



Caption ↓

Bastrop County's flood woes have historical roots

Updated July 12, 2018

By Brandon Mulder, Austin Community Newspapers Staff



Anyone who lives or works along Smithville's most flood-prone blocks knows that it takes just a little heavy rain to fill the street — and sometimes homes and businesses — with a few inches of water. What is less evident is the reason behind these low-lying segments of the city.

The city of Smithville is located on land that was once threaded by the Colorado River, according to studies recently presented to Smithville and Bastrop County officials.

The river's centuries-old path underlies the city's most flood-prone areas: along Martin Luther King Drive and Southeast Second Street, and in the area surrounding Smithville Elementary School.

Centuries ago, before Spanish colonists set foot on the Texas frontier, the Colorado River took a



Copyright © 2018 GateHouse Media, LLC. All rights reserved

[Visitor Agreement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact](#) | [Mobile Apps](#)