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PAZ

March 10, 2020
Via Electronic Delivery

Austin City Council
City of Austin
301 2nd Street
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Item 75 - Senna Hills MUD - Opposition

Dear Honorable Mayor and Council Members,

When this item previously came before council, we opposed it. It was then delayed based on concerns expressed from Eanes ISD. While the school district's concerns have been resolved, we remain opposed on the basis that this land was intentionally set aside to remain undeveloped, with the one caveat that it could be used for education purposes. In our view, the carve out for the school district was an accommodation for public purposes, not an opportunity to transfer developments, at a later date, for an office park. With this view, the proposed amendment adds 3.5 acres of impervious cover to overall MUD, without significant mitigation.

That said, we acknowledge that the City staff, including the Environmental Officer, have worked diligently to improve the overall environmental impact of the development, by including requirements that the development comply with SOS Ordinance water quality standards and limiting the overall impervious cover to 30% gross site area (which we understand is 35% NSA). Should this agreement pass, we ask that the SOS water quality compliance and the impervious cover limitations also be embedded into the adopted ordinance. Right now, these requirements are merely notes on the land plan. In our experience, requirements listed in the ordinance have a better likelihood of being enforced and surviving the changes of time than those that are merely notes on a land plan.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the above.

Many thanks,

Bobby Levinski
Attorney, Save Our Springs Alliance
512-636-7649 (mobile)

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