





WATERSHED PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

THROUGH Robert Goode, P.E., Interim Assistant City Manager 

FROM: Jorge L. Morales, P.E., CFM, Director 
Watershed Protection Department

DATE: October 16, 2023

SUBJECT: **Staff Response Resolution No. 20230420-026, Little Bear
Creek Aquifer Recharge Enhancement Site Specific Amendment**

On April 20, 2023, the Austin City Council approved [Resolution 20230420-026](#), initiating site specific variances and amendments to the Land Development Code (LDC), including 25-8, Subchapter A, Article 13 (Save Our Springs Initiative), necessary to allow for the completion of the Little Bear Aquifer Recharge Enhancement Project (Capitol Improvement Project No. 6660.024). The project is intended to allow for the construction of an aquifer recharge project to allow for high quality stormwater to infiltrate into the Edwards Aquifer and help enhance flows at Barton Springs.

On August 31, 2023, the City Council approved [Ordinance 20230831-102](#), granting a site-specific amendment to LDC 25-8- 514 (Pollution Prevention Required) to allow development within the critical water quality zone of a watershed contributing to Barton Springs (Little Bear Creek), along with variances to the following code sections: LDC 25-8-263 (Floodplain Modification) to allow for the modification of the floodplain in the critical water quality zone of Little Bear Creek, LDC 25-8-341 and LDC 25-8-342 to allow cut and fill in excess of four feet, and LDC 25-8-482 to allow the necessary construction to occur within a Water Quality Transition Zone.

If you have questions about this project, please contact Scott Hiers, 512 974-1916 or Liz Johnston, 512 974-2619.