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**NEW BUSINESS: CODE AMENDMENT INITIATION REVIEW SHEET**

**Amendment:** Initiate a site-specific amendment to City Code Chapter 25-8, Article 13 (Save Our Springs Initiative) for the Eliza Springs outlet daylighting project located generally within Zilker Park.

**Description:** The Watershed Protection Department is replacing the failing buried outlet pipe from Eliza Spring with a new “daylighted” stream channel. Because there are no variances to SOS, the Watershed Protection Departments needs a site-specific amendment to authorize work within the buffer of a critical environmental feature, work within the critical water quality zone of Barton Creek, and cut more than 4 feet for the project. More information is available here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/eliza-spring-daylighting>

**Proposed Language:**

**Background:** Initiation recommended by Codes and Ordinances Subcommittee on April 21, 2015.

**Staff Recommendation:**

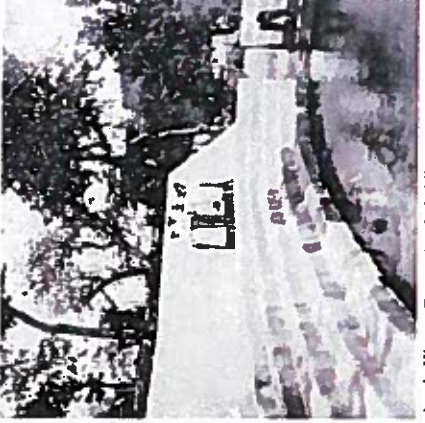
**Board and Commission Actions:**

**Council Action:**

**Ordinance Number:** NA

**City Staff:** Chris Herrington **Phone:** 974-2840 **Email:** [chris.herrington@austintexas.gov](mailto:chris.herrington@austintexas.gov)

# Eliza Spring Amphitheater

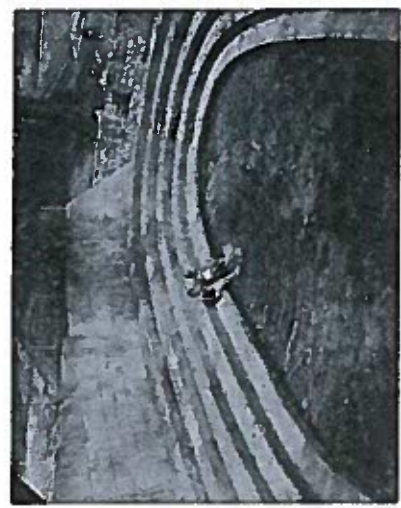


Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

# Eliza Springs SOS Amendment April 21, 2015



# Late 1920s Streamflow Diverted to Buried Pipe



# Stream from Eliza Spring



Barton Springs, circa 1924. Note the water pipe that had to be installed to divert the stream water for drinking.

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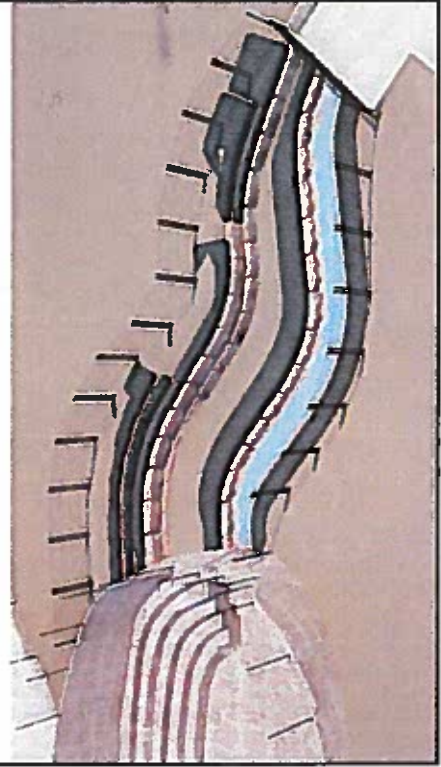
Current View of Eliza Spring from Pool



### Eliza Stream Restoration

- Need:
  - Broken infrastructure: buried pipe will fail
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit to keep Barton Springs Pool open
- Opportunities:
  - Reestablish historical waterway
  - Create endangered species habitat in stream

Proposed Stream



Proposed Stream



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### Need for SOS Amendment

- Construction within the critical water quality zone of Barton Creek
- Construction within the critical environmental feature buffer of Eliza Spring
- Cutting a tract of land exceeding a depth of four feet

### Contact Information

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512-974-1242

Eliza Springs Daylighting Website:  
<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/eliza-spring-daylighting>

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