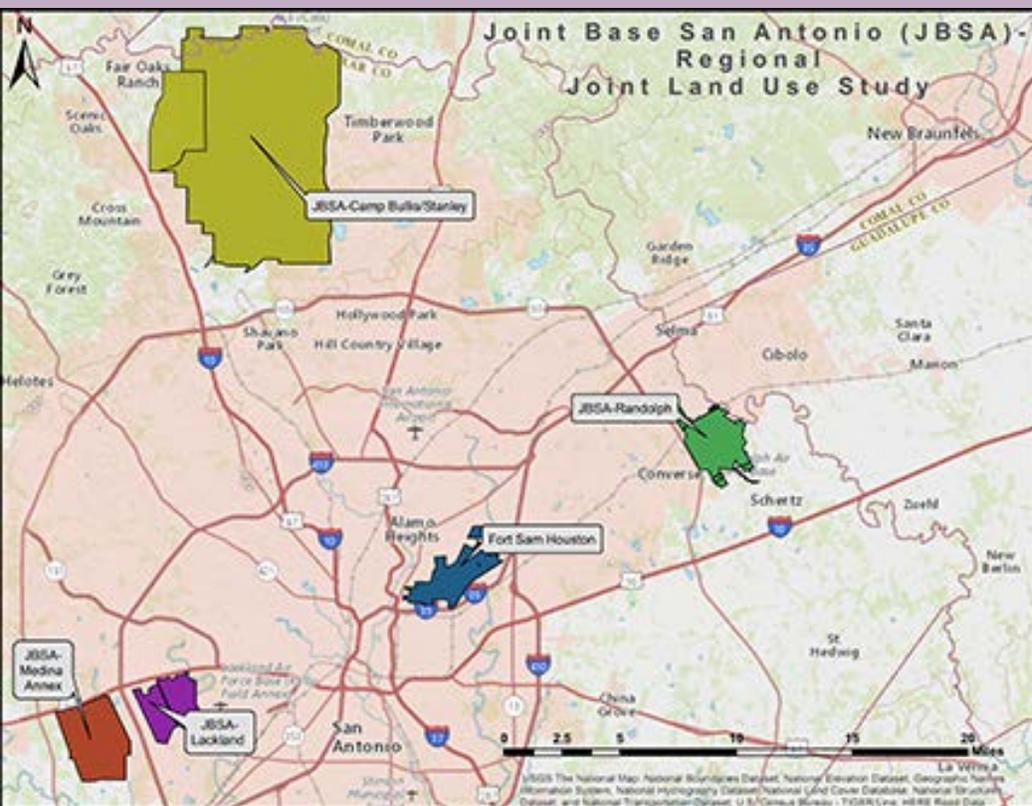
AACOG and the Alamo Region were awarded two national awards in 2017. The first was the region's selection for the 2017 *Air Education and Training Command (AETC) Altus Trophy for Community and Military Partnership Excellence*. Jointly awarded by AETC and the Altus, Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce, the trophy is awarded to a community that embodies the strongest of commitments to the mission of AETC. The second recognition was by the Association of Defense Communities which recognized our region as a *Great American Defense Community*. Similarly, the designation also recognizes the region's commitment and unwavering support for our military and veteran community.



Alamo Area receiving recognition as a Great American Defense Community at the National Defense Summit in Washington DC

AACOG was also the recipient of Department of Defense - Office of Economic Adjustment grant funding. This grant affords AACOG the opportunity to discuss, assess, coordinate and track factors that impact land use planning and encroachment around JBSA. Examples of some factors include: procedural improvements, formalizing interagency agreements that ultimately impact safety, noise, lighting, water, and new incompatible development. AACOG is taking the lead and coordinating with community and regional stakeholders, and

JBSA partners to ensure implementation and action on the twenty regional strategies that were developed after three individual Joint Land Use Studies were completed for JBSA-Camp Bullis, JBSA-Lackland, and JBSA-Randolph; which identified more than 150 recommendations.



The map displays the three installations that are included within the Regional Joint Land Use Study (RJLUS). Each installation had an individual JLUS released at various times (Camp Bullis 2009, Lackland 2011, Randolph 2015).

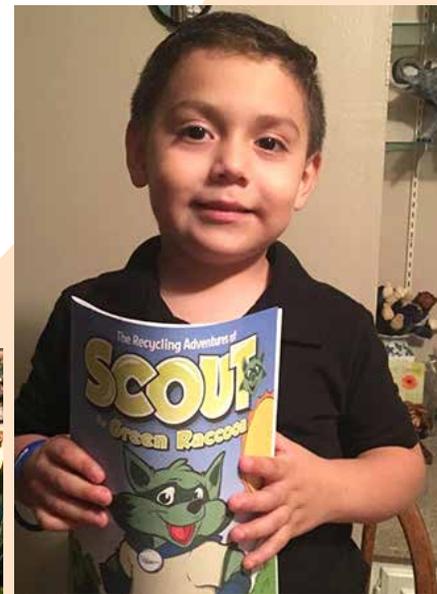
Resource Recovery

AACOG is the State-designated agency for solid waste management issues in the Alamo Region. Over the years, solid waste management has expanded from burial of waste to recovery of resources. The Resource Recovery Program at AACOG embraces both the historical and new practices in the field. The program reviews permits and registrations for landfills and recycling facilities for consistency with the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

Resource Recovery also maintains the Closed Landfill Inventory for the AACOG Region and provides this information to realtors, developers, planners, and communities wanting to check past land uses for parcels. Resource Recovery provides technical assistance on solid waste issues and continuing education opportunities for local governments, solid waste professionals, and the public.

The most challenging and also most rewarding work of the Resource Recovery Program is helping communities to implement projects that protect the environment and rescue resources. In 2017, 16 solid waste projects were completed with Texas Commission Environmental Quality (TCEQ) funds totaling \$320,100. Each project represented local needs. Examples of projects were in the areas of: solid waste management, advanced recycling, removal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) from homes, and material that educated residents on better ways to recycle and properly dispose of special wastes. Each example was part of overall efforts to reduce or eliminate illegal dumping. Bandera County expanded the recycling opportunities for its residents. Medina County initiated a tire and electronics collection program. Kerr County held a one-day Household Hazardous Waste Collection. The Cities of Seguin and Boerne offered Curbside Household Hazardous Waste Pickup programs for their residents. The Cities of New Braunfels, Kerrville, and San Antonio distributed educational material on proper recycling and avoidance of illegal dumping. New Braunfels produced an activity book specific to the City's Solid Waste Management program for children. Kerrville developed a guidebook for residents on their City's changed recycling program. San Antonio placed billboards throughout the City at

locations with illegal dumping problems and distributed to all its households a "Don't Get Caught Dumping on a Vacant Lot" refrigerator magnet with a map of the City's four Collection Centers for hard to dispose of and/or recyclable materials.



Activity book used to teach children about recycling in New Braunfels

Collector from "At Your Door" on a pre-scheduled residential Household Hazardous Waste pick-up

Resource Recovery

Evidence shows the Region, aided by grants and combined with local efforts, is achieving results in waste reduction and illegal dumping. The San Antonio River Authority reports diminished illegal dumping at a previous site now equipped with a grant-funded camera and sign. Normal expectations with population growth predict more tonnage going to landfills. Complete data on recycling tonnages is difficult to obtain due to the various ways materials can be reused, repurposed, and recycled. The State of Texas does collect yearly data from all permitted landfills in the State and publishes this information in its annual *Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review*. Examination of the data for 2014, 2015, and 2016 shows the AACOG Region, which experienced great population growth throughout the region in this time period, sent less tonnage to the Region's landfills each year. Translating tonnages to the more comprehensible measure of pounds per capita per day sent to the landfill gives a better picture of the decreasing amounts buried. In 2014, each person in the AACOG region sent the equivalent of 6.58 lbs. of waste per day to the landfill; in 2015, that amount dropped to 6.49 lbs. per person per day, and in 2016 the amount dropped to 6.23 lbs. per person per day. While there is room for additional improvement, the efforts made by all our local governments in promoting better management of our environment and resources should be recognized. Let's all strive to do even better next year.



City of San Antonio billboards remind passing drivers not to illegally dump waste on vacant lots.

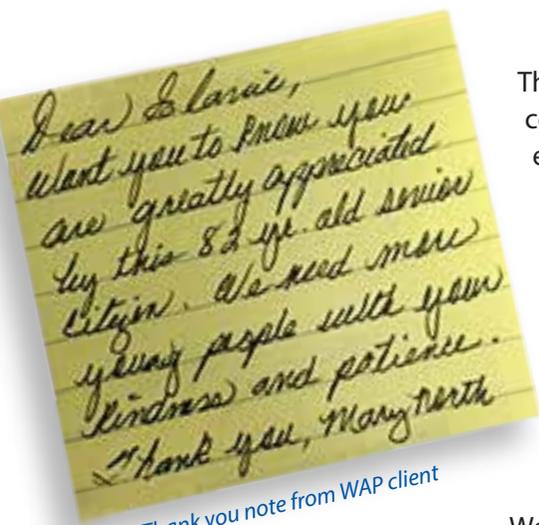
2017 Annual Collection Events for Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics, and Tires



- 627 Vehicles
- 21 Tons of HHW
- 47 Pallets of E-Waste
- 700 Tires



Weatherization Assistance Program



Thank you note from WAP client

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. Through Weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year, according to a National Evaluation by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Professionally trained weatherization crews use computerized energy assessments and advanced diagnostic equipment, such as blower doors, manometers, and infrared cameras, to create a comprehensive analysis of the home to determine the most cost-effective measures appropriate and to identify any health and safety concerns.

Weatherization providers also check indoor air quality, combustion safety, and carbon monoxide, and identify mold infestations. The Weatherization staff then creates a customized work order, and trained crews install the identified energy efficient and health and safety measures. Finally, a certified Quality Control Inspector ensures all work is completed correctly and that the home is safe for the occupants.

Low-income households carry a larger burden for energy costs, typically spending 16.3% of their total annual income versus 3.5% for other households, according to a 2014 Oak Ridge National Laboratory study. Often, they must cut back on healthcare, medicine, groceries, and childcare to pay their energy bills.

Weatherization helps alleviate this heavy energy burden through cost-effective building shell improvements such as insulation and air sealing, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems, lighting, and appliances. The program improves health and safety by eliminating any energy-related hazards. Once installed, energy-efficient Weatherization measures continue to save money and energy year after year and increase household incomes so funds can go towards key living expenses

In 2017 the AACOG Weatherization Department invested \$803,116.94 in the region by assisting 184 program participants. One of the participants was Irma Barron. She was very appreciative of the work done to her home and has become an ambassador for the program. She has been featured on Univision San Antonio, Spectrum News and KSAT 12 along with Weatherization Staff in an effort to promote the program. Making the difference in our client's lives is the reason that the AACOG Weatherization Staff strives each day to do their best.



Mayra Rivero, WAP manager, Irma Barron, Client Participant, and Univision San Antonio Reporter Anuar Revuetta

AACOG

Membership & Strategic Partnerships

COUNTIES

- Atascosa County
- Bandera County
- Bexar County
- Comal County
- Frio County
- Gillespie County
- Guadalupe County
- Karnes County
- Kendall County
- Kerr County
- McMullen County
- Medina County
- Wilson County

CITIES

- Alamo Heights
- Balcones Heights
- Bandera
- Boerne
- Bulverde
- Castle Hills
- Castroville
- Charlotte
- China Grove
- Christine
- Cibolo
- Converse
- Devine
- Dilley
- Elmendorf
- Fair Oaks Ranch
- Falls City
- Floresville
- Fredericksburg
- Grey Forest
- Helotes
- Hill Country Village
- Hollywood Park
- Hondo
- Ingram
- Jourdanton

- Karnes City
- Kenedy
- Kerrville
- Kirby
- La Coste
- La Vernia
- Leon Valley
- Live Oak
- Lytle
- Marion
- Natalia
- New Berlin
- New Braunfels
- Olmos Park
- Pearsall
- Pleasanton
- Poteet
- Poth
- Runge
- San Antonio
- Schertz
- Seguin
- Selma
- Shavano Park
- Somerset
- Stockdale
- Terrell Hills
- Universal City
- Von Ormy
- Windcrest

PUBLIC UTILITIES

- CPS Energy
- San Antonio Water System

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Boerne ISD
- Fort Sam Houston ISD
- North East ISD
- Northside ISD
- Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD
- Southwest ISD

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- AEM-USA
- Alamo Resource Conservation & Development Area Inc.
- Brooks
- Build San Antonio Green
- CRIT-USA
- Free Trade Alliance
- Goodwill Industries
- Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
- LeFleur Transportation
- McKamie Krueger LLP
- Mission Verde Alliance
- San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Mobility Coalition
- Solar San Antonio
- University Health System

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

- Alamo Colleges
- Bexar County ESD #5
- Bexar County ESD #6
- Edwards Aquifer Authority
- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
- Kerrville Economic Development Corporation
- San Antonio River Authority
- VIA Metropolitan Transit

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council
- CI: Now
- Eagle Ford Consortium
- Joint Base San Antonio
- Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University
- International City/County Management Association
- Military and Veteran Community Collaborative
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- National Association of Regional Councils
- National Association of Development Organizations
- San Antonio Coalition for Veterans and Families
- San Antonio Food Bank
- South Texas Energy & Economic Roundtable
- Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association
- Texas Association of Regional Councils
- Texas Council of Community Centers
- Texas Municipal League
- University of Texas San Antonio
- Workforce Solutions Alamo

Alamo Area Council of Governments 2017-2018 Annual Budget

Revenues	Program	Administrative Indirect	Local	2018 Budget*	2017 Budget**
Federal	\$15,499,850	-	-	15,499,850	\$17,476,745
State	10,314,015	-	-	10,314,015	15,089,834
Local	1,455,334	-	50,000	1,504,834	898,533
Medicaid MR	6,534,499	-	-	6,534,499	6,197,833
Membership Dues	-	-	335,000	335,000	335,000
Delegate Agency Match	7,316,838	-	-	7,316,838	6,028,049
Program Income / Interest	502,900	-	17,209	520,109	1,490,843
Total Revenues	41,623,436	-	402,209	42,025,145	47,516,837
Expenditures					
Alamo Area Agency on Aging	4,342,100	-	-	4,342,100	4,092,204
Alamo Regional Transit	4,270,715	-	-	4,270,715	5,920,304
Bexar Area Agency on Aging	12,332,193	-	-	12,332,193	11,893,208
IDD Services	10,944,416	-	-	10,944,416	11,137,894
Weatherization	1,858,317	-	-	1,858,317	2,295,042
Public Safety	2,734,908	-	-	2,734,908	3,245,029
Natural Resources	714,864	-	-	714,864	821,141
Regional Services	458,146	-	-	458,146	4,435,970
Resource Recovery	354,206	-	-	354,206	477,902
Local & Match	-	-	340,393	340,393	253,954
Admin Budgets	-	3,663,801	-	3,663,801	3,442,061
Indirect & Comm	3,604,251	-	-	3,604,251	2,593,139
Total Expenditures & Indirect	\$41,614,116	3,663,801	340,393	45,618,310	\$50,607,848

* 2018 Budget as presented during the October 2017 BOD meeting.

** This represents the 2017 Modified Budget.

The Administrative budget excludes program cost recoveries.



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