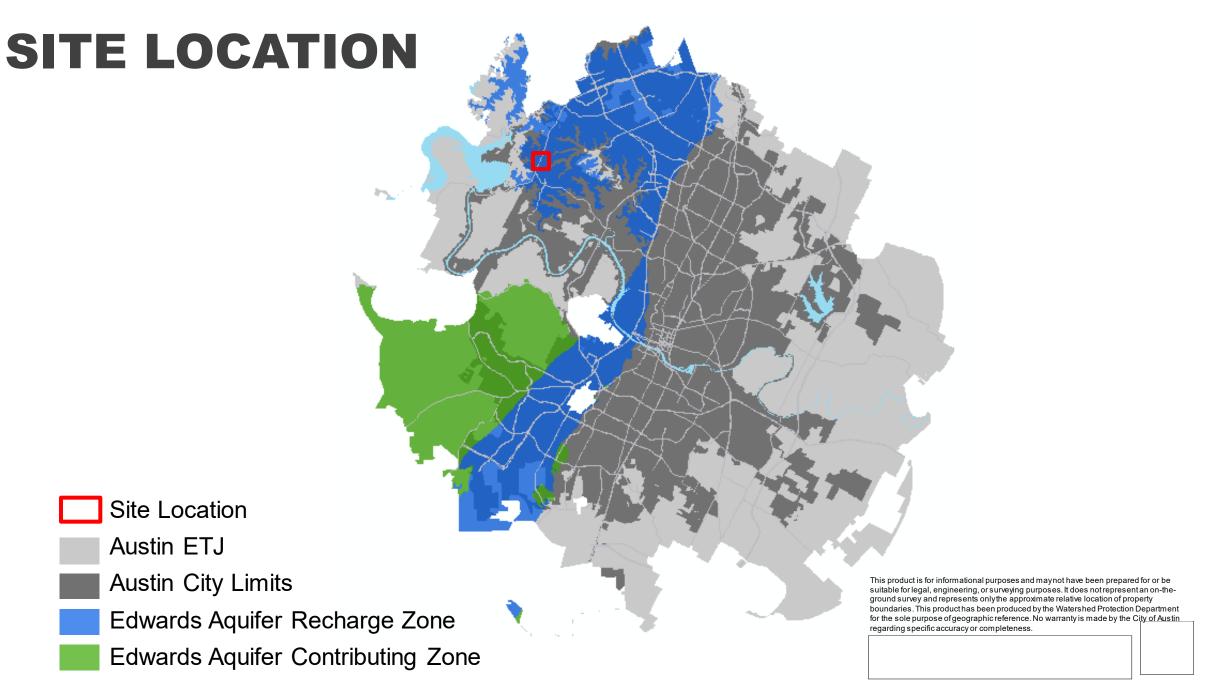
# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SPORTS COMPLEX 8200 KILIAN ROAD AUSTIN, TEXAS, 78726 SP-2022-0020C

Mel Fuechec

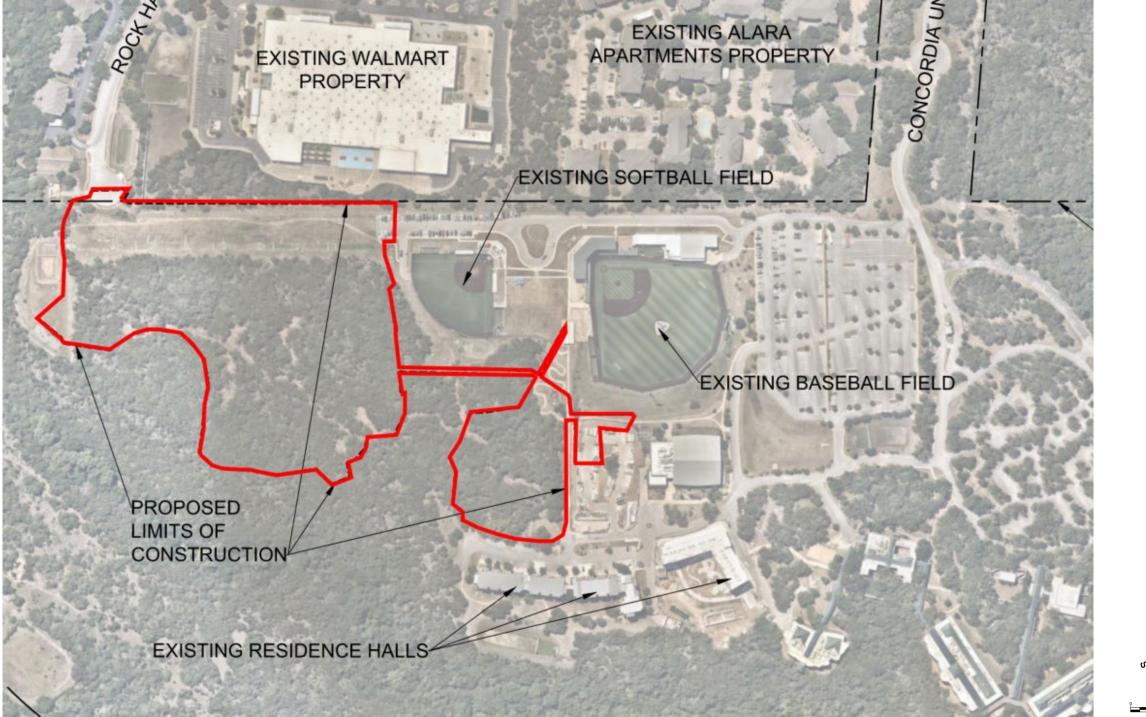
Environmental Review Specialist Senior

Development Services Department



## PROPERTY DATA

- Bull Creek, Water Supply Suburban Classification
- Full Purpose Jurisdiction
- Council District 6
- Drinking Water Protection Zone
- Located over Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone
- 6 Critical Environmental Features
- 1 Minor Critical Water Quality Zone
- Subject to Schlumberger Planned Development Area,
  Ordinance No. 20070215-042 (as amended) and Lake Austin
  Watershed Ordinance No. 840301-F as stated in the Planned
  Development Area





## **VARIANCE REQUEST**

To vary from Lake Austin Watershed Ordinance No. 840301-F

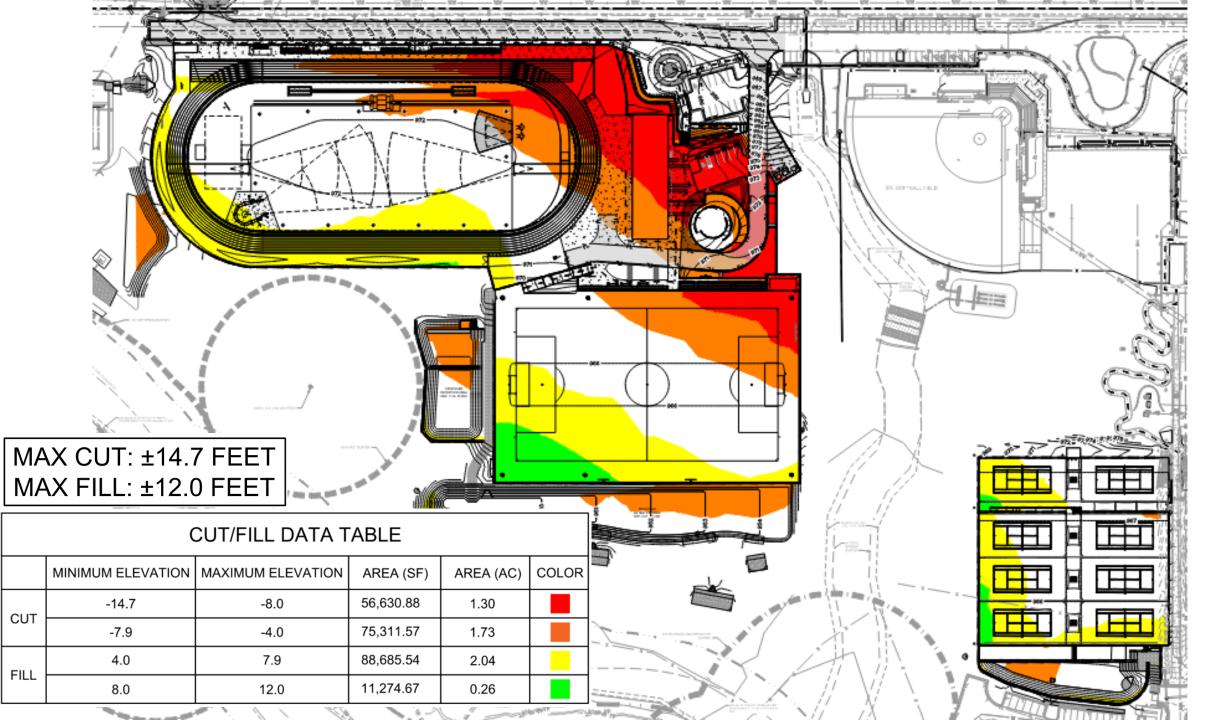
- Section 9-10-409(a) for fill exceeding four feet (to ~12')
- Section 9-10-409(b) for cut exceeding four feet (to ~15')

In order to construct NCAA compliant training and playing facilities, associated parking and pedestrian improvements, and biofiltration ponds and rain gardens

## **BACKGROUND**

The natural slope of the property, the locations of CEF setbacks, the size and orientation required of NCAA compliant facilities, and the requirement that such playing fields maintain a constant elevation necessitate the proposed grading. In an effort to balance the required earthwork and minimize the cut and fill required to the maximum extent practicable, portions of the emergency access road are proposed at the maximum allowable slope for an emergency access road; and the tennis courts are tiered to reduce the amount of grading required for their construction.

All developed runoff will be treated by two biofiltration ponds, two detention ponds, and rain gardens. No developed runoff will flow to the critical environmental features.



## FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. Land Use Commission variance determinations from Section 9-10-377 of the City Code:
- 1. Are there special circumstances applicable to the property involved where strict application deprives such property owner of privileges or safety enjoyed by other similarly situated property with similarly timed development?

Yes In site plan case #SP-2007-0231C, a variance to Lake Austin Ordinance #840301-F, Sections 9-10-409(a) and 9-10-409(b) was granted for a max cut of +/-5.8' and a max fill of +/- 17.5' to construct a parking area, baseball field, and fieldhouse. Thereafter, a variance to the same code sections was granted for a max cut of +/-9.25' and a max fill of +/- 14.85' to construct a water quality and detention facility, a water quality channel, a softball field, and associated parking in site plan case #SP-2013-0476C. A similar variance for cut of +/-8.7 feet and fill of +/-9 feet was granted in site plan case #SP-2020-0038C to construct two water quality/detention facilities, a four story residence hall, and associated parking.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

<u>2.</u> Does the project demonstrate minimum departures from the terms of the ordinance necessary to avoid such deprivation of privileges enjoyed by such other property and to facilitate a reasonable use, and which will not create significant probabilities of harmful environmental consequences?

Yes The variance is the minimum departure necessary to avoid the deprivation of privileges enjoyed by such other property and to allow for the University to construct NCAA sports fields and associated parking and improvements, in accordance with the allowable land use and which will not create significant probabilities of harmful environmental consequences.

The natural slope of the property, the locations of CEF setbacks, the size and orientation required of NCAA compliant facilities, and the requirement that such playing fields maintain a constant elevation necessitate the proposed grading. In an effort to balance the required earthwork and minimize the cut and fill required to the maximum extent practicable, portions of the emergency access road are proposed at the maximum allowable slope for an emergency access road; and the tennis courts are tiered to reduce the amount of grading required for their construction.

All developed runoff will be treated by two biofiltration ponds, two detention ponds, and rain gardens. No runoff will flow to the critical environmental features.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

3. The proposal does not provide special privileges not enjoyed by other similarly situated properties with similarly timed development, and is not based on a special or unique condition which was created as a result of the method by which a person voluntarily subdivided land after October 20, 1983.

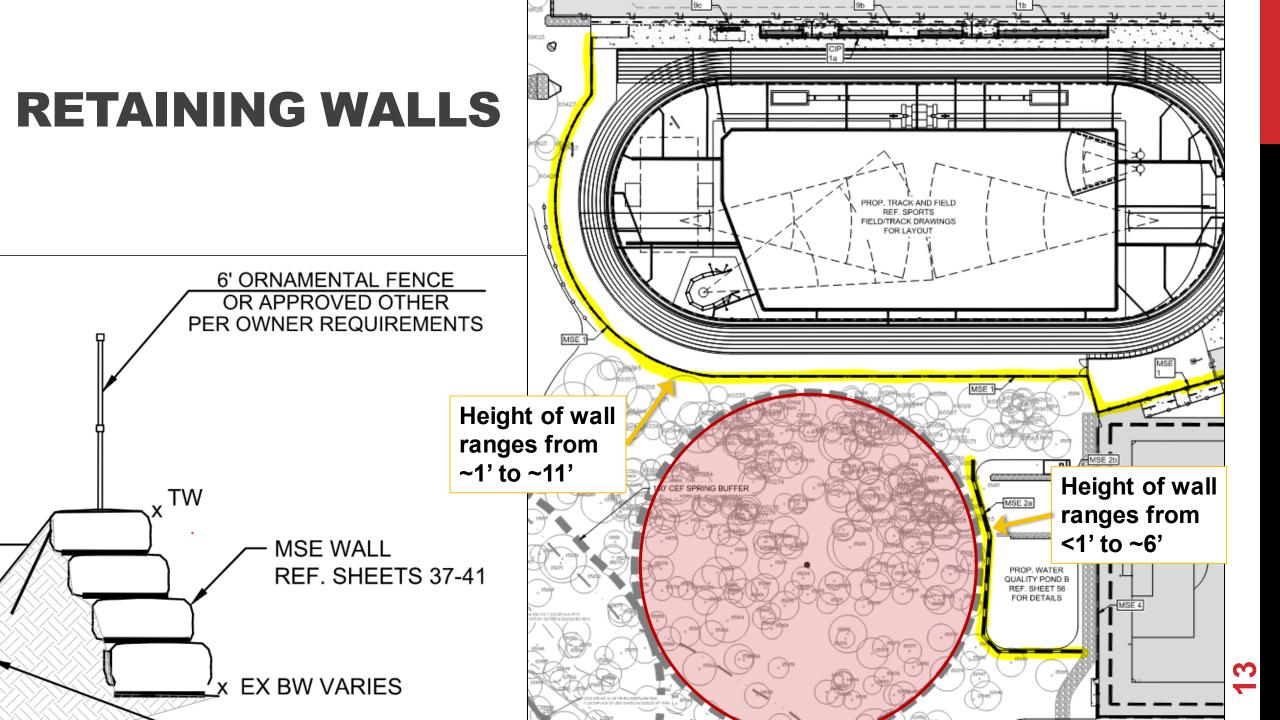
Yes The proposal does not provide special privileges not enjoyed by other similarly situated properties with similarly timed development and it is not based on a special or unique condition which was created as a result of the method by which a person voluntarily subdivided land after October 20, 1983. The +/- 490-acre Concordia University property is currently subdivided into two large lots. The proposed improvements are on Lot 2 of the Amended Plats of Lot 2, 3, and 4 Schlumburger Subdivision which amended Lots 2, 3, and 4 into one +/- 383-acre lot. This amendment to the plat has no effect on cut or fill.

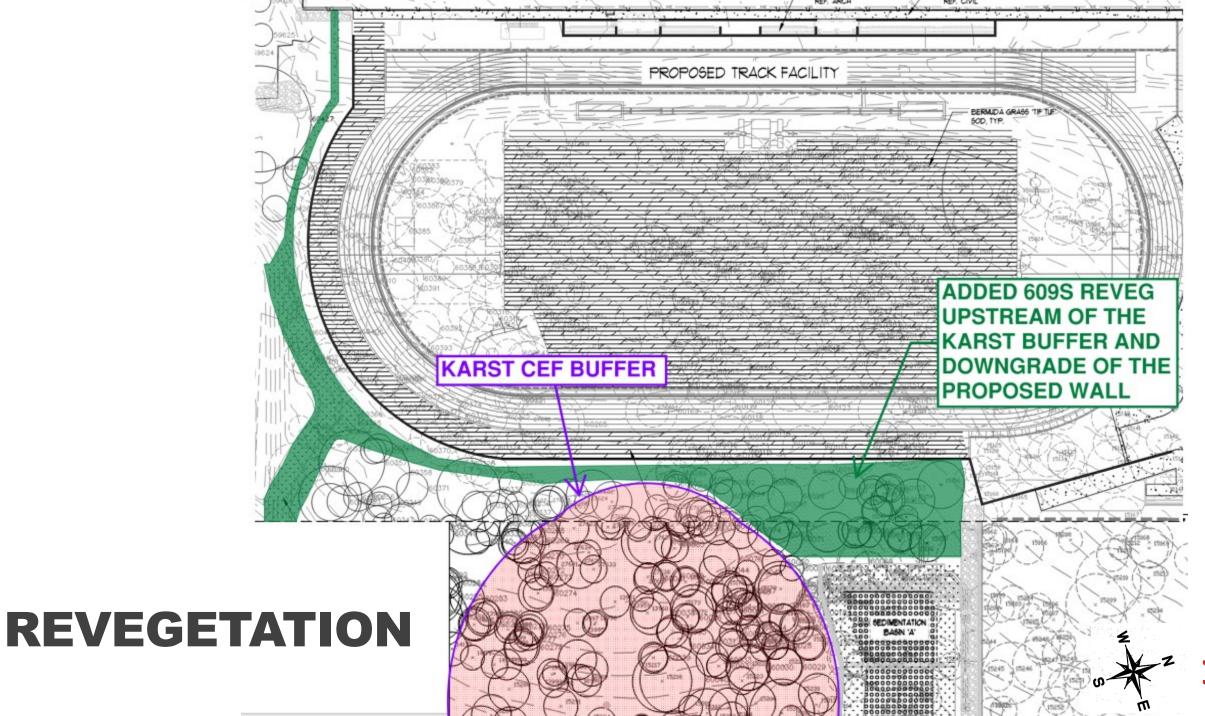
## VARIANCE RECOMMENDATION

Staff determines that the findings of fact have been met. Staff recommends the following conditions:

- 1) The site shall be graded so that no developed surface runoff drains to the CEF to the east of the track and field.
- 2) COA 609S native seeding and planting shall be installed in any disturbed area adjacent to the track and field.
- 3) A one-acre tract shall be dedicated as a conservation easement.

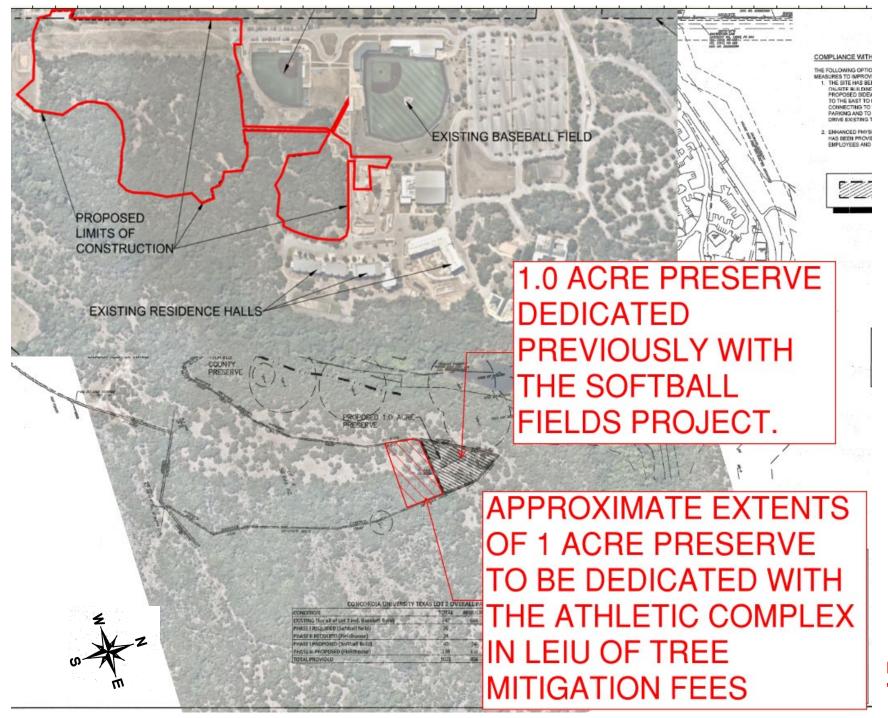
## **ADDITIONAL INFO**





### **TREES**

- Heritage Tree Ordinance does not apply to project
- One acre is being dedicated as a conservation easement
- One large tree is being preserved and made a focal point of the plaza
- Two large trees are having transplant feasibility studies done



## **EV COMMISSION MOTION**



### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION 20221116-005

Date: November 16, 2022

Subject: Concordia University Sports Complex, SP-2022-0020C

Motion by: Jennifer Bristol Seconded by: Perry Bedford

RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes the applicant is requesting to vary from Lake Austin Watershed Ordinance No. 840301-F Section 9-10-409(b) to allow cut exceeding four feet to fifteen feet; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes the site is located in the Bull Creek, Water Supply Suburban Classification, Drinking Water Protection Zone; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes the site is located within the Endangered Goldencheeked Warbler Habitat; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission recognizes that Staff recommends this variance, with staff conditions having determined the required Findings of Fact have been met.

THEREFORE, the Environmental Commission recommends the variance requests with the following:

### Staff Conditions:

- The site shall be graded so that no developed surface runoff drains to the CEF to the east of the track and field
- COA 609S native seeding and planting shall be installed in any disturbed area adjacent to the track and field.
- 3) A one-acre tract shall be dedicated as a conservation easement with Travis County

### and the following Environmental Commission Conditions:

- Work with city staff, Travis Audubon and Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee to develop an outdoor lighting plan that includes the campus sports complexes, both existing and new. The lighting plan shall:
  - Follow the International Dark Sky Association recommendations for Community-Friendly Outdoor Sports Lighting to reduce light pollution.

- Create a "lights out" plan during peak bird migration for the Golden-cheeked Warbler and other migratory birds from March until May, and September to November.
- 2. Include at least 10% EV charging stations within the new parking area.
- 3. Include pollinator plants and pollinator gardens that support butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds.

### VOTE: 9-0

For: Ana Aguirre, Perry Bedford, Rick Brimer, Jennifer Bristol, Colin Nickells, Haris Qureshi,

Melinda Schiera, Rachel Scott, and Pam Thompson

Against: None

Recuse: Kevin Ramberg Absent: Audrey Barrett Bixler

Approved By:

Perry Bedford

Perry Bedford, Environmental Commission Vice Chair