



**Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission  
January 19, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.  
Austin City Hall, Council Chambers, Room 1001  
301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701**

Some members of the Environmental Commission may be participating by videoconference. The meeting may be viewed online at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Haris Qureshi (D-1)	Rachel Scott (D-2)	Pam Thompson (D-3)	Vacant (D-4)
Audrey Barrett Bixler (D-5)	Vacant (D-6)	Jennifer Bristol (D-7) Secretary	Kevin Ramberg (D-8) Vice-Chair
Linda Guerrero (D-9) Chair	Richard Brimer (D-10)	Perry Bedford (Mayor)	

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## Agenda

**CALL TO ORDER**

**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.*

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
  - a. Approval of the December 1, 2021 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes (**5 minutes**)
  
- 2. STAFF UPDATES**
  - a. Recognize Katie Coyne for her service on the Environmental Commission and her appointment as Watershed Protection Department's Environmental Officer and Assistant Director of the Watershed Protection Department over Planning, Monitoring, and Compliance branch of divisions—Jorge Morales, Director, Watershed Protection Department (**10 minutes**)

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

- a. Presentation on Equitable Transit-Oriented Development strategies for Project Connect—Anna Lan, Principal Planner, Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Warner Cook, Senior Planner, Housing and Planning Department **(30 minutes)**

**4. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- a. **Name:** Rainey Tower SPC-2021-0129C  
**Applicant:** Lincoln Ventures LLC  
**Location (address):** 78-84 Rainey Street Austin, Texas 78701  
**Council District:** District 9  
**Staff:** Naomi Rotramel, City Arborist, Development Services Department  
**Watershed:** Waller Creek and Lady Bird Lake  
**Request:** The applicant is seeking the removal of a Heritage tree with a single stem over 30 inches in diameter.  
**Staff Recommendation:** The request meets the City Arborist approval criteria set forth in LDC 25-8-624(A)(2), thus the variance is recommended.  
**(30 minutes)**

- b. **Name:** HEB Austin No. 33, SP-2020-0400D  
**Applicant:** Joe York, Jones & Carter  
**Location:** 12115 US-290, Austin, TX 78737  
**Council District:** Located in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction  
**Staff:** Pamela Abee-Taulli, Environmental Program Coordinator, Development Services Department  
**Watershed:** Bear Creek Watershed and Barton Creek Watershed, Barton Springs Zone, Drinking Water Protection Zone  
**Request:** Variance requests are as follows:
  - 1. Request to vary from LDC 25-8-341 to allow cut to 12 feet.
  - 2. Request to vary from LDC 25-8-342 to allow fill to 21 feet.
  - 3. Request to vary from LDC 25-8-302(A)(2) to allow construction of a parking area on a slope with a gradient of more than 15 percent.
  - 4. Request to vary from LDC 25-8-301 to allow construction of a driveway on a slope with a gradient of more than 15 percent.**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended with conditions  
**(30 minutes)**

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Forestry Committee –Pam Thompson, Richard Brimer, Linda Guerrero, and Rachel Scott
- b. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Audrey Barrett Bixler
- c. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee – Kevin Ramberg
- d. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board –Linda Guerrero, Pam Thompson, and Rachel Scott

- e. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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. Please call **Kaela Champlin** at Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443 for additional information; 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).*