

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF VON ORMY

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Press Release

April 27, 2009

RE: Von Ormy delegation visits Washington, DC to advocate for Sewer, Master Plan and Fire Station Projects

Event. Von Ormy, the newest city in Bexar County, visited Washington DC last week seeking support for its first three infrastructure projects - sewer, master planning and new fire station.

Von Ormy received strong support for its \$1.9 million sewer appropriation request from Congressman Ciro Rodriguez. City representatives also met with Congressmen Smith, Cuellar and Gonzalez, as well as, Senators Hutchison and Cornyn.

SEWER:

The Von Ormy sewer project is an extension of SAWS' Medina River Outfall Project. The project will build a collection system in the 1.88 square mile city. Effluent will be transported to SAWS' Dos Rios treatment facility via a new pipeline down the Medina River that SAWS is constructing through Von Ormy to connect its Dos Rios facility with West Bexar County.

Von Ormy lies directly on top of the Medina River watershed. Current septic systems drain grey water into the watershed which is the source for many wells and river water. The sewer project will greatly improve public health and economic development along the I-35 corridor in Southwest Bexar County.

MASTER PLANNING:

Only five months old, the city of Von Ormy, is undertaking the task of developing a Master Plan for southwest Bexar County. Including the Von Ormy - Somerset Business Corridor, which connects the new Union Pacific intermodal terminal and Toyota and will serve as a major transportation bypass of San Antonio.

Von Ormy has a unique geographical location being at the intersection of I-35 and Loop 1604 and at the intersection of two major rail lines, with access to the Laredo – Chicago line, and the Houston – Los Angeles line. Union Pacific's newly opened intermodal terminal will act as south central Texas' largest point for cross rail - truck traffic and will redirect an estimated 8 billion dollars of economic activity into Von Ormy over the next ten years. An additional 500,000 truck trips will be re-routed from San Antonio into Von Ormy this year alone.

The biggest hurdle to realizing the economic potential of Von Ormy is lack of infrastructure. Master Planning will directly study which infrastructure projects the city needs to pursue and will identify sources of funding.

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES STATION

The City of Von Ormy is working with local emergency service providers to construct a new Fire/EMS Station at the intersection of I-35 and Loop 1604. Relocating to the new location will reduce response times by 5 minutes to over 50% of calls in the area. The new facility will also be able to house modern fire apparatus and provide service to the I-35 corridor.

The trip was a great success; Von Ormy received a commitment from Congressman Ciro Rodriguez to get funding for the Von Ormy sewer project.

A second trip to Washington DC is being planned to follow up with the Representatives and Senators.