Purview of the Environmental Commission

August 25, 2021 Retreat

City Code 2-1-144:
Environmental Commission

The commission is empowered to:

REVIEW & ANALYZE	ACT	PROMOTE	ADVISE & RECOMMEND
the policies relating to the environmental quality of the city	as an advisory board to the city council, the city manager, and the department in their efforts to oversee the protection and integrity of the natural environment	growth management and land use planning, minimize degradation of water resources, protect downstream areas, and promote recreation opportunities and environmental awareness	on any issue which the commission determines necessary or advisable for the enhancement and stewardship of the urban forest both public and private.

2-1-144 – Section G

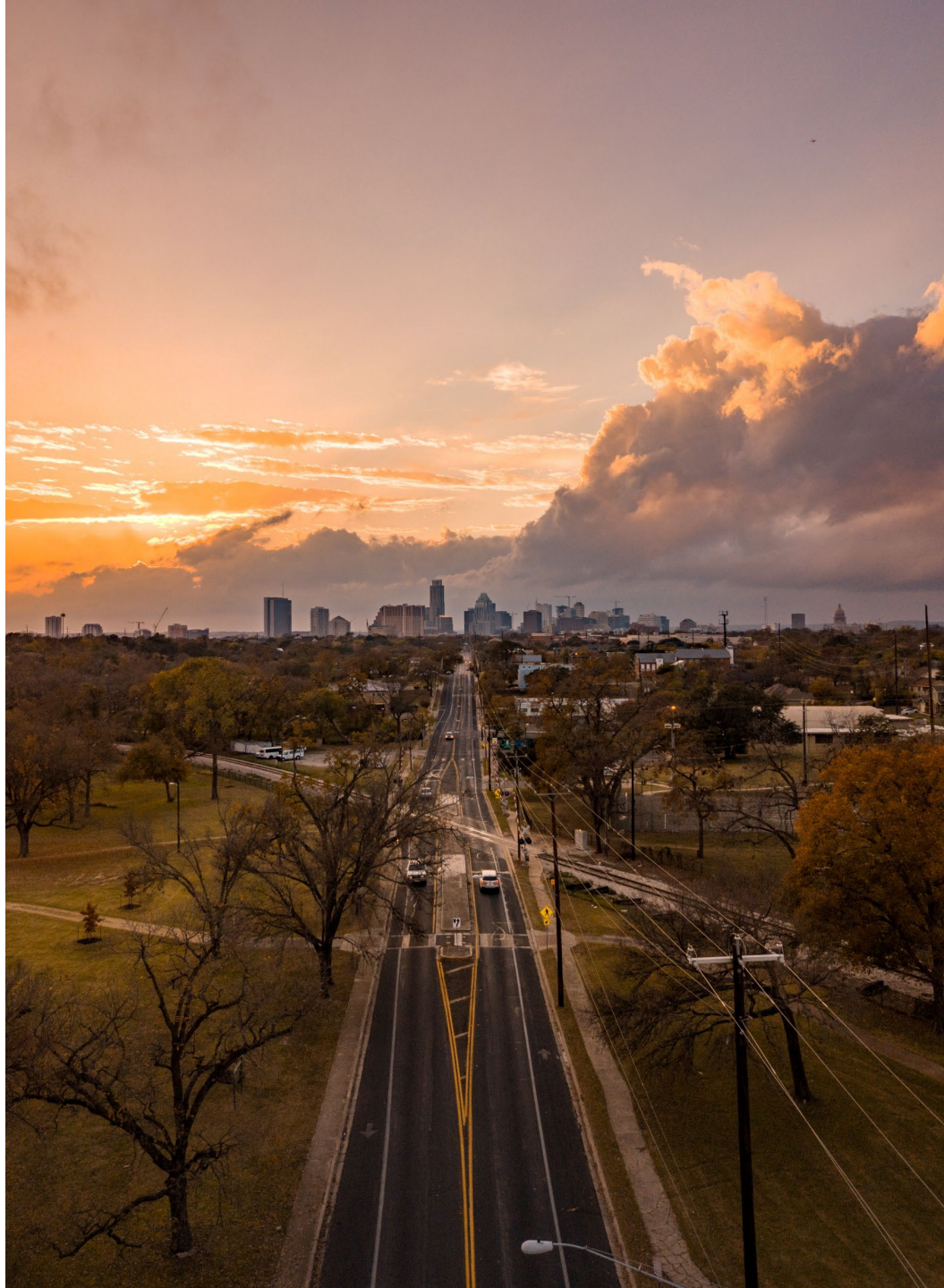
assist the city council, the city manager, and the department in **studying, promoting and enforcing environmental protection policies** to assure the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of all residents within the City's incorporated boundaries as well as those within its extraterritorial jurisdiction where the boundaries apply.

2-1-144 – Section H
The commission shall **advise** on…

- Water quality
- Growth management
- Land use planning
- Construction controls for erosion & sedimentation
- City environmental policies re. monitoring & enforcement
- Solid waste disposal plan alternatives
- Watershed protection
- Roadway planning
- Beautification
- Recreation resources
- Public education on environmental matters
- Hazardous waste materials management
- Revegetation & landscaping
- Air quality
- Noise abatement
- All matters pertaining to the City's urban forest, including public & private trees

2-1-144 – Section (I)
The commission shall **review**:

- variances to requirements for water quality protection
- Monitoring of storm water runoff in developed & undeveloped areas
- Efficiency of existing and proposed structural & nonstructural water quality controls
- Effectiveness of Chapter 25-4 (Subdivision)
- Waste treatment permits within city's ETJ
- Policies & programs for flood control, erosion control, & water quality
- Capital improvement projects
- Municipal utility district proposals & amendments
- Roadway plan amendments
- Recommend urban runoff standards
- Environmental elements of planned unit developments (PUDs)



2-1-144 – Section J & K

The commission may **recommend & initiate**, with the advice and consent of city council, **specific project studies** concerning any matters described in Subsections (H) and (I), or **any other related environmental or urban forestry issue**.

The commission shall **make reports and recommendations for standards and criteria** concerning any of these matters as well.

2-1-144 – Section L

The commission shall **promote close cooperation between the City and all private residents, institutions, and agencies** interested in or conducting natural resource, environmental activities, so that all similar activities within the city may be coordinated to secure the greatest public welfare.

Discussion Questions

How are we meeting the direction given to the Environmental Commission in City Code?

What is your perception of public awareness about environmental issues?

What is your perception of public involvement in environmental issues with the commission?