



**City Council Questions and Answers for
Thursday, May 15, 2014**

These questions and answers are related to the
Austin City Council meeting that will convene at 10:00 AM on
Thursday, May 15, 2014 at Austin City Hall
301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX



**Mayor Lee Leffingwell
Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole
Council Member Chris Riley, Place 1
Council Member Mike Martinez, Place 2
Council Member Kathie Tovo, Place 3
Council Member Laura Morrison, Place 4
Council Member William Spelman, Place 5**


The City Council Questions and Answers Report was derived from a need to provide City Council Members an opportunity to solicit clarifying information from City Departments as it relates to requests for council action. After a City Council Regular Meeting agenda has been published, Council Members will have the opportunity to ask questions of departments via the City Manager's Agenda Office. This process continues until 5:00 p.m. the Tuesday before the Council meeting. The final report is distributed at noon to City Council the Wednesday before the council meeting.


QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL

1. Agenda Item #8 - Approve an ordinance creating an economic development program for film, television and digital media projects as authorized by Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code.
 - a. QUESTION: 1) Please provide incremental increases in the number of productions that filmed in New Mexico and Louisiana after adoption of incentives programs. (Staff have provided information, for example, that the number of motion picture projects increased from 1 in 2002 to 119 in 2009; please break down those increases year-by-year if that information is available.) 2) The Austin Police Department currently absorbs the costs of providing security for films within its budget. If the number of films is projected to increase after adoption of this incentives program, would staff also be proposing a maximum for the total expenditures for security? 3) In the last three years, please indicate the Austin Police Department's total costs for providing security for films. 4) How much do Louisiana and New Mexico allocate for their film incentives programs? COUNCIL MEMBER TOVO
 - b. ANSWER: See attachment
2. Agenda Item #28: Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to bring forward funding options for a buyout of homes in the 100-year Onion Creek floodplain and the 25-year Williamson Creek floodplain as part of the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget process, conduct stakeholder meetings with impacted homeowners, and provide a report to Council regarding the history of the monthly drainage charge. (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Mike Martinez
CO 1: Council Member Laura Morrison)
 - a. QUESTION: 1) What were the terms under which the City bought out homes in Onion Creek before now? Please provide the dates of those buyouts. For the homes the City already bought, and/or for the homes the City is currently under contract to purchase, please provide an itemized spreadsheet of what costs the \$250k per house covers. 2) What is the likelihood of additional federal funding? 3) How does flood insurance currently work, especially with regard to payouts? Please give information/explanation about how insurance payout amounts are currently handled with regard to buyouts- is the amount deducted from buyout amount? Why or why not? 4) What is the current method for appraising these homes, and what is the formula for buyout amounts? 5) Please provide a map of the onion creek floodplain buyout area. COUNCIL MEMBER SPELMAN

- b. ANSWER: Pending
 - c. QUESTION: 1) Has an audit of flood area buyouts ever been done using past bond funds or other sources to ensure proper compliance with federal rules and that fund disbursement has been properly been managed? When is the last time that the Bond Oversight Committee reviewed the buyout program and did they have any comments or recommendations on its administration? 2) How many of the properties in question are homesteaded? 3) How many of the properties in question had flood insurance? 4) Please provide an update on the status of the buyout partnership agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers MAYOR PRO TEM COLE
 - d. ANSWER: Pending
3. Agenda Item # 59 and #60: 59- Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending sections of City Code Chapters 25-1, 25-2, 25-5, 25-7 and 25-8 relating to Lake Austin (LA) District zoning regulations and general regulations for boat dock and shoreline development. Related to Item #60. 60- Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 25-2 to create a Lake Austin (LA) district zoning overlay extending environmental protections from the LA base zoning district to certain properties within 1,000 feet of Lake Austin. Related to Item #59.
- a. QUESTION: The staff-recommended changes delete the current requirements for OSSF's from the LA zoning district, and instead, reference applicable regulations of Chapter 15-5. This also effects the new LA overlay. These changes seem to weaken the current regulations in some regards, e.g. lifting of prohibitions on certain components on slopes greater than 15%, or setbacks of non-advanced systems moving from 100 feet to 75 feet. Please provide the results of technical analyses which assure that the new OSSF regulations provide equal or greater protection along the shoreline, including considerations of the practicalities that systems can fail and that the tracking of these systems by the city has been inadequate. COUNCIL MEMBER MORRISON
 - b. ANSWER: See attachment
4. Agenda Item # 60: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 25-2 to create a Lake Austin (LA) district zoning overlay extending environmental protections from the LA base zoning district to certain properties within 1,000 feet of Lake Austin. Related to Item #59.
- a. QUESTION: For each of the PUD tracts that overlaps or is located within the boundaries of the proposed district overlay, please provide the date of PUD zoning and zoning prior to PUD designation. COUNCIL MEMBER MORRISON
 - b. ANSWER: See attachment

END OF REPORT - ATTACHMENTS TO FOLLOW

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