

## **ITEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA**

COMMISSION MEETING DATE:	January 19, 2022
NAME & NUMBER OF PROJECT:	HEB Austin No 33 SP-2020-0400D
NAME OF APPLICANT OR ORGANIZATION:	Joe York Jones & Carter
LOCATION:	12115 US-290, Austin, TX 78737
COUNCIL DISTRICT:	NA (Extraterritorial jurisdiction)
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STAFF:	Pamela Abee-Taulli, Environmental Program Coordinator, Development Services Department, 512.974.1879, pamela.abee-taulli@austintexas.gov
WATERSHED:	Bear Creek Watershed and Barton Creek Watershed, Barton Springs Zone, Drinking Water Protection Zone
REQUEST:	<ol> <li>Variance requests are as follows:         <ol> <li>Request to vary from LDC 25-8-341 to allow cut to 12 feet.</li> <li>Request to vary from LDC 25-8-342 to allow fill to 21 feet.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
STAFF Recommendation:	Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met.
STAFF CONDITION:	<ol> <li>Applicant will restore illegal fill that currently exists on the site to original grade.</li> <li>Applicant will use native plants appropriate for the Hill Country location for revegetation.</li> <li>The applicant will provide mitigation in the form of payment or on-site plantings for removed trees with a diameter of 19 inches or greater at a rate of 100 percent.</li> </ol>



Development Services Department Staff Recommendations Concerning Required Findings

Project Name:	HEB Austin No 33
Ordinance Standard:	Watershed Protection Ordinance
Variance Request:	Request to vary from LDC 25-8-341 to allow cut in excess of 4 feet
_	(maximum cut 12 feet).

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.

**Yes** The site descends from the northern boundary, at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level, to the south-eastern corner, with an elevation of approximately 1089 feet.

The project has a large footprint, comprised of a surface parking lot and grocery store. The size and layout are based on HEB's standard practice for a suburban store.

A development of similar scale, on a similarly situated property, subject to the same code requirements received similar variances. HEB 10, at 7901 US-290, Austin, TX 78736, (SP-2019-0034C), received variances for cut to 7 feet, fill to 14 feet, construction of a building on slopes exceeding 25 percent, and construction of a parking area on slopes exceeding 15 percent.

- 2. The variance:
  - a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
    - Yes The variance is necessitated by the significant amount of grade change characteristic of the Hill Country. Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes.

The proposed cut between 4 and 12 feet is to level the parking area and minimize the fill required for the store building.

b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;

**Yes** The proposed design accommodates both market and safety considerations, while placing the building, parking lot, and drive aisles so as to minimize deviation from regulations for grading and for construction on slopes.

Slopes over 15 percent grade comprise a small portion of the sixty-acre site. Additionally, the site has large areas of previous disturbance from unpermitted fill. Both of these factors contribute to making the proposed retail product a reasonable use of the property.

- c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.
  - Yes Development with the variance does not create a probability of harmful environmental consequences. The majority of the site will remain undeveloped, with impervious cover capped at 25 percent of the net site area, as required by the Save Our Springs ordinance [LDC 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13]

Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes. The site has two areas of existing, unpermitted fill. The building will be placed on one of these and the other will be restored to original grade, with native vegetation. Also, the applicant proposes to restore stormwater flow to a wetland that was cut off by the illegal fill.

Finally, code-compliant erosion and sedimentation controls will be provided both during and after construction activities. All grading will be permanently stabilized in a code-compliant fashion.

- 3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.
  - Yes Water quality will be code-compliant and therefore equal to the water quality that would be provided without the variance. Because this site is in the Barton Springs Zone, water quality controls will meet the "nondegradation" standard required by the Save Our Springs ordinance. This means that runoff from the site shall cause no net increase in average annual pollutant load compared to existing conditions.

- B. The Land Use Commission may grant a variance from a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (*Water Supply Suburban Water Quality Transition Zone*), Section 25-8-452 (*Water Supply Rural Water Quality Transition Zone*), Section 25-8-482 (*Barton Springs Zone Water Quality Transition Zone*), Section 25-8-368 (*Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long*), or Article 7, Division 1 (*Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions*), after determining that::
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met; NA
  - 2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property; NA
  - 3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property. NA

<u>Staff Determination</u>: Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met. Staff recommends the following conditions.

- 1. Applicant will restore illegal fill that currently exists on the site to original grade.
- 2. Applicant will use native plants appropriate for the Hill Country location for revegetation.
- 3. The applicant will provide mitigation in the form of payment or on-site plantings for removed trees with a diameter of 19 inches or greater at a rate of 100 percent.

Environmental Reviewer (DSD)	(Pamela Abee-Taulli)	Date 1/13/2022
Environmental Review	Mike McDougal	Date 1/13/2022
Manager (DSD)	(Mike McDougal)	
Environmental Officer (WPD)	(Liz Johnston)	Date 01/13/2022



#### Development Services Department Staff Recommendations Concerning Required Findings

Project Name:	HEB Austin No 33
Ordinance Standard:	Watershed Protection Ordinance
Variance Request:	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.

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.

**Yes** The site descends from the northern boundary, at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level, to the south-eastern corner, with an elevation of approximately 1089 feet.

The project has a large footprint, comprised of a surface parking lot and grocery store. The size and layout are based on HEB's standard practice for a suburban store.

A development of similar scale, on a similarly situated property, subject to the same code requirements received similar variances. HEB 10, at 7901 US-290, Austin, TX 78736, (SP-2019-0034C), received 4 variances – for cut to 7 feet, fill to 14 feet, construction of a building on slopes exceeding 25 percent, and construction of a parking area on slopes exceeding 15 percent.

- 2. The variance:
  - a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
    - Yes The variance is necessitated by the significant amount of grade change characteristic of the Hill Country. Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes.

The site proposes three access driveways, and all three cross slopes exceeding 15 percent grade. The driveway locations are dictated by state requirements for queuing distance from intersections and cannot be located so as to avoid crossing the slopes.

Driveway locations were determined, in conjunction with Hays County for accessibility of larger vehicles that will be needed for operations. Also, the driveways were placed to allow for adequate queuing along Nutty Brown Road to accommodate the new traffic signals at the driveway and the intersection with SH 290.

b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;

**Yes** The proposed design accommodates both market and safety considerations, while placing the building, parking lot, and drive aisles so as to minimize deviation from regulations for grading and for construction on slopes.

The site proposes three access driveways, and all three cross slopes exceeding 15 percent grade. The driveway locations are dictated by requirements for queuing distance from intersections and cannot be located so as to avoid crossing the slopes.

Two of the driveways are necessary to provide primary access from the two major roadways bordering the site and are therefore code compliant. The third driveway, accessing the loading dock at the back of the store, provides truck access that is separate from the customer access provided by the other two driveways. This third driveway cannot meet the standard of "necessary to provide primary access" required by LDC 25-8-301. However, the dedicated delivery driveway does satisfy the Transportation Criteria Manual guideline that freight loading facilities should be designed and located to minimize intermixing of truck traffic with other vehicular and pedestrian traffic on site. [TCM 9.3.0, #2] This one additional driveway is therefore the minimum deviation from code to allow safe use of the property.

- c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.
  - Yes Development with the variance does not create a probability of harmful environmental consequences. The majority of the site will remain undeveloped, with impervious cover capped at 25 percent of the net site area, as required by the Save Our Springs ordinance [LDC 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13]

Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes. The site has two areas of existing, unpermitted fill. The building will be placed on one of these and the other will be restored to original grade, with native vegetation. Also, the applicant proposes to restore stormwater flow to a wetland that was cut off by the illegal fill.

Finally, code-compliant erosion and sedimentation controls will be provided both during and after construction activities. All grading will be permanently stabilized in a code-compliant fashion.

- 3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.
  - Yes Water quality will be code-compliant and therefore equal to the water quality that would be provided without the variance. Because this site is in the Barton Springs Zone, water quality controls will meet the "nondegradation" standard required by the Save Our Springs ordinance. This means that runoff from the site shall cause no net increase in average annual pollutant load compared to existing conditions.
- B. The Land Use Commission may grant a variance from a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Supply Suburban Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Supply Rural Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-482 (Barton Springs Zone Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long), or Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), after determining that::
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met; NA
  - 2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property; NA
  - 3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property. NA

<u>Staff Determination</u>: Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met. Staff recommends the following conditions.

- 1. Applicant will restore illegal fill that currently exists on the site to original grade.
- 2. Applicant will use native plants appropriate for the Hill Country location for revegetation.
- 3. The applicant will provide mitigation in the form of payment or on-site plantings for removed trees with a diameter of 19 inches or greater at a rate of 100 percent.

Environmental Reviewer (DSD)

Tamele Abarbo all

Date 1/13/2022

(Pamela Abee-Taulli) Mike McDougal

Environmental Review Manager (DSD)

Environmental Officer (WPD)

the Colunteer

(Liz Johnston)

(Mike McDougal)

Date 1/13/2022

Date 01/13/2022



Development Services Department Staff Recommendations Concerning Required Findings

Project Name:	HEB Austin No 33
Ordinance Standard:	Watershed Protection Ordinance
Variance Request:	Request to vary from LDC 25-8-342 to allow fill to 21 feet.

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.

**Yes** The site descends from the northern boundary, at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level, to the south-eastern corner, with an elevation of approximately 1089 feet.

The project has a large footprint, comprised of a surface parking lot and grocery store. The size and layout are based on HEB's standard practice for a suburban store.

A development of similar scale, on a similarly situated property, subject to the same code requirements received similar variances. HEB 10, at 7901 US-290, Austin, TX 78736, (SP-2019-0034C), received variances for cut to 7 feet, fill to 14 feet, construction of a building on slopes exceeding 25 percent, and construction of a parking area on slopes exceeding 15 percent.

#### 2. The variance:

- a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
  - **Yes** The variance is necessitated by the significant amount of grade change characteristic of the Hill Country. Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes.

The proposed fill between 4 and 21 feet is to level the building and minimize the cut required for the parking lot.

b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;

**Yes** The proposed design accommodates both market and safety considerations, while placing the building, parking lot, and drive aisles so as to minimize deviation from regulations for grading and for construction on slopes.

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Supply Rural Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-482 (Barton Springs Zone Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long), or Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), after determining that::

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Environmental Reviewer (DSD)	(Pamela Abee-Taulli)	Date 1/13/2022
Environmental Review	Mike McDougal	Date 1/13/2022
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Environmental Officer (WPD)	Un Johnston)	Date 01/13/2022



Development Services Department Staff Recommendations Concerning Required Findings

Project Name:	HEB Austin No 33
Ordinance Standard:	Watershed Protection Ordinance
Variance Request:	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

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.

**Yes** The site descends from the northern boundary, at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level, to the south-eastern corner, with an elevation of approximately 1089 feet.

The project has a large footprint, comprised of a surface parking lot and grocery store. The size and layout are based on HEB's standard practice for a suburban store.

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#### 2. The variance:

- a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
  - Yes The variance is necessitated by the significant amount of grade change characteristic of the Hill Country. Development is concentrated in previously disturbed areas and placed so as to minimize construction on excessive slopes.

The parking lot is located and shaped to minimally impact steep slopes. Because of the widely spaced nature of the Hill Country slopes, it is difficult to design a large parking lot that avoids all slopes over 15 percent grade. The parking lot is pulled back from slopes at its periphery. The only slopes over 15 percent are in or near the center of the lot.

b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;

**Yes** The proposed design accommodates both market and safety considerations, while placing the building, parking lot, and drive aisles so as to minimize deviation from regulations for grading and for construction on slopes.

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- c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.
  - Yes Development with the variance does not create a probability of harmful environmental consequences. The majority of the site will remain undeveloped, with impervious cover capped at 25 percent of the net site area, as required by the Save Our Springs ordinance [LDC 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13]

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Finally, code-compliant erosion and sedimentation controls will be provided both during and after construction activities. All grading will be permanently stabilized in a code-compliant fashion.

3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.

Yes Water quality will be code-compliant and therefore equal to the water quality that would be provided without the variance. Because this site is in the Barton Springs Zone, water quality controls will meet the "non-

degradation" standard required by the Save Our Springs ordinance. This means that runoff from the site shall cause no net increase in average annual pollutant load compared to existing conditions.

- B. The Land Use Commission may grant a variance from a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Supply Suburban Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Supply Rural Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-482 (Barton Springs Zone Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long), or Article 7, Division 1 (*Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions*), after determining that::
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met; NA
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Staff Determination: Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met. Staff recommends the following conditions.

- 1. Applicant will restore illegal fill that currently exists on the site to original grade.
- 2. Applicant will use native plants appropriate for the Hill Country location for revegetation.
- 3. The applicant will provide mitigation in the form of payment or on-site plantings for removed trees with a diameter of 19 inches or greater at a rate of 100 percent.

Tamele Aber Saull **Environmental Reviewer** 

(DSD)

Environmental Review Manager (DSD)

**Environmental Officer** (WPD)

(Pamela Abee-Taulli) Mike McDougal

Date 1/13/2022

(Mike McDougal)

1/13/2022 Date

Date 01/13/2022

(Liz Johnston)



# **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION VARIANCE APPLICATION FORM**

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION Applicant Contact Information**

Name of Applicant	Joseph York, P.E.	
Street Address	4350 Lockhill Selma Rd. Suite 100	
City State ZIP Code	San Antonio, Texas 78249	
Work Phone	210-546-5511	
E-Mail Address	kfelux@jonescarter.com	
Variance Case Information		
Case Name	HEB Austin 33	
Case Number	SP-2020-0400D	
Address or Location	12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737	
Environmental Reviewer Name	Pamela Abee-Taulli	
Environmental Resource Management Reviewer Name	N/A	
Applicable Ordinance	Watershed Protection Ordinance	
Watershed Name	Bear Creek	
Watershed Classification	□ Urban□ Suburban□ Water Supply Suburban□ Water Supply Rural☑ Barton Springs Zone	

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone	<ul> <li>☑ Barton Springs Segment</li> <li>□ Northern Edwards Segment</li> <li>□ Not in Edwards Aquifer Zones</li> </ul>	
Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone	☑ Yes □ No	
Distance to Nearest Classified Waterway	Approx. 19,000 LF	
Water and Waste Water service to be provided by	Water: West Travis County Public Utility Agency Wastewater: On-site wastewater treatment plant	
Request	The variance request is as follows (Cite code references): Request to vary from LDC 25-8-341 to allow cut to 12 feet.	

Impervious cover	Existing	Proposed
square footage:	22,930	_585,011_
acreage:	0.53	13.43
percentage:	0.87%	24.66%
Provide general		

Provide general	
description of the	The existing topography of the subject tract consists of natural slopes ranging
property (slope	from 1%-35%. The site contains portions that are in excess of 15% slope. The
range, elevation	highest point of the site is located along the northern boundary at an elevation
range, summary of	of 1195 feet above sea level. The lowest point of the site is located at the south-
vegetation / trees,	level. The site is currently comprised of two tracts, a 1.01-acre tract and a 59.60-
summary of the	acre tract. The smaller tract is currently developed but will be demolished upon
geology, CWQZ,	development, and the larger tract is undeveloped as pasture with brush and
WQTZ, CEFs,	trees. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Soil Survey of Travis
floodplain, heritage	County, Texas, soils on the property are classified in 97.6% in Hydrologic Soil
trees, any other	Group D and 2.4% in Hydrologic Soil Class C. The soils are predominantly
notable or	Brackett-Rock outcrop comfort complex, with 1-8% slopes, Brackett-Rock
outstanding	site is in the Bear Creek Watershed which is classified as Barton Creek
characteristics of the	watershed.
property)	

Clearly indicate in what way the proposed project does not comply with current Code (include maps and exhibits)	The site will have more than 4 feet of cut. Please see the letter for the plea for the variance. Also, see the Cut/Fill Exhibit for the areas that have more than 4 feet of cut along with the excessive slope areas.
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#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

As required in LDC Section 25-8-41, in order to grant a variance the Land Use Commission must make the following findings of fact:

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

Project: HEB Austin 33

Ordinance: LDC 25-8-341

- Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code: Α.
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.
    - Yes / No The grade change on the site is drastic and development would not be possible without cutting more than four feet.
  - 2. The variance:
    - Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design a) decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
      - The site has cut and fill more than four feet. When designing the Yes / No site it was considered how to best balance the site based on the grading criteria for the client.
    - b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;

- Yes / No The site has excessive slopes and would not be suitable for a reasonable development if not cut more than four feet.
- Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental c) consequences.
  - Yes / No Retaining walls and 4:1 slopes back to natural ground are being used where possible. All slopes will be restored with native grasses.
- 3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.
  - Yes / No Water quality is provided for the site and is designed to the City of Austin ECM.
- Β. Additional Land Use Commission variance determinations for a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), or Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long):
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met;

Yes / No <u>N/A</u>

2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property;

Yes / No N/A

3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property.

Yes / No N/A

\*\*Variance approval requires all above affirmative findings.

## **Exhibits for Commission Variance**

- Aerial photos of the site
- Site photos
- Aerial photos of the vicinity
- Context Map—A map illustrating the subject property in relation to developments in the vicinity to include nearby major streets and waterways
- Topographic Map A topographic map is recommended if a significant grade change on the subject site exists or if there is a significant difference in grade in relation to adjacent properties.
- For cut/fill variances, a plan sheet showing areas and depth of cut/fill with topographic elevations.
- Site plan showing existing conditions if development exists currently on the property
- Proposed Site Plan- full size electronic or at least legible 11x17 showing proposed development, include tree survey if required as part of site or subdivision plan
- Environmental Map A map that shows pertinent features including Floodplain, CWQZ, WQTZ, CEFs, Setbacks, Recharge Zone, etc.
- An Environmental Resource Inventory pursuant to ECM 1.3.0 (if required by 25-8-121)
- o Applicant's variance request letter



November 2, 2021

Pamela Abee-Tualli, LEED, CPESC COA Development Services Department One Texas Center 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, Texas 78705

Re: Cut Variance (LDC 25-8-341) HEB Austin 33 12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737 SP-2020-0400D

Dear Ms. Abee-Taulli:

On behalf of our client, H-E-B, Jones & Carter, Inc. is requesting an Environmental Commission variance of LDC Section 25-8-341, that there can not be more than four feet of cut.

The site has natural topography change of approximately 106 feet. The natural slopes are between 0% to 35% across the site. When designing the grading for the site, the maximum cut was used at the north end of the parking lot, and the Client's standards for grading were maximized to allow for the steepest grade while providing a sufficient design for pedestrian use. This process reduced the cut on other areas of the site to be below four feet. Others portions of the site with cut greater than four feet are within a water quality pond which is allowed, per the LDC 25-8-341.A.4, and an area with unpermitted fill. This area of unpermitted fill will have cut greater than four feet, but will be restoring the area to is natural conditions before the fill was introduced.

We feel that our design methodology complies with the intent of LDC 25-8-341, but due to the nature of the topography and size of the proposed development, we are unable to meet the letter of the rule and keep the cut below four feet.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (210) 546-0057.

Sincerely,

Joseph York, P.E.



# **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION VARIANCE APPLICATION FORM**

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City State ZIP Code	San Antonio, Texas 78249			
Work Phone	210-546-5511			
E-Mail Address	kfelux@jonescarter.com			
Variance Case Information				
Case Name	HEB Austin 33			
Case Number	SP-2020-0400D			
Address or Location	12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737			
Environmental Reviewer Name	Pamela Abee-Taulli			
Environmental Resource Management Reviewer Name	N/A			
Applicable Ordinance	Watershed Protection Ordinance			
Watershed Name	Bear Creek			
Watershed Classification	□ Urban□ Suburban□ Water Supply Suburban□ Water Supply Rural☑ Barton Springs Zone			

geology, CWQZ,

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone	<ul> <li>☑ Barton Springs Segment</li> <li>□ Northern Edwards Segment</li> <li>□ Not in Edwards Aquifer Zones</li> </ul>
Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone	☑ Yes □ No
Distance to Nearest Classified Waterway	Approx. 19,000 LF
Water and Waste Water service to be provided by	Water: West Travis County Public Utility Agency Wastewater: On-site wastewater treatment plant
Request	The variance request is as follows (Cite code references): Request to vary from LDC 25-8-342 to allow fill to 21 feet.

Impervious cover	Existing	Proposed					
square footage:	22,930	_585,011_					
acreage:	0.53	13.43					
percentage:	0.87%	24.66%					
Provide general							
description of the	The existing topography of the subject tract consists of natural slopes ranging from 1%-35%. The site contains portions that are in excess of 15% slope. The						
property (slope							
range, elevation	highest point of the site is located along the northern boundary at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level. The lowest point of the site is located at the south- eastern corner of the site at an elevation of approximately 1089 feet above sea level. The site is currently comprised of two tracts, a 1.01-acre tract and a 59.60- acre tract. The smaller tract is currently developed but will be demolished upon						
range, summary of							
vegetation / trees,							
summary of the							

WQTZ, CEFs,	trees. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Soil Survey of Travis
floodplain, heritage	County, Texas, soils on the property are classified in 97.6% in Hydrologic Soil
trees, any other	Group D and 2.4% in Hydrologic Soil Class C. The soils are predominantly
notable or	Brackett-Rock outcrop comfort complex, with 1-8% slopes, Brackett-Rock
outstanding	outcrop real complex, with 8-30% slopes, and Krum Clay with 3-5% slopes. The
characteristics of the	site is in the Bear Creek Watershed which is classified as Barton Creek
property)	watershed.

development, and the larger tract is undeveloped as pasture with brush and

Clearly indicate in what way the proposed project does not comply with current Code (include maps and exhibits)The site will have more that areas that have more than slope areas.The unpermitted fill along natural drainage and storm drained through the CEF. restoring the historic drain to once again allow storm Replacing the drainage pa made the discharge veloci allows the outfall velocity to energy dissipaters.	an 4 feet of fill. Please see the letter for Also, see the Cut/Fill Exhibit for the a 4 feet of fill along with the excessive Nutty Brown Road has blocked all m water runoff that has historically As part of this development, we will be hage path by utilizing a concrete culvert water runoff to drain through the CEF. ath with a natural swale would have ity high and erosive. The box culvert to be controlled and dampened with
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#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

As required in LDC Section 25-8-41, in order to grant a variance the Land Use Commission must make the following findings of fact:

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

Project: HEB Austin 33

Ordinance: LDC 25-8-342

- Α. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.
    - <u>Yes</u> / No The grade change on the site is excessive and development would not be possible without filling more than four feet.
  - 2. The variance:
    - Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design a) decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
      - Yes / No The site has cut and fill more than four feet. When designing the site it was considered how to best balance the site based on the grading criteria for the client.

- b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;
  - The site has excessive slopes and would not be suitable for Yes / <u>No</u> reasonable development if not filled more than four feet.
- c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.
  - Yes / No Retaining walls and 4:1 slopes back to natural ground are being used where possible. All slopes will be restored with native grasses.
- 3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.

Yes / No Water quality is provided for the site and is designed to the City of Austin ECM.

- Β. Additional Land Use Commission variance determinations for a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), or Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long):
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met;

Yes / No N/A

2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property;

Yes / No N/A

3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property.

Yes / No N/A

\*\*Variance approval requires all above affirmative findings.

## **Exhibits for Commission Variance**

- Aerial photos of the site
- Site photos
- Aerial photos of the vicinity
- Context Map—A map illustrating the subject property in relation to developments in the vicinity to include nearby major streets and waterways
- Topographic Map A topographic map is recommended if a significant grade change on the subject site exists or if there is a significant difference in grade in relation to adjacent properties.
- For cut/fill variances, a plan sheet showing areas and depth of cut/fill with topographic elevations.
- Site plan showing existing conditions if development exists currently on the property
- Proposed Site Plan- full size electronic or at least legible 11x17 showing proposed development, include tree survey if required as part of site or subdivision plan
- Environmental Map A map that shows pertinent features including Floodplain, CWQZ, WQTZ, CEFs, Setbacks, Recharge Zone, etc.
- An Environmental Resource Inventory pursuant to ECM 1.3.0 (if required by 25-8-121)
- o Applicant's variance request letter



November 2, 2021

Pamela Abee-Tualli, LEED, CPESC COA Development Services Department One Texas Center 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, Texas 78705

Re: Fill Variance (LDC 25-8-342) HEB Austin 33 12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737 SP-2020-0400D

Dear Ms. Abee-Taulli:

On behalf of our client, H-E-B, Jones & Carter, Inc. is requesting an Environmental Commission variance of LDC Section 25-8-342, there can not be more than 4 feet of fill.

The site has natural topography change of approximately 106 feet. The natural slopes are between 0% to 35% across the site. When designing the grading for the site, the maximum cut was used at the north end of the parking lot, and the Client's standards for grading were maximized to allow for the steepest grade while providing a sufficient design for pedestrian use. The rear of the building was depressed four feet to make up some of the grade change. There is a 3:1 slope in landscaped areas to return the proposed contours to the natural ground as quickly as possible and reduce the fill required. Others portions of the site with fill greater than four feet are within a water quality pond which is allowed, per the LDC 25-8-342.A.4.

We feel that our design methodology complies with the intent of LDC 25-8-342, but due to the nature of the topography and size of the proposed development, we are unable to meet the letter of the rule and keep the fill below four feet.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (210) 546-0057.

Sincerely,

Joseph York, P.E.



# **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION VARIANCE APPLICATION FORM**

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION Applicant Contact Information**

Name of Applicant	Joseph York, P.E.			
Street Address	4350 Lockhill Selma Rd. Suite 100			
City State ZIP Code	San Antonio, Texas 78249			
Work Phone	210-546-5511			
E-Mail Address	kfelux@jonescarter.com			
Variance Case Information				
Case Name	HEB Austin 33			
Case Number	SP-2020-0400D			
Address or Location	12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737			
Environmental Reviewer Name	Pamela Abee-Taulli			
Environmental Resource Management Reviewer Name	N/A			
Applicable Ordinance	Watershed Protection Ordinance			
Watershed Name	Bear Creek			
Watershed Classification	□ Urban□ Suburban□ Water Supply Suburban□ Water Supply Rural☑ Barton Springs Zone			

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone	<ul> <li>☑ Barton Springs Segment</li> <li>□ Northern Edwards Segment</li> <li>□ Not in Edwards Aquifer Zones</li> </ul>
Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone	☑ Yes □ No
Distance to Nearest Classified Waterway	Approx. 19,000 LF
Water and Waste Water service to be provided by	Water: West Travis County Public Utility Agency Wastewater: On-site wastewater treatment plant
Request	The variance request is as follows (Cite code references): A variance is requested from LDC 25-8-301 construction of a driveway on slopes over 15%.

Impervious cover	Existing	Proposed
square footage:	22,930	_585,011_
acreage:	0.53	13.43
percentage:	0.87%	24.66%
Provide general description of the property (slope range, elevation range, summary of vegetation / trees, summary of the geology, CWQZ, WQTZ, CEFs, floodplain, heritage trees, any other notable or outstanding characteristics of the property)	The existing topography of the subject tract from 1%-35%. The site contains portions the highest point of the site is located along the of 1195 feet above sea level. The lowest po eastern corner of the site at an elevation of level. The site is currently comprised of two acre tract. The smaller tract is currently dev development, and the larger tract is undeve trees. According to the Natural Resource Co County, Texas, soils on the property are class Group D and 2.4% in Hydrologic Soil Class C Brackett-Rock outcrop comfort complex, wit outcrop real complex, with 8-30% slopes, an site is in the Bear Creek Watershed which is watershed.	c consists of natural slopes ranging at are in excess of 15% slope. The e northern boundary at an elevation int of the site is located at the south- approximately 1089 feet above sea tracts, a 1.01-acre tract and a 59.60- reloped but will be demolished upon eloped as pasture with brush and onservation Soil Survey of Travis ssified in 97.6% in Hydrologic Soil . The soils are predominantly ith 1-8% slopes, Brackett-Rock nd Krum Clay with 3-5% slopes. The s classified as Barton Creek Zone

Clearly indicate in what way the proposed project does not comply with current Code (include maps and exhibits)	The three proposed driveways are being built across slopes that are greater than 15%. The customer driveway off of US-290 is crossing slopes in excess of 15%, whereas the customer and delivery driveways off of Nutty Brown Rd. are merely crossing a "V" drainage channel and otherwise not being constructed on excessive slopes. Please see the excessive slopes map provided.
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#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

As required in LDC Section 25-8-41, in order to grant a variance the Land Use Commission must make the following findings of fact:

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

Project: HEB Austin 33

Ordinance: LDC 25-8-301

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.
    - Yes / No HEB off of W Slaughter Ln and Escarpment Boulevard has three driveway accesses. Two are for primary access for customers and one is an additional access for vendor deliveries and trash service. 7-Eleven gas station across the road was provided two points of access and is significantly smaller than the HEB.



City of Austin | Environmental Commission Variance Application Guide

- 2. The variance:
  - a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
    - Yes / No The excessive slopes are from a natural earthen swale that is having the natural drainage pattern restored and unpermitted fill is being removed. The use of a box culvert brings reduces the risk of erosion that would be made from a natural earthen swale. The natural swale has a higher velocity than the box

Worksheet : Box Pipe -	1				- 0 3	Worksheet : Trapezuide	Channel +1				E
Inform Flow Gradually Varied Row 🕕 Meteoagee					Uniform Row Gradually Vaned Flow 0 Messages						
Solve For: Discharge	v	3	Friction Method Wanning	Formula		Solve For: Discharge		0	Friction Method Mar	nning Formula	v
Roughness Coefficient	0.013		Flow Area:	14.2	tt"	Roughness Coefficient	0.030		Flow Ares.	32.0	ft*
Channel Slope.	0.005	ft/ft	Wetted Perimeter:	10.7	f.	Channel Slope:	0.067	nunt.	Wetted Perimeter:	22.6	n.
Normal Depth:	34.0	in	Hydraulic Radius:	15.9	In	Normal Depth:	24.0	In	Hydraulic Radius:	17.0	in
Height	3.0	π	Top Width:	5.00	π	Left Side Slope	3.000	HV	Top Width	22.00	ft
Battom Width:	5.00	Ħ	Critical Depth:	34.5	in	Right Side Slope:	3.000	HV	Critical Depth:	38.2	in
Discharge:	138.35	cfs	Percent Full:	94.4	%	Bottom Width:	10.00	R	Critical Slope:	0.011	ñ/fi
			Critical Stope.	0.005	n/n	Discharge:	518.57	cts	Velocity:	16.14	ft/s
			Velocity:	9.77	fo/s				Velocity Head:	4.05	n
			Velocity Head:	1.48	ft				Specific Energy.	6.05	a
			Specific Energy:	4.32	n				Froude Number:	2.360	
			Froude Number	1.023					Flow Type	Supercritical	
			Discharge Full:	116.13	cfs						
			Stope Full;	0.005	frift						
			Flow Type:	Supercritical							

culvert.		
Energy Dissipation (	Calculations	
Discharge (cfs)	Velocity (ft/s)	Area (sqft)
138.35	9.77	
Velocity after Energy Dissipation	1.77	78

- b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;
  - Yes / No The development is allowed by code to have a primary access off of each public road with sufficient frontage, as well as needs at least two ingress/egress points for proper traffic circulation and fire protection. Additionally, per the Transportation Criteria Manual (Sec. 9.30), freight loading, and trash facilities should be designed/located away from customer vehicular/pedestrian traffic to minimize intermixing and conflicts, and would require a separate access for these uses.
- c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.

4

- Yes / No The site location was chosen to reduce the impact and area of improvements that are on excessive slopes.
- 3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.

Yes / No This does not effect water quality. Water quality for the site is provided.

- Β. Additional Land Use Commission variance determinations for a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), or Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long):
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met;

Yes / No <u>N/A</u>

2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property;

Yes / No N/A

3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property.

Yes / No <u>N/A</u>

\*\*Variance approval requires all above affirmative findings.

## **Exhibits for Commission Variance**

- Aerial photos of the site
- Site photos
- Aerial photos of the vicinity
- Context Map—A map illustrating the subject property in relation to developments in the vicinity to include nearby major streets and waterways
- Topographic Map A topographic map is recommended if a significant grade change on the subject site exists or if there is a significant difference in grade in relation to adjacent properties.
- For cut/fill variances, a plan sheet showing areas and depth of cut/fill with topographic elevations.
- Site plan showing existing conditions if development exists currently on the property
- Proposed Site Plan- full size electronic or at least legible 11x17 showing proposed development, include tree survey if required as part of site or subdivision plan
- Environmental Map A map that shows pertinent features including Floodplain, CWQZ, WQTZ, CEFs, Setbacks, Recharge Zone, etc.
- An Environmental Resource Inventory pursuant to ECM 1.3.0 (if required by 25-8-121)
- o Applicant's variance request letter



November 2, 2021

Pamela Abee-Tualli, LEED, CPESC COA Development Services Department One Texas Center 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, Texas 78705

Re: Driveway On Slopes Greater Than 15% (LDC 25-8-301) HEB Austin 33 12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737 SP-2020-0400D

Dear Ms. Abee-Taulli:

On behalf of our client, H-E-B, Jones & Carter, Inc. is requesting an Environmental Commission variance of LDC Section 25-8-301, that driveways cannot be constructed on slopes greater than 15%.

The location of the driveways that are being built across areas that have slopes greater than 15% were determined by TxDOT and Hays County. Due to street improvements that are taking place on Nutty Brown Road, the driveway locations were set to comply with TxDOT and Hays County queuing spacing requirements for a signaled intersection. The driveway along US-290 has been approved by TxDOT, and the placement of this driveway was determined based on the location of other existing driveways and the spacing from the intersection from Nutty Brown Road. The locations of the driveways also allow for the easiest access for fire trucks, pedestrian vehicles, and operations trucks. Due to the restraints and placement of the driveways we feel that we have minimized the areas being built over slopes greater than 15%.

We feel that our design methodology complies with the intent of LDC 25-8-301, but we feel that the driveways were placed in the most optimum locations to have the least amount of area being built over slopes greater than 15%.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (210) 546-0057.

Sincerely,

E. 2/L Joseph York, P.E



# **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION VARIANCE APPLICATION FORM**

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION Applicant Contact Information**

Name of Applicant	Joseph York, P.E.			
Street Address	4350 Lockhill Selma Rd. Suite 100			
City State ZIP Code	San Antonio, Texas 78249			
Work Phone	210-546-5511			
E-Mail Address	kfelux@jonescarter.com			
Variance Case Information				
Case Name	HEB Austin 33			
Case Number	SP-2020-0400D			
Address or Location	12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737			
Environmental Reviewer Name	Pamela Abee-Taulli			
Environmental Resource Management Reviewer Name	N/A			
Applicable Ordinance	Watershed Protection Ordinance			
Watershed Name	Bear Creek			
Watershed Classification	□ Urban□ Suburban□ Water Supply Suburban□ Water Supply Rural☑ Barton Springs Zone			

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone	<ul> <li>☑ Barton Springs Segment</li> <li>□ Northern Edwards Segment</li> <li>□ Not in Edwards Aquifer Zones</li> </ul>
Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone	☑ Yes □ No
Distance to Nearest Classified Waterway	Approx. 19,000 LF
Water and Waste Water service to be provided by	Water: West Travis County Public Utility Agency Wastewater: On-site wastewater treatment plant
Request	The variance request is as follows (Cite code references): 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.

Impervious cover	Existing	Proposed		
square footage:	22,930	_585,011_		
acreage:	0.53	13.43		
percentage:	0.87%	24.66%		
Provide general				
description of the	The existing topography of the subject tract consists of natural slopes ranging			
property (slope	from 1%-35%. The site contains portions that are in excess of 15% slope. The highest point of the site is located along the northern boundary at an elevation of 1195 feet above sea level. The lowest point of the site is located at the south-eastern corner of the site at an elevation of approximately 1089 feet above sea level. The site is currently comprised of two tracts, a 1.01-acre tract and a 59.60-acre tract. The smaller tract is currently developed but will be demolished upon development, and the larger tract is undeveloped as pasture with brush and trees. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Soil Survey of Travis County, Texas, soils on the property are classified in 97.6% in Hydrologic Soil Group D and 2.4% in Hydrologic Soil Class C. The soils are predominantly			
range, elevation				
range, summary of				
vegetation / trees,				
summary of the				
geology, CWQZ,				
WQTZ, CEFs,				
floodplain, heritage				
trees, any other				
notable or	Brackett-Rock outcrop comfort complex, wi	th 1-8% slopes, Brackett-Rock		
outstanding	site is in the Bear Creek Watershed which is	iu Kruin Clay With 3-5% slopes. The		
characteristics of the	watershed			
property)				

Clearly indicate in what	
way the proposed project	
does not comply with	Parking Areas are being built across slopes that are greater than 15%.
current Code (include	Please see the excessive slopes map provided.
maps and exhibits)	

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

As required in LDC Section 25-8-41, in order to grant a variance the Land Use Commission must make the following findings of fact:

Include an explanation with each applicable finding of fact.

Project: HEB Austin 33

Ordinance: LDC 25-8-302

- Α. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Chapter 25-8-41 of the City Code:
  - 1. The requirement will deprive the applicant of a privilege available to owners of similarly situated property with approximately contemporaneous development subject to similar code requirements.
    - Yes / No Due to the excessive slopes of the site, it was deemed that the current configuration was the best placement of the site. Moving the site will place parking areas over other excessive slopes.

#### 2. The variance:

- a) Is not necessitated by the scale, layout, construction method, or other design decision made by the applicant, unless the design decision provides greater overall environmental protection than is achievable without the variance;
  - Yes / No The site is covered in excessive slopes, the placement of the site was thought to be least impactful.
- b) Is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable use of the property;
  - Yes / No Excessive slopes cover most of the site. Any development of the site would most likely involve building on excessive slopes.
c) Does not create a significant probability of harmful environmental consequences.

3. Development with the variance will result in water quality that is at least equal to the water quality achievable without the variance.

Y<u>es</u>/No The variance does not impact water quality facilities onsite, which have been designed in accordance with City code requirements.

- Β. Additional Land Use Commission variance determinations for a requirement of Section 25-8-422 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Section 25-8-452 (Water Quality Transition Zone), Article 7, Division 1 (Critical Water Quality Zone Restrictions), or Section 25-8-368 (Restrictions on Development Impacting Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake, and Lake Walter E. Long):
  - 1. The criteria for granting a variance in Subsection (A) are met;

Yes / No N/A

2. The requirement for which a variance is requested prevents a reasonable, economic use of the entire property;

Yes / No N/A

3. The variance is the minimum deviation from the code requirement necessary to allow a reasonable, economic use of the entire property.

Yes / No N/A

\*\*Variance approval requires all above affirmative findings.

Yes / No The site location was chosen to reduce the impact and area of improvements that are on excessive slopes.

### **Exhibits for Commission Variance**

- Aerial photos of the site
- Site photos
- Aerial photos of the vicinity
- Context Map—A map illustrating the subject property in relation to developments in the vicinity to include nearby major streets and waterways
- Topographic Map A topographic map is recommended if a significant grade change on the subject site exists or if there is a significant difference in grade in relation to adjacent properties.
- For cut/fill variances, a plan sheet showing areas and depth of cut/fill with topographic elevations.
- Site plan showing existing conditions if development exists currently on the property
- Proposed Site Plan- full size electronic or at least legible 11x17 showing proposed development, include tree survey if required as part of site or subdivision plan
- Environmental Map A map that shows pertinent features including Floodplain, CWQZ, WQTZ, CEFs, Setbacks, Recharge Zone, etc.
- An Environmental Resource Inventory pursuant to ECM 1.3.0 (if required by 25-8-121)
- o Applicant's variance request letter



November 2, 2021

Pamela Abee-Tualli, LEED, CPESC COA Development Services Department One Texas Center 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, Texas 78705

Re: Parking Areas On Slopes Greater Than 15% (LDC 25-8-302) HEB Austin 33 12021 W US 290, Austin, TX 78737 SP-2020-0400D

Dear Ms. Abee-Taulli:

On behalf of our client, H-E-B, Jones & Carter, Inc. is requesting an Environmental Commission variance of LDC Section 25-8-302, that parking areas cannot be constructed on slopes greater than 15%.

The site placement was determined to minimize where the buildings and driveways would be placed on excessive slopes. The current placement of the proposed development was determined to have the least impact on excessive slopes. Unfortunately, excessive slopes exist throughout most of the site, and moving the site improvements around would result in the parking areas still over excessive slopes.

We feel that our design methodology complies with the intent of LDC 25-8-302, but we feel that the parking areas were placed in the most optimum locations to have the least amount of area being built over slopes greater than 15%.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (210) 546-0057.

Sincerely,

Joseph York, P.E.

### **EXHIBITS**

OVERALL AERIAL MAP	. EXHIBIT 1
SITE PHOTOS	. EXHIBIT 2
CONTEXT MAP	. EXHIBIT 3
EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY & TREE MAP	. EXHIBIT 4
CUT & FILL MAP	EXHIBIT 5
SLOPE MAP	EXHIBIT 6
SITE PLAN	EXHIBIT 7
TERRACE WALL PROFILE	EXHIBIT 8
ENVIRONMENTAL MAP	EXHIBIT 9
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES INVENTORY	EXHIBIT 10

# EXHIBIT 1 OVERALL AERIAL VIEW





Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying Registration No. 10046105 Texas Board of Professional Engineers Registration No. F-439 4350 Lockhill-Selma Road, Suite 100 - San Antonio, Texas 78249 - 210.494.5511 Austin \* Brenham \* Bryan \* Dallas \* Houston \* Rosenberg \* San Antonio \* The Woodlands

© 2021 Jones | Carter

### H-E-B AUSTIN 33 AERIAL MAP

## EXHIBIT 2 SITE PHOTOS

### Site Photos







### EXHIBIT 3 CONTEXT MAP



#### JONES CARTER JC

Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying Registration No. 10046105 Texas Board of Professional Engineers Registration No. F-439 4350 Lockhill-Selma Road, Suite 100 · San Antonio, Texas 78249 · 210.494.5511 Austin \* Brenham \* Bryan \* Dallas \* Houston \* Rosenberg \* San Antonio \* The Woodlands

### H-E-B AUSTIN 33 VICINITY MAP

### EXHIBIT 4 EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC AND TREE MAP



### EXHIBIT 5 CUT-FILL MAP



	2021 PLEASE BE ADVISED: THIS DOCUMENT MAY CONTAIN SENSITIVE AND/OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND THEREFORE MUST BE TREATED AS A CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTES AN AGREEMENT THAT THIS DOCUMENT AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL BE MAINTAINED AND TRANSMITTED IN A CONFIDENTIAL MANNER. NO PART OF THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REPRODUCED, RELEASED OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF H.E.B. GROCERY. ANY DISTRIBUTION TO NON-H.E.B. ENTITIES OR PERSONS MUST BE SUBJECT TO A WRITTEN CONFIDENTIAL AGREEMENT.
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	ERALL GRADING AND DRAINAGE PLAN HEB AUSTIN 33 #780 12021 W US 290 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78737
RMATION	SCALE: AS INDICATED CONSUL. JONES   CARTER PROJ. NO.: 50977-0004-04 DATE: 01.14.2021 DATE: 01.14.2021 SHEET NO. SHEET NO. C-5.0 19 OF 46



	PLEASE BE ADWSED: THIS DOCUMENT MAY CONTAIN SENSITIVE AND/OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND THEREFORE MUST BE TREATED AS A CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTES AN AGREEMENT THAT THIS DOCUMENT AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL BE MAINTAINED AND TRANSMITTED IN A CONFIDENTIAL MANNER. NO PART OF THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REPRODUCED. RELEASED OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF H.E.B. GROCERY. ANY DISTRIBUTION TO NON-H.E.B. ENTITES OR PERSONS MUST BE SUBJECT TO A WRITTEN CONFIDENTIAL ITY AGREEMENT.
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TILL) OF 8'+ TILL) OF 4'-8' UT) OF 4'-8' UT) OF 8'+	
	OVERALL GRADING AND DRAINAGE PLAN HEB AUSTIN 33 #780 12021 W US 290 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78737
RMATION	SCALE: AS INDICATED CONSUL. JONES I CARTER PROJ. NO.: S0977-0004-04 DATE: 01.14.2021 SHEET NO. C-5.0 19 OF 46

## EXHIBIT 6 SLOPE MAP



![](_page_54_Figure_0.jpeg)

## EXHIBIT 7 SITE PLAN

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

# EXHIBIT 8 TERRACE WALL PROFILE

![](_page_58_Figure_0.jpeg)

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11/12/2021

# **REAR WALL EXHIBIT**

AUSTIN 33

![](_page_58_Picture_8.jpeg)

SCALE: 1" = 30'

# EXHIBIT 9 ENVIRONMENTAL MAP

![](_page_60_Figure_0.jpeg)

# EXHIBIT 10 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

### Environmental Resource Inventory Waiver Request Form

For The City of Austin

Related to LDG 23=0=121(D) of Gity Gode 30-5-121(L	Related to LDC 25	-8-121(D) or Cit	y Code 30-5-121(E
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#### **GENERAL SITE INFORMATION:**

1. SITE/PROJECT NAME: HEB Austin No. 33

2. COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT PROPERTY ID (#'s): Hays County (R15484, R144958)

3. ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PROJECT: 12225 US 290, Austin, TX 78737

4. WATERSHED: Bear Creek

THIS SITE IS WITHIN THE (Check all that apply)

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone* (See note below)	<b>UYES</b>	No
Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone*	<b>YES</b>	<b>No</b>
Barton Spring Zone*	<b>YES</b>	□No

### 6. DOES THIS PROJECT PROPOSE FLOODPLAIN MODIFICATION? ... □YES\*\* ■NO

- IF YES, THEN DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS APPLY? (check all that apply):
- (1) The floodplain modifications proposed are necessary to protect the public health and safety;

(2) The floodplain modifications proposed would provide a significant, demonstrable environmental benefit, as determined by a functional assessment of floodplain health as prescribed by the Environmental Criteria Manual(ECM), or

- (3) The floodplain modifications proposed are necessary for development allowed in the critical water quality zone under LDC 25-8-261or 25-8-262, City Code 30-5-261 or 30-5-262.
- (4) The floodplain modifications proposed are outside of the Critical Water Quality Zone in an area determined to be in poor or fair condition by a functional assessment of floodplain health.

\*\* If yes, then a Functional Assessment must be completed and attached to the ERI (see ECM 1.7 and Appendix X in the Environmental Criteria Manual for forms and guidance) unless conditions 1 or 3 above apply.

 DOES THIS PROJECT PROPOSE AN UTILITY LINE PARALLEL TO AND WITHIN THE CRITICAL WATER QUALITY ZONE?

\*\*\*If yes, then riparian restoration is required by LDC 25-8-261(E) and a Functional Assessment must be completed and attached to the ERI (see ECM 1.5 and Appendix X in the Environmental Criteria Manual for forms and guidance).

#### REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR WAIVER REQUEST:

Pursuant to LDC 25-8-121(D) or City Code 30-5-121(D), the Director of the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) may permit an applicant to exclude information that is required in ERI report if the Director determines that the information is unnecessary because of the scope or nature of the proposed development. Please provide the requested information below to WPD for review. <u>Please</u> <u>be advised, if granted, this waiver may be rescinded in the future, if new information is</u> <u>discovered during the review process that requires that an ERI be completed for this site.</u>

- A NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION of current site conditions and justifications to support the granting of the waiver request are attached at the end of this form. Reference EA For Narrative of current conditions
- 2. . \_\_\_\_ The following MAPS of the site is attached: Reference EA For Maps

WPD ERM ERI Waiver-2014-01

(Map Information available at http://www.austintexas.gov/GIS/DevelopmentWebMap/Viewer.aspx)

- Site Location Map
- □ Historic Aerial Photo at least 15 years old
- Current Aerial Photo
- □ Topographic Map with a 2 feet contour interval

To the best of my knowledge, the responses to this form accurately and thoroughly reflect all information requested.

	210-040-0007
rint Name	Telephone
hulos Folios	kfelux@jonescarter.com
iggeture	Email Address
lones Carter	12/22/20
lame of Company	Date
WATERSHED PROTECTION DEPARTMENT	USE ONLY.
The waiver requested from LDC 25-8-121(D) of 0 project has been: Denied x Approved Rescinded Ap (see below) Formal and/or administrative variances are Critical Environmental Features are presen The information provided is incomplete (se Denied, but the following sections can be o Other	City Code 30-5-121(D) for the above reference proved with TCEQ Geologic Assessment a required for this proposed development, nt on or within 150 feet of site boundaries, be comments below), omitted (see comments below).
Comments:	
Reasoning for Approval (This form must be included	
<ul> <li>Engineer's Report and/or Summary):</li> <li>No Critical Environmental Features are pre</li> <li>The site has existing impervious cover and</li> <li>No floodplains, slopes &gt;15%, CWQZs, WC contributing zone are present on site and 1 and will be submitted (Only for sites within the site)</li> </ul>	esent on or within 150 feet of the site boundaries. I no significant undisturbed natural areas. QTZs, wetlands, and the Edwards Aquifer FCEQ Geologic Assessment has been completed Edwards Aquifer).
Engineer's Report and/or Summary): In No Critical Environmental Features are present on site has existing impervious cover and No floodplains, slopes >15%, CWQZs, WC contributing zone are present on site and T and will be submitted (Only for sites within the X) Other: attached EA contains the information of the submitted i	esent on or within 150 feet of the site boundaries, i no significant undisturbed natural areas. QTZs, wetlands, and the Edwards Aquifer ICEQ Geologic Assessment has been completed Edwards Aquifer).
Engineer's Report and/or Summary):  No Critical Environmental Features are pre The site has existing impervious cover and No floodplains, slopes >15%, CWQZs, WC contributing zone are present on site and T and will be submitted (Only for sites within the and X Other: attached EA contains the info Comments:  Attached EA acceptable, ERI format	esent on or within 150 feet of the site boundaries. I no significant undisturbed natural areas. QTZs, wetlands, and the Edwards Aquifer ICEQ Geologic Assessment has been completed Edwards Aquifer).

If you have questions on how to fill out this form, please contact the Watershed Protection Department at 512/974-2550.

![](_page_64_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Environmental Services, Inc.

30 October 2014

Environmental Resource Inventory Endangered Species Habitat Assessment City of Austin Land Development Code (Section 25-8-121) Compliance Report

RE: 60-Acre Nutty Brown Road Tract, Austin, SH 290 @ Nutty Brown Road, Hays County, Texas HJN 140014 EA

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report provides the results of an environmental resource inventory conducted by Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (Horizon) on an approximately 60-acre tract of land located southeast of the intersection of State Highway (SH) 290 and Nutty Brown Road (Appendix A, Figures 1 and 2). Horizon conducted the field reconnaissance on 27 January 2014. Horizon spent a minimum of 2 person-hours in the field evaluating the site and surrounding area, and completed the assessment process by conducting a review of existing literature.

#### 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

#### 2.1 LAND USE

The northwestern portion of the subject site is currently utilized as a restaurant/amphitheater and dirt parking areas known as the Nutty Brown Cafe. The northeastern portion of the subject site is currently utilized as a mobile Recreational vehicle (RV) park. No current land use was observed on the southern portion of the subject site. The Photographs of the subject site are provided in Appendix B. The following land uses border the subject site:

North:	SH 290, Oak Branch Drive, vacant land Commercial, multi-family
	residential, single-family residential, roadways
South:	Kit Carson Drive and a high-density single-family residential (SFR)
	community with associated roadways
East:	Rural SFR home site and vacant woodland
West:	Nutty Brown Road, and vacant woodland

140014\_report2

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### 2.2 VEGETATION

The subject site is situated within the Live Oak-Ashe Juniper Parks vegetational area of Texas (Gould, 1975). Vegetation observed on the subject site includes Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*), plateau live oak (*Quercus fusiformis*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassfolia*), sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*), Texas prickly pear (*Opuntia engelmannii*), johnsongrass (*Sorghum halapense*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), chinaberry (*Melia Azedarach*) and little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*).

Very limited wetland vegetation was observed on the subject site within the banks of a creek located on the northeast boundary which includes black willow (*Salix nigra*) and common spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*).

#### 2.3 TOPOGRAPHY AND SURFACE WATER

This site is within the Contributing Zone of the Edwards Aquifer (COA, 1998; TCEQ, 2014). Topographically, the site ranges from approximately 1080 to 1280 feet above mean sea level (USGS, 1986). Drainage on the subject site occurs primarily by overland sheet flow in a northwest-to-southeast direction into an on-site tributary of Bear Creek. None of the subject site lies within the 100-year floodplain (FEMA, 2005; 2008). A review of the National Wetland Inventory maps showed no potential wetland areas on the subject site (USFWS, 1993).

#### 2.4 SOILS

Soils mapped within the subject site include the following:

SOIL NAME	SOIL TYPE	SOIL DEPTH (FEET)	UNDERLYING MATERIAL	PERMEABILITY	AVAILABLE WATER CAPACITY	SHRINK- SWELL CAPACITY
Brackett-Rock outcrop-Comfort complex, undulating (BtD)	gravelly clay loam	1.4	weakly cemented limestone interbedded with thin layers of indurated limestone	moderately slow	very low	low
Brackett-Rock outcrop-Real complex, steep (BtG)	gravelly clay loam	1.2	weakly cemented limestone interbedded with thin strata of shaly clay	moderately slow	very low	low
Krum clay, 3 to 5 % slopes (KrC)	clay	4.5	clay	moderately slow	medium	high

#### TABLE 1 – SOILS

Source: NRCS, 2014

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### 2.5 EDWARDS AQUIFER ZONE

The subject site is found within the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone (COA, 1998 and TCEQ, 2014). The Contributing Zone of the Edwards Aquifer includes all watersheds that feed runoff into rivers and streams that flow over the Recharge Zone (TCEQ, 1999). TCEQ rules regulate activities in the portions of the Contributing Zone that are within the counties already regulated by the Edwards Aquifer Rules. These areas are generally north and west of the Recharge Zone (TCEQ, 1996).

#### 2.6 GEOLOGY

A review of existing literature shows the site is underlain by the upper Glen Rose Formation (Kgr(u)) (UT-BEG, 1981). The upper member of the Glen Rose Limestone is relatively impermeable and described as the lower confining unit of the Edwards Aquifer. It has a maximum thickness of about 350 to 500 feet. Stair-step topography is characteristic of the upper member of the Glen Rose Limestone. The Upper Glen Rose Limestone is described as yellowish-tan, thinly bedded limestone and marl (Garner and Young, 1976). The upper member of the Glen Rose Limestone is relatively more thinly bedded, more dolomitic, and less fossiliferous than the lower member of the Glen Rose Limestone. The top of the upper member of the Glen Rose Limestone is red-stained, lumpy, irregular, and bored, with oysters cemented onto the surface (Rose, 1972).

#### 2.7 WATER WELLS

A review of the records of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) revealed no documented water wells on the subject site and within 150 feet from the subject site (TWDB, 2014). No evidence of water wells was observed on the subject site during Horizon's site reconnaissance.

The results of this assessment do not preclude the existence of additional undocumented/abandoned wells. If a water well or casing is encountered during construction, work should be halted near the feature until the TCEQ is contacted.

#### 3.0 CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

The City of Austin definition of a critical environmental feature (CEF) includes caves, sinkholes, springs, wetlands, bluffs, canyon rimrock, water wells within the Edwards Aquifer, and significant recharge features located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. Two potential CEF as defined by the City of Austin was found on or within 150 feet from the subject property. The first CEF (S-1) is a wetland pond which is mapped on the west central portion of the Property. It is Horizon's opinion that this stock pond temporarily impounds water for limited amounts of time that has allowed sparse, low quality wetland vegetation such as spikerush and black willow to establish. A 50' buffer established along the pond edge and would adequately

![](_page_67_Picture_0.jpeg)

protect this CEF feature. All features are mapped in Figure 3 (Appendix A) and photographs are provided in Appendix B.

The 2nd CEF (S-2) is described as a wetland CEF and an associated biological resource buffer which was mapped on the northeast boundary of the subject site as identified on the City of Austin Development Web Map (COA, 2014). This wetland CEF is more accurately described as the headwaters of an ephemeral creek that lies at the base of a large stockpile of imported fill material (photos attached). A 50' buffer established along the centerline of the creek and extending to the southeast off the subject site would adequately protect this CEF feature. All features are mapped in Figure 3 (Appendix A) and photographs are provided in Appendix B.

#### 4.0 ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Literature and agency file searches were conducted to identify the potential occurrence of any federally listed endangered species in the vicinity of the subject site. The following federally listed species may be found in Hays County: Austin blind salamander (*Eurycea waterlooensis*), Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), Comal Springs drypoid beetle (*Stygoparnus comalensis*), Comal Springs riffle beetle (*Heterelmis comalensis*), fountain darter (*Etheostoma fonticola*), golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*), Peck's cave amphipod (*Stygobromus pecki*), San Marcos gambusia (*Gambusia georgei*), San Marcos salamander (*Eurycea nana*), Texas blind salamander (*Typhlomolge rathbuni*), Texas wild-rice (*Zizania texana*) (USFWS, 2014). Additionally, the USFWS lists the following migratory bird species as potentially occurring in many or all Texas counties: whooping crane (*Grus americana*), Eskimo curlew (*Numenius borealis*), interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*), and piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*).

The subject site is not underlain by a geologic formation that is known to form caves or voids that may provide habitat for terrestrial karst invertebrates. The subject site is mapped as Zone 4 (areas that do not contain potential endangered cave species habitat) by Veni and Associates (1991).

Examination of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Natural Diversity Database indicated no documented occurrence(s) of listed species on or within a 0.5-mile radius of the subject site (TPWD, 2014).

Golden-cheeked warbler habitat in central Texas typically consists of mature Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*) and broad-leaved oak woodlands, with a high percentage of canopy coverage within and adjacent to incised canyons of central Texas. It is Horizon's opinion that the subject site does not exhibit habitat characteristics for the golden-cheeked warbler.

![](_page_68_Picture_0.jpeg)

Black-capped vireos typically nest in distinctive and dense scrubby mottes (to about 6 feet high) interspersed in open grassland within central Texas. Common vegetation within these mottes includes shin oak (*Quercus sinuate* var. *breviloba*), plateau live oak (*Quercus fusiformis*), evergreen sumac (*Rhus virens*), Texas persimmon (*Diospyros texana*), agarita (*Berberis trifoliolata*), and Ashe juniper. It is Horizon's opinion that the subject site does not exhibit habitat characteristics for the black-capped vireos.

It is Horizon's opinion that the subject site does not provide potentially suitable habitat for any of the federally listed endangered species that occur in Hays County. Additionally, it is Horizon's opinion that any occurrence of the federally listed migratory bird species on the subject site would be temporary in nature, and that development of the site would not adversely impact the species.

For Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.

S-4-7

Shannon Dorsey Principal

30 October 2014 Date

![](_page_69_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### 4.0 **REFERENCES**

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![](_page_70_Picture_0.jpeg)

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- (UT-BEG) University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, Proctor, C.V., Jr., T.E. Brown, J.H. McGowen, N.B. Waechter, and V.E. Barnes. *Geologic Atlas of Texas*, Austin Sheet, Francis Luther Whitney Memorial Edition. 1974; revised 1981.
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![](_page_71_Picture_0.jpeg)

APPENDIX A

FIGURES




AUSTIN, HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS





Feet

Horizon

Environmental Services, Inc.

2012 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY 60-ACRE NUTTY BROWN TRACT SH 290 AT NUTTY BROWN ROAD AUSTIN, HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS





## APPENDIX B

## SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: CEF S-1 Stock Pond



Photo 2: CEF S-1 Stock Pond Wetland Vegetation



Photo 3: CEF S-2 Head of Stream at Edge of Fill Material



APPENDIX C

**CEF WORKSHEET** 

## City of Austin Site Review Critical Environmental Feature Worksheet

1	Project Name:	60-acre Nutty Brown Tract			5	Primary Contact Name:	Shannon Dorsey				
2	Project Address:	SH 290 at Nutty Brown Rd			6	Phone Number:	512-328-2430				
3	Date:	2/10/2014			7	Prepared By:	C. Carrell				
4	Environmental Assessment Date:	1/27/2014		8	CEFS Located? {yes,no} :	YES					
9	FEATURE TYPE {Wetland,Rimrock,Recharge Feature,Seep,Spring}	FEATURE ID (eg S-1)	FEATURE LONGITUDE (WGS 1984 in Meters)		FEATURE LATITUDE (WGS 1984 in Meters)			WETLAND DIMENSIONS (ft)		RIMROCK DIMENSIONS (ft)	
			coordinate	notation		coordinate	notation	Х	Y	Length	Avg Height
	Wetland	S-1	-97.97157	DD		30.205928	DD	56	70		
	Wetland	S-2	-97.96822	DD		30.20757	DD	30	30		
	City of Austin Lise Only										
	WPDRD CASE NUMBER:										
		•						1			

For rimrock, locate the midpoint of the segment that describes the feature.

For wetlands, locate the approximate centroid of the feature and the estimated area.



For a spring or seep, locate the source of groundwater that feeds a pool or stream.







All the trees in the Cyan colored areas are proposed to be undisturbed.

