



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Brian Smith**  
**Andrew Creel**  
**Curtis Smith**  
**Katie Coyne**  
**Linda Guerrero**  
**Wendy Gordon**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Mary Ann Neely**  
**Peggy Maceo**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Hank Smith**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Pamela Abee-Taulli**  
**Brent Bellinger**  
**Kaela Champlin**  
**Chris Herrington**  
**Liz Johnston**  
**Mike McDougal**  
**Atha Phillips**  
**Daryl Slusher**  
**Mehrdad Morabbi**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:05 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.*

**Speakers**

**Bobby Levinski**

**3. EDUCATION**

a. None

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**

a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of February 6, 2019  
**(5 minutes)**

**The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of February 6, 2019 were approved on Commissioner Thompson's motion, Commissioner Gordon's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Neely was off the dais. Commissioner H. Smith was absent.**

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

- a. Update on 620 Volvo Dealership Water and Wastewater Service Extension Request #4272 and 4273 (5 minutes)  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

**6. STAFF BRIEFINGS\***

- a. None

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

- a. Austin Water response to climate change challenges—Daryl Slusher, Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility  
(30 minutes)  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. **Name:** Forest Bluff Section 7 Preliminary Plan (C8J-2017-0240) (Extraterritorial Jurisdiction)  
**Applicant:** Israel Ramirez, P.E. and John S. Lloyd  
**Location:** F.M. 969, Austin, TX 78725

**Staff:** Pamela Abee-Taulli, Environmental Review Specialist Senior, Development Services Department

**Watershed:** Decker Creek Watershed, Suburban classification, Desired Development Zone

**Request:** Variance requests are as follows:

1. Request to vary from LDC 30-5-341 to allow cut exceeding four feet.
2. Request to vary from LDC 30-5-342 to allow fill exceeding four feet.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met.

(30 minutes)

**A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Thompson's second. On a 9-0 vote. Commissioner H. Smith was absent.**

**There was a motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve the variance requests for cut and fill with conditions.**

**The substitute motion to limit cut and fill not to exceed twelve feet was approved on Commissioner Thompson's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner H. Smith was absent.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- b. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee –Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Linda Guerrero, and Wendy Gordon
- c. Development Committee –Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Katie Coyne, and Wendy Gordon
- d. Air Quality Committee –Mary Ann Neely, Pam Thompson, and Wendy Gordon
- e. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely, and Wendy Gordon

- f. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee –Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Hank Smith, and Brian Smith
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero, and Pam Thompson
- l. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- m. Zilker Park Working Group – Hank Smith and Mary Ann Neely
- n. Other reports from Commissioners

**9.**

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

- a. None

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 7:25 P.M.**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. For additional information, please call **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Environmental Commission, please contact **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.

*\* 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).*