Item 8b



MEMORANDUM

TO:	Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair and Commissioners
	Environmental Commission

- **FROM:** Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer Watershed Protection Department
- **DATE:** August 14, 2015

SUBJECT: SOS and Other Code Amendments for St. Catherine of Siena Renovation SP-2014-0476C

On the August 19, 2015 Environmental Commission agenda is a proposed amendment to the City's Save Our Springs ordinance. The ordinance is being brought forward in response to a request by the City Council contained in Resolution #20141211-107 which requested the City Manager to work with the applicant bring an ordinance to Council that:

- 1. Allows no increase in the existing impervious cover;
- 2. If feasible, decreases the amount of impervious cover on the site; and
- 3. Provides water quality treatment consistent with Ch. 25-8-26 (*Redevelopment Exception in the Barton Springs Zone*).

Project Description and Background

St Catherine of Siena is situated on 8.73 acres at 4800 Convict Hill Road (Figure 1) within the Recharge Zone of the Edwards Aquifer. The site has an existing impervious cover of 53.7% or 203,336 square feet. The existing Parish Hall was constructed in 1980 and is in need of redevelopment. St Catherine is proposing to demolish the 1 story, 14,724 square foot (building coverage) Parish Hall and replace it in roughly the same footprint with a 2 story, 21,579 square foot Parish Hall and Narthex. The entire redevelopment is proposed over existing impervious cover and no new impervious cover is proposed.

The Barton Springs Zone Redevelopment Exception (BSZRE) Ch. 25-8-26(E)(6) requires that sites with more than 40% net site area impervious cover provide for sedimentation/filtration ponds for the entire site or SOS ponds for a portion of the site with sedimentation/filtration ponds for the remainder. After submittal of a site plan to the City, it was discovered that the 100 year floodplain had increased on the site and staff is requesting additional drainage easements across the site accordingly. Although there are no existing or proposed buildings in the floodplain, there is no site area available outside of the floodplain or Critical Water Quality Zone to provide for additional development on the site or for the required onsite water quality controls noted above (Figures 2 and 3). As there is no partial redevelopment exception or flexibility with this section of the Code, the only option for partial redevelopment of this site is to seek an amendment to Ch. 25-8-514 (Save Our Springs) and a variance to Ch. 25-8-261 (Critical Water Quality Zone Development).

Project Review

Staff from the Watershed Protection and Development Services Departments have been working with the engineer for the applicant to meet the terms of the Council resolution. Since this was a request from Council a recommendation from staff is not necessary, however, staff is able to recommend the proposal because the applicant was able to design their project to be consistent with the 2013 staff proposal for an amendment to the BSZRE. As background, in 2013 as part of the Watershed Protection Ordinance staff recommended amending the BSZRE to, among other changes, only require water quality treatment for the redeveloped portion of the property. Council rejected the staff proposed amendments because they felt it was a late addition to the Watershed Protection Ordinance and additional stakeholder input was desired. Table 1 provides a summary of the 2013 proposed changes to the BSZRE.

Description	Current BSZRE Requirements	Proposed 2013 AmendmentsExtend the use of the exception to all types of existing development except single-family residential and duplex properties.				
Eligible Land Uses	Limits the use of the exception to sites with existing commercial development.					
Partial Site Redevelopment	Requires the redevelopment to provide water quality treatment and off-site land mitigation for the entire site.	Allow the redevelopment exception to be applied to a portion of a site rather than the entire site.				
Multifamily Units & Council Approval	Projects with more than 25 total multifamily units must receive Council approval.	Allow projects to propose 25 additional multifamily units without Council approval (rather than 25 total multifamily units).				
Civic Uses & Council Approval	Projects proposing redevelopment of an existing civic use must receive Council approval.	Allow projects with an existing civic use to be approved without Council approval.				

Table 1 _ Comparison	n of current redevelonm	ent requirements and 2013	nronosed amendments
1 a 0 10 1 - Comparison	i of current reac veloping	chi requirements and 2015	proposed amendments.

Staff still supports the 2013 changes and these are likely to be proposed again in the future. The St. Catherine project will be able to provide pollutant load reduction similar to what would have been required if the amendments had been approved and so this provides a useful benchmark for comparison. The only significant difference is that both current code and the 2013 staff proposal would require paying a mitigation fee to offset the increased impervious cover. These fees are used by the City to purchase land or development rights on the Edwards Aquifer to reduce development on the Aquifer. St. Catherine's is proposing to treat some untreated areas, which somewhat offsets the lack of a mitigation fee. Below is a comparison of the pollutant loadings in three scenarios; current code, 2013 proposed amendments, and the St. Catherine proposal.

	Reduction in Pollutant Load								
Pollutant	Current Code	2013 Staff Proposed Amendment (Incl. Mitigation)*	St. Catherine's Proposal						
COD	-56.26%	-12.97%	-16.35%						
E. coli	-69.66%	-9.45%	-14.03%						
Pb	-47.18%	-18.17%	-20.24%						
TN	-39.65%	-13.13%	-11.07%						
тос	-32.60%	-12.87%	-10.29%						
ТР	-62.30%	-10.48%	-13.39%						
TSS	-79.26%	-6.06%	-15.03%						
Zn	-53.39%	-16.61%	-20.24%						
Mitigation fee	\$361,301 (15 ac.)	\$48,173 (2 ac.)	\$0						

Table 2 – Comparison of pollutant load reduction.

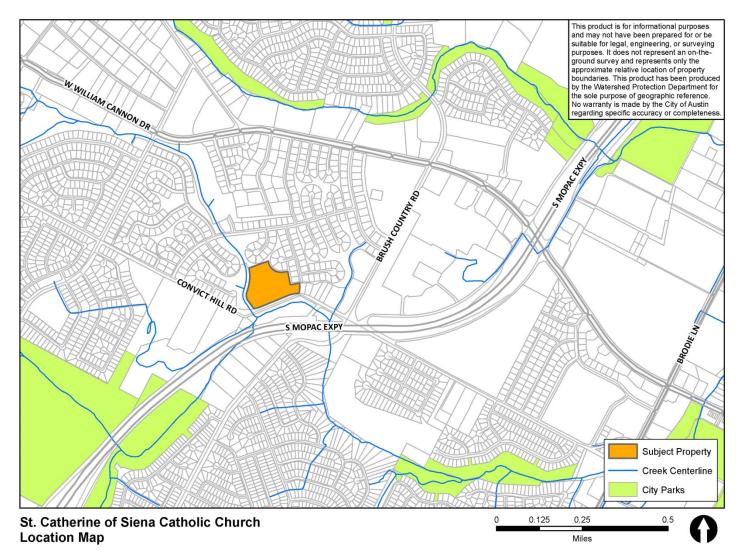
*Includes the calculated pollutant load reduction value of 2 acres of mitigation land.

Recommendation

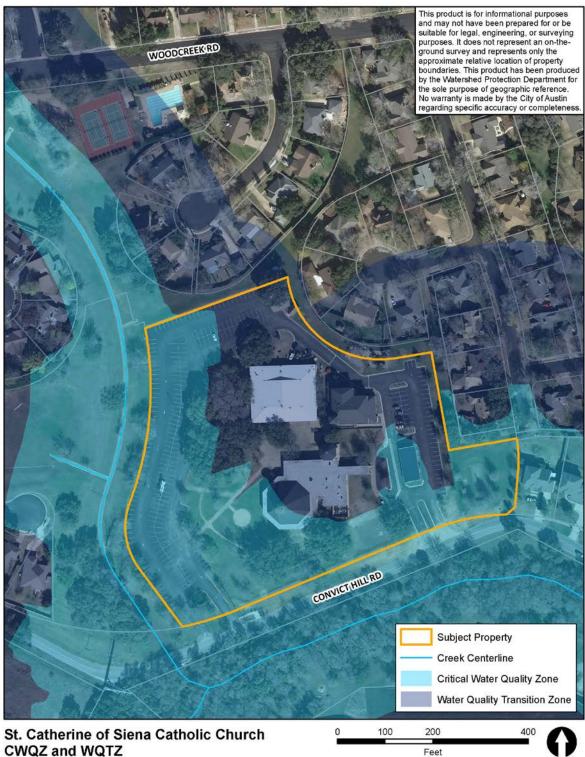
Although there is significantly less water quality benefit to the proposed project than if it were to comply with current code, staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment for the following reasons:

- The project has met the terms of the Council resolution.
- The project complies with the water quality requirements of the 2013 staff supported amendments to the BSZRE.
- Even though the project does not include payment of a fee for purchase of mitigation land, the treatment of areas outside the redevelopment area provides offset for the lack of fee payment.
- The proposed project is a civic use that is used by many in the community which has limited resources and the project is proposing to treat untreated areas to offset the failure to pay the mitigation fee.
- Because of the significant expense for compliance with current code and the church's limited resources, the project is unlikely to go forward without the amendment and so there would be no improvement in water quality for the site.
- The project provides an opportunity for public discussion of a potential future amendment to the BSZRE.



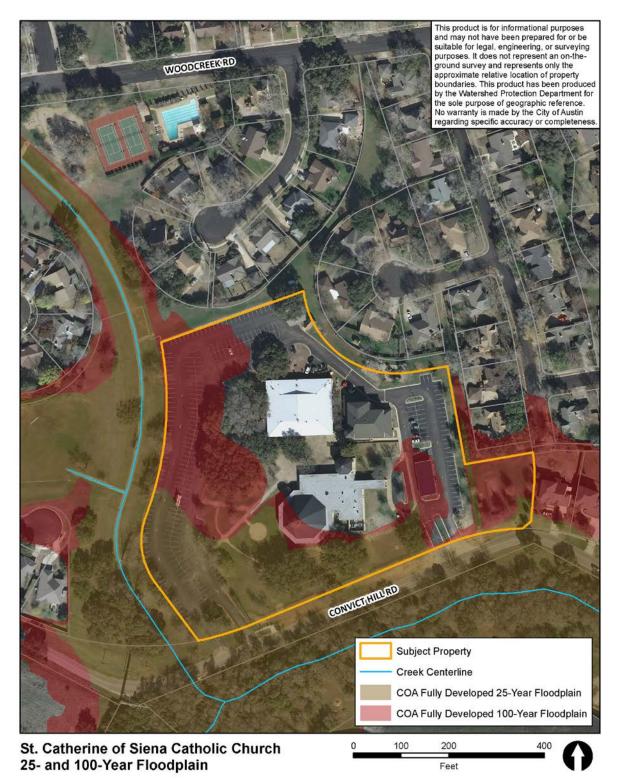






CWQZ and WQTZ





SOS AMENDMENT SUMMARY- ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

St Catherine of Siena is situated on 8.73 acres at 4800 Convict Hill Road within the Recharge Zone of the Edwards Aquifer. The site has an existing impervious cover of 56.58% or 204,302 square feet. The existing Parish Hall was constructed in 1980 and is in need of redevelopment. St Catherine is proposing to demolish the 1 story, 14,724 square foot (building coverage) Parish Hall and replace it in roughly the same footprint with a 2 story, 36,000 square foot Parish Hall and Narthex. The entire redevelopment is proposed over existing impervious cover and no new impervious cover is proposed.

In 2013, City Council passed the Redevelopment Ordinance Exception (Ordinance No. 20131017-046). The Redevelopment Ordinance enacted Section 25-8-26(E)(6) of the City Code, which requires that sites with more than 40% net site area impervious cover provide for sedimentation/filtration ponds for the entire site or SOS ponds for a portion of the site with sedimentation/filtration ponds for the remainder. After submittal of a site plan to the City, it was discovered that the 100 year floodplain had increased on the site and staff is requesting additional drainage easements across the site accordingly. Although there are no existing or proposed buildings in the floodplain, there is no site area available outside of the floodplain/CWQZ to provide for the required onsite water quality controls noted above.

Due to the increased floodplain, safe access must be provided to a dedicated public right-of-way. As Convict Hill is covered in floodplain, a safe access pedestrian path is proposed through existing easements in the adjacent neighborhood. While the safe access path is not considered impervious cover, it is away from the drainage area and proposed water quality treatments, and is therefore unable to be treated for water quality. Thus, the safe access path is also part of the SOS amendment.

During the passage of the Redevelopment Ordinance, staff proposed a partial redevelopment option, which was not approved as a code amendment. Staff continues to work on an option to present to City Council that would better handle partial rather than full redevelopments such as that being proposed with St Catherine of Siena. As there is no partial redevelopment exception or flexibility with this section of the Code today, the only option for partial redevelopment of this site is to seek an amendment to the SOS Ordinance.

The proposal put forth for St Catherine of Siena's partial redevelopment reduces impervious cover, provides for water quality treatment for the redeveloped area and an additional portion of the site that is currently untreated, which lowers overall pollutant loads. Water quality methods employed include raingardens and rainwater collection/re-irrigation. The end result is a decrease of impervious cover to 56.14% or 202,717 square feet. Although unable to meet the current Redevelopment Ordinance Exception, when compared to the staff's 2013 partial redevelopment option, St Catherine of Siena's proposal greatly exceeds the requirements. In doing so, the proposal meets the City Council's intent with the initiation of the SOS amendment (Resolution No. 20141211-107) by allowing no increase in impervious cover and if feasible, decreasing the amount of existing impervious cover in addition to providing for water quality consistent with City Code Section 25-8-26.



CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



AERIAL VIEW, EXISTING CAMPUS (Google Maps, 2012)

SCHEMATIC DESIGN PROPOSAL

PARISH CENTER AND EXPANDED NARTHEX ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH | AUSTIN, TEXAS





RESOLUTION NO. 20141211-107

WHEREAS, the Save Our Springs Initiative regulations (Land Development Code Chapter 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13 "SOS") are vital to protecting the Hill Country's rich network of aquifers and to Austin's long-term water management plan; and

WHEREAS, alongside the City's vitally important commitment to SOS and longstanding tradition of environmental stewardship, there is also a need for flexibility and consideration of the unique challenges and opportunities that development of particular tracts can present; and

WHEREAS, St. Catherine of Siena Church, located at 4800 Convict Hill, has an existing one story building that was constructed in the 1980s and is located in the Barton Springs Zone; and

WHEREAS, in order to redevelop St. Catherine of Siena while not expanding impervious cover and improving environmental controls, site specific variances and amendments to the Land Development Code, including SOS, would be required; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council initiates site specific variances and amendments to the Land Development Code, including Chapter 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13 (*Save Our Springs Initiative*), as necessary to address proposed redevelopment and expansion of the St. Catherine of Siena Church, located at 4800 Convict Hill Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to work with representatives of St. Catherine of Siena Church to minimize departure from code requirements and maximize environmental protection and return to Council with an ordinance that:

- a. allows no increase in the existing amount of impervious cover on the site;
- b. if feasible, decreases the amount of impervious cover on the site; and
- c. provides water quality treatment consistent with City Code Section 25-8-26 (*Redevelopment Exception in the Barton Springs Zone*) for all redeveloped areas and to the extent feasible for the entire site.

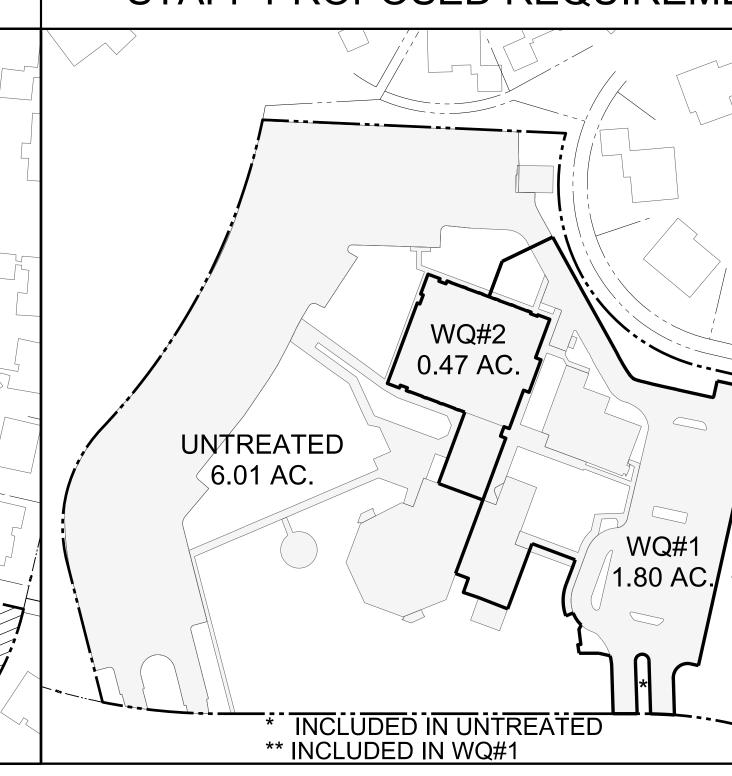
ADOPTED: _______, 2014

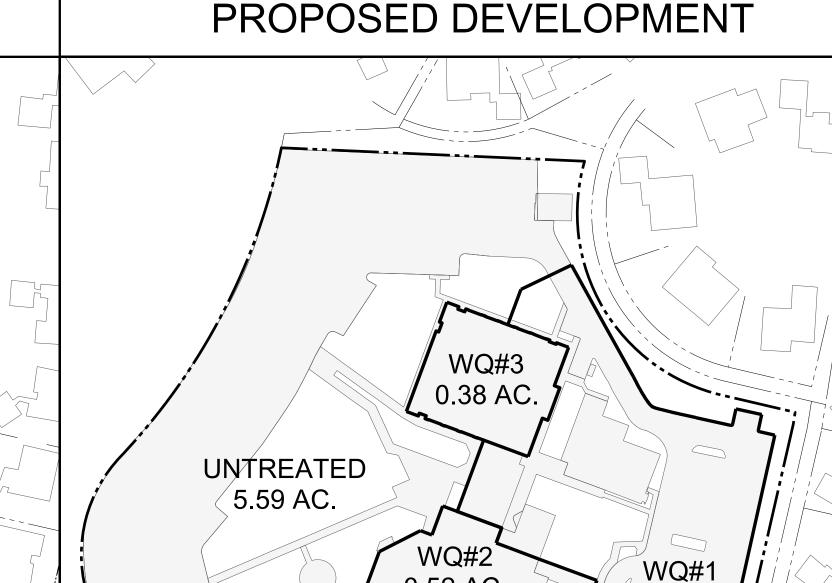
ATTEST: Doggr Jannette S. Goodall City Clerk

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

DESIGN COMPONENT	SCENAR EXISTING CON			DINANCE	SCENARIO 3 STAFF PROPOSAL				SCENARIO 4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT				
NOTES	WATER QUALITY PROVIDED FOR ADMINISTRATION BSZ RE-DEVELOPM			DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES 100% WATER QUALITY		PROPOSED REQUIREMENT: ADD WATER QUALITY FOR ALL RE-DEVELOPED, OR EQUIVALENT, AREAS			PROPOSED: ADD WATER QUALITY FOR UNTREATED, RE-DEVELOPED AREA PLUS ADD WATER QUALITY FOR THE SANCTUARY WHICH IS CURRENTLY "DIRECT RELEASE".				
SITE IMPERVIOUS:	1997 - 56.56%		2015 - 56.14%		2015 - 56.14%				2015 - 56	2015 - 56.14%			
WATER QUALITY SUMMARY	SCENARIO 1TREATMENT AREA AREA AcresTREATED AREA IMPERVIOUS %WQ VOLUMESed/fil2.2873.80%1.6113,345Untreated (Onsite)6.0150.10%00Untreated (Offsite)1.240.00%00Intreated (Offsite)9.5349.25%Intreated		SCENARIO 2TREATMENT AREA ACresTREATED AREA IMPERVIOUS %WQ VOLUMESed/fil9.5349.30%0.7927,433InchesInchesInchesInchesInchesSed/fil9.5349.30%0.7927,433InchesInchesInchesInchesInchesInchesInchesInchesInchesInchesSed/fil9.5349.30%InchesInch		SCENARIO 3TREATMENT AREA AREATREATED AREA IMPERVIOUSWQ VOLUMEAcres%inchescfSed/fil1.8077.69%2.013,345Re-irrigation0.47100.00%2.44,323Untreated (Onsite)6.0246.99%00Untreated (Offsite)1.240.04%00Total9.5349.30%17,668			SCENARIO 4 TREATMENT AREA TREATED AREA IMPERVIOUS WQ VOLUME Sed/fil 1.79 77.36% 2.05 13,345 Re-irrigation 0.38 100.00% 2.4 3,398 Rain Garden 0.52 81.05% 1.98 3,764 Untreated (Onsite) 5.59 44.81% 0 100.00% 20,507					
POLLUTANT REMOVAL	COD lbs/yr 1. E. coli 10^6 MPN/yr 1. Pb lbs/yr 2. TN lbs/yr 4. TOC lbs/yr 2. TP lbs/yr 6. TSS lbs/yr 2.	Load%Reduction29E+030%92E+060%66E-010%31E+010%62E+020%92E+000%71E+030%26E+000%	POLLUTANTCODlbs/yrE. coli10^6 MPN/yrPblbs/yrTNlbs/yrTOClbs/yrTPlbs/yrTSSlbs/yrZnlbs/yr	Load 5.62E+02 5.83E+05 1.40E-01 2.60E+01 1.77E+02 2.61E+00 5.62E+02 5.86E-01	%Reduction -56.26% -69.66% -47.18% -39.65% -32.60% -62.30% -79.26% -53.39%	POL COD E. coli Pb TN TOC TP TSS Zn	LUTANT Ibs/yr 10^6 MPN/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr	Load 1.16E+03 1.78E+06 2.30E-01 3.96E+01 2.40E+02 6.41E+00 2.52E+03 1.10E+00	%Reduction -9.96% -7.17% -13.55% -8.11% -8.30% -7.40% -6.93% -12.88%	POL COD E. coli Pb TN TOC TP TSS Zn	LUTANT Ibs/yr 10^6 MPN/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr Ibs/yr	Load 1.07E+03 1.65E+06 2.12E-01 3.83E+01 2.35E+02 5.99E+00 2.30E+03 1.00E+00	%Reduction -16.35% -14.03% -20.24% -11.07% -10.29% -13.39% -15.03% -20.24%
MITIGATION	NAVG. 20% I.C. WITH 56.1% I.C. ON ENTIRE SITE.PURCHASE 15 ACRES → \$361,301.00			E.	AVG. 20% I.C. FOR RE-DEVELOPED AREA PURCHASE 2 ACRES - \$48,173.00 NONE: PROVIDE EXTRA WATER QUALITY TREATMENT IN LIEU OF MITIGATION MONEY								
		CENARIO 2 /ELOPMENT ORDINANCE STAFF		SCENARIO 3 F PROPOSED REQUIREMENT			SCENARIO 4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT						
UNTREATED 6.01 AC. * INCLUDED IN ** INCLUDED IN	UDED IN UNTREATED UDED IN WQ#1		UNT	REATED 1 AC.	VQ#2 0.47 AC.	WQ#1 1.80 AC.		UNTREAT 5.59 AC	WQ#3 0.38 AC	WQ 1.79			

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ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA WATER QUALITY SUMMARY BY: JAMES WILSFORD, P.E., URBAN DESIGN GROUP PC

