



Memorandum

TO: Councilmember Frank Fiscalini,
Chair, Guadalupe River Park & Gardens
Task Force

FROM: Cindy Chavez,
Councilmember

SUBJECT: Box Culvert

DATE: August 9, 2000

Approved

Date

I would like to express my concerns and submit my comments regarding the proposed design of the inlet structure for the proposed box culvert downstream of Santa Clara Street and Saint John Street. The current design calls for a structure approximately 250 feet in length, the equivalent of a 10-story building laid on its side along the Guadalupe River. My concerns about this design revolve around safety issues and its aesthetic appearance.

CSJ-1

The design does not incorporate some type of security gates or bars into the box culvert. This is a concern because the lack of security gates or bars will encourage trespassing by the homeless, those seeking a place to commit illegal activities or curious minded children. For safety reasons I would like the Army Corps of Engineers to consider some version of security gates or bars that will discourage trespassing.

CSJ-2

The second concern I have is on the appearance of the culvert. The current design does integrate the structure into the surrounding landscape. The sight to visitors to the River Park will be that of a monolithic, concrete structure with no aesthetic appeal whatsoever. I would like the Corps to consider how incorporating a design that compliments the natural beauty of the river and vegetation can minimize the visual impact of this culvert.

CSJ-3