

Zoning and Platting Commission Resolution

Equitable Environmental Protections

Whereas, the Austin City Council passed Resolution [20220609-061](#) “relating to environmental protections and water quality”; and

Whereas, the City Council directed the City Manager “to address the equitable protection of the environment throughout the City of Austin as part of the Watershed Protection Strategic Plan”; and

Whereas, the proposed regulations include green stormwater infrastructure and functional green to lessen the heat island effect and provide other benefits; and

Whereas, the proposed regulations lessen environmental reviews for some projects including water quality controls, critical environmental features, construction on slopes and watershed impervious cover limits; and

Whereas, the City of Austin Zoning and Platting Commission welcomes improved environmental protections and water quality throughout the entire City.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Zoning and Platting Commission encourages the Austin City Council to approve C20-2022-005a, Land Development Code Amendments with the following changes

- Clarify that the impervious cover limit in § 15-5-3 (B)(13)(b) is the impervious cover allowed by the zoning or 55%, whichever is less, and
- Retain environmental reviews including water quality controls for projects that currently require them; and

Be it further resolved that the following directions from the Council resolution be completed as soon as possible:

- Require the environmental staff to work with Austin’s Equity Office to address inequities created by different rules for the Desired Development Zone and Critical Water Quality Zones such as Barton Springs; and
- Require that all subdivisions and site plans in Urban Watersheds meet steep slope protections; and
- Require new and redeveloped projects to use greenfield conditions as a baseline when calculating drainage requirements.