



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 3, 2017**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at City Hall in the Council Chambers at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Andrew Creel**  
**Marisa Perales**  
**Brytne Kitchin**  
**Wendy Gordon**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Brian Smith**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Mary Ann Neely**  
**Linda Guerrero**  
**Peggy Maceo**  
**Hank Smith**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Pamela Abee-Tauli**  
**Andrea Bates**  
**Kaela Champlin**  
**Chuck Lesniak**  
**Scott Hiers**  
**Janna Renfro**  
**Brent Bellinger**  
**Sue Barnett**  
**Fred Fuller**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER**  
**Commissioner Perales called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.**
  - 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**  
*Speakers should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.*
  - 3. EDUCATION**
    - a. None
  - 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
    - a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of April 5, 2017  
**Commissioner Thompson made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Kitchin**  
**A motion to approve the minutes of April 5, 2017 was approved on Commissioner Thompson's motion, Commissioner Kitchin's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Neely, Maceo, Guerrero and H. Smith were absent.**

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**

a. None

6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS\***

a. None

7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

a. Country Club Creek channel rehabilitation and restoration in Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park—Janna Renfro, Engineer C and Eric Loucks, Supervising Engineer, Watershed Protection Department

**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

**Speakers**

Malcolm Yeatts

b. Review and recommend approval to include Austin Water (AW) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone (DWPZ) in AW's 5-year capital spending plan as required by AW's financial policy #8—Kristi Fenton, Utility Financial Manager, Austin Water

**Commissioner Gordon made a motion to recommend approval of the Drinking Water Protection Zone projects related to new water and wastewater plants, capital expansions, and growth-related projects to be included in the Austin Water's 5-year Capital Improvement Program with final approval by City Council during the annual budget approval process, Commissioner Creel's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Neely, Maceo, Guerrero and H. Smith were absent.**

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

a. **Name:** Bulkhead for 2200 Lauranne Lane, SP-2016-0420D (D-10)

**Applicant:** Bruce S. Aupperle, P.E.

**Location:** 10088 Circleview Dr., Austin, TX 78733

**Staff:** Scott Hiers, Senior Environmental Scientist, Watershed Protection Department

**Watershed:** Lake Austin Water Supply Rural Drinking Water Protection Zone

**Request:** Variance from 25-8-281(C)(2)(b) Critical Environmental Features, to allow construction of a bulkhead and shoreline stabilization within a Critical Environmental Feature (CEF) buffer for a canyon rimrock.

**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended for approval with conditions

**Reasons for Recommendation:** Findings of fact have been met

**Commissioner Gordon made a motion to recommend approval of the variance for the Bulkhead for 2200 Lauranne Lane as recommended by staff with conditions, Commissioner Kitchin's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Neely, Maceo, Guerrero and H. Smith were absent.**

b. Proposed amendments to the Watershed Protection Ordinance—Andrea Bates, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department

**Commissioner Gordon made a motion to recommend approval of the Watershed Protection Ordinance proposed amendments as they have been recommended by staff with conditions, Commissioner Kitchin's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Neely, Maceo, Guerrero and H. Smith were absent.**

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith

- b. Development Committee –Marisa Perales, Richard Grayum, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith
- c. Water Quality Regulations Committee - Mary Ann Neely, Brian Smith, Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Richard Grayum, and Andrew Creel
- d. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Andrew Creel, and Pam Thompson
- e. Air Quality Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Andrew Creel, Peggy Maceo, and Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero
- f. Urban Forest Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero and Mary Ann Neely
- g. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Michael Moya, Hank Smith, Richard Grayum and Brian Smith  
**Commissioner Perales gave an update on the Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee.**
- h. Report from Pam Thompson on the Visitor Impact Task Force  
**Commissioner Thompson gave a report on the Visitor Impact Task Force recommendations.**
- i. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Joint Sustainability Committee
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyon Conservation Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, and Michael Moya
- l. Other reports from Commissioners  
**Commissioner Gordon gave a report on the Green Infrastructure Working Group.**

**10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items**

- a. **Commissioner Thompson requested a briefing on the Visitor Impact Task Force Recommendations**
- b. **Commissioner Thompson requested information on the walkway closed on State Highway 183 Bridge and the construction / erosion measures below Montopolis Bridge**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Perales adjourned the meeting at 9:56 P.M.**

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*\* A member of the public may not address a board or commission at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing, per City Code Section 2-1-144(E).*