

TRAILS ADVOCACY REALLY WORKS

South Texas Off Road Mountain-Bikers (STORM) Makes A Big Difference

On January 12, 2005 a Public Meeting Was held to discuss the San Antonio Parks and Recreation 2003 Bond Issue involving McAllister Park Capital Improvements and Youth Sports practice facilities. Many different local community groups attended that represented different park uses and were anxious to hear about long awaited park improvements.

Unfortunately one of the improvements involved construction of new soccer and baseball practice fields which were tentatively planned on a heavily wooded site that had over 2 miles of existing single track trail for runners, walkers, and mountain bikers.

Several hours of detailed discussions were held with many differences of opinions by the various groups each vying for their own benefit.

That is when David D. Hunter, President of STORM was given the floor to make a presentation. He announced that on behalf of his club that the membership fully supported the youth soccer and baseball programs and their newly proposed practice fields. But he added that the fields should not be constructed as presently planned. He instead showed a photo presentation that gave the Parks Department an alternative location that would provide a Win-Win scenario for all. David Hunter received a standing ovation from those in attendance and the parks department agreed to review this newly proposed site.

On February 23, 2005 the parks department gave a presentation to the Friends of McAllister park association and the fields had been moved to the proposed new location saving the destruction of over two miles of trail.

Congratulations STORM, Your Efforts Made A Difference.