

From: [Andrea Freiburger](#)
To: Andrew.rivera@austintexas.gov
Subject: SP-2021-0278C - South Lamar Housing Project
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 11:04:07 PM

Dear Commissioners Smith, Greenberg, Thompson, Acosta, Boone, Flores, Floyd, Fouts, Johnson, Kiolbassa, and Stern:

I am writing in support of the South Lamar Housing Project proposed for 2428 W Ben White Boulevard, and request that you grant the Appeal of Environmental Officer Decision.

As a long time South Austin resident living and working near this site, I was happy to first hear of this project a couple of years ago. The existing acres of parking and big box retail are no longer appropriate. The plan to introduce water quality measures and provide much-needed housing on a corridor is a no-brainer: this aligns with Imagine Austin and the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, and just about every public comment ever made by our elected Council Members on the topic of affordability.

I was dismayed to recently learn that the South Lamar Housing Project has been derailed by our land development code. I do not blame Environmental Officer Coyne, nor any City of Austin staff member, for her interpretation of the redevelopment exception in the land development code. I do not have the legal background to argue an alternate interpretation; but I do recognize the impact of this strict adherence is devastating to this project.

I ask City Staff to be creative and considerate in finding a solution.

I ask the Commission to do what you can within your power to move this project forward.

Sincerely,
Andrea Freiburger

South Lamar Neighborhood resident since 2008
South Austin resident since 1998