



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Commissioners in Attendance:

Perry Bedford
Andy Creel
Curtis Smith
Pam Thompson
Kevin Ramberg
Peggy Maceo
Wendy Gordon
Mary Ann Neely
Linda Guerrero
Ryan Nill

Commissioners Absent:

Katie Coyne

Staff in Attendance:

Jonathan Garner
Chris Herrington
Atha Phillips
Pamela Abee-Tauli
Mike McDougal

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Commissioner Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:00 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
Scott Johnson
3. **EDUCATION**
 - a. None
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
 - a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of October 16, 2019 (5 minutes)
The minutes of October 16, 2019 were approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Ramberg's second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioner Coyne was absent.
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**

- a. Update on ordinance amending City Code Chapter 6-6 (Coal Tar Pavement Products) to regulate additional high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon pavement products and creating offenses for the use and sale of these additional products **(5 minutes)**
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
- b. Update on 211 South Lamar, C814-2012-0160.01 **(5 minutes)**
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
- c. Update on Pioneer Crossing PUD Amendment #14, C814-96-0003.14 **(5 minutes)**
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

- a. None

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** 3801 Westlake, SP-2019-0243DS (District 10)
Applicant: Eric Moreland, Laguna Taco LLC
Location: 3801 Westlake Drive, Austin, Texas, 78746
Staff: Pamela Abee-Tauli, Environmental Review Specialist Senior, Development Services Department and Lindsey Sydow, Environmental Scientist, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Lake Austin Watershed, Water Supply Rural, Drinking Water Protection Zone
Request: Request to vary from LDC 25-8-281(C)(2)(b) to allow construction of a boat dock and shoreline access within a 150-foot Critical Environmental Feature (CEF) buffer for a Rimrock CEF
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends this variance, having determined the findings of fact to have been met, with the following conditions:
 1. The portion of the existing access path that will be bypassed, between the point where the new path will branch off from the existing path and the endpoint of the current path where it connects with the current bridge, shall be removed and revegetated.
 2. In the plan set, a non-erodible surface (e.g., paving, shallow stairs, etc.) for the proposed path shall be specified.**(30 minutes)**
A recommendation to approve the variance with conditions was approved on Commissioner Ramberg’s motion, Commissioner Gordon’s second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioner Coyne was absent.

Speakers

Janis Smith

Eric Moreland

- b. **Name:** Thaxton Road Tract Offsite Wastewater Improvements, SP-2019-0108D
Applicant: Phillip Boghosian, Owner; Daniel Ryan, LJA (Civil Engineer); and Austin Water Utility, Co-sponsor of project
Location: 6810-1/2 Colton Bluff Springs Road, Austin, TX 78744 (2-mile Extraterritorial Jurisdiction)
Staff: Jonathan Garner, Environmental Review Program Coordinator, Development Services Department
Watershed: Marble Creek, Suburban, Desired Development Zone
Request: Request to vary from LDC 25-8-261 to allow development within a

Critical Water Quality Zone

Staff Recommendation: Staff does not recommend this variance, having determined that the findings of fact have not been met.

(30 minutes)

Speakers

Jeff Howard

Daniel Ryan

A motion to recommend denial of the requested variance was made on Commissioner Ramberg's motion and was seconded by Commissioner Neely.

A substitute motion made by Commissioner Creel and seconded by Commissioner Gordon failed on a 5-5 vote. Those voting aye were Commissioners Creel, Smith, Nill, Ramberg, and Gordon. Those voting nay were Commissioners Thompson, Neely, Maceo, Guerrero, and Bedford.

A substitute motion was made on Commissioner Nill's motion, Commissioner Maceo's second on a 7-1 vote. Those voting aye were Commissioners Bedford, Ramberg, Guerrero, Nill, Neely, Gordon, and Maceo. Commissioner Thompson voted nay. Those abstaining were Commissioners Creel and Smith. Commissioner Coyne was absent.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee – Pam Thompson, Kevin Ramberg, Mary Ann Neely, Curtis Smith, and Perry Bedford
- b. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, and Mary Ann Neely
- c. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- d. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee – Mary Ann Neely
- e. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero, and Pam Thompson
Commissioner Guerrero gave an update about the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board.
- f. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- g. Other reports from Commissioners

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. **Commissioner Guerrero requested an update on trail from Bartholomew Pool to the Lower Colorado River Park**
- b. **Commissioner Creel requested a briefing on Land Development Code revisions**

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 9:00 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).*