



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION 20190904 008a

Date: September 4, 2019

Subject: Ordinance amending Title 25 and Title 30 of the City Code related to floodplain regulations

Motion by: Katie Coyne

Seconded by: Pam Thompson

RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes the changes to the national estimates in rainfall intensity (ATLAS 14) impact the extents of 25-year, 100-year, and 500-year floodplains; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes the risk of human safety and property if Austin does not responsibly regulate development in high flood risk area.

THEREFORE, the Environmental Commission recommends approval of an ordinance amending City Code Chapters 25-2, 25-7, 25-8, 25-12, 30-4, and 30-5 relating to the regulation of development within the 25-year and 100-year floodplains per City staff recommendations outlined at the Environmental Commission meeting on September 4, 2019, including:

1. Revision to floodplain definitions to utilize the existing 100-year floodplain as a proxy 25-year floodplain in the near-term until floodplain modeling is completed by the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) and, utilize the existing 500-year floodplain as a proxy 100-year floodplain in the near-term until floodplain modeling is completed by the WPD;
2. Create responsible exceptions for redevelopment;
3. Create exceptions for properties along the Colorado River based on different typologies of risk; and
4. Increase the height of freeboard required

with the following Environmental Commission conditions:

- The WPD will prioritize modeling efforts in watersheds with the most impact to existing residential areas and in watersheds where population growth and development pressure is the greatest; and
- The WPD will continue extensive engagement and outreach to ensure citizens are aware of pending changes.

VOTE 8-0

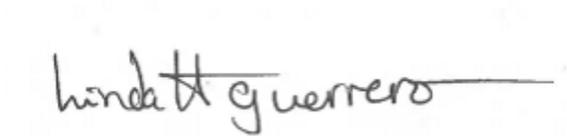
For: Bedford, C. Smith, Thompson, Neely, Guerrero, Coyne, Ramberg, and Maceo

Against: None

Abstain: Creel

Recuse: None
Absent: Gordon

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Guerrero". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Linda Guerrero, Environmental Commission Chair