



Eastside Guardians / East Austin Conservancy

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To Mayor Watson and Austin City Council Members:

I am writing on behalf of the East Austin Conservancy to request a neighborhood postponement of the following agenda items on the August 29, 2024 meeting agenda.

Item #171 – DB-90 Request; 2900 Oak Springs Dr.

Item #177 & #178 – DB-90 Request; 400 Vargas Rd.

Item #181 – DB-90 Request; 3020 E. Cesar Chavez St.

Item #183 – DB-90 Request; 2613 & 2619 E. 5th St.

Item #184 – DB-90 Request; E. 51st, E. 52nd, Cameron Rd., Lancaster Rd.

Item #191 – DB-90 Request; 501 Pedernales St.

Item #194 – DB-90 Request; 3117 & 3121 E. 12th St.

Item #196 – DB-90 Request; 1230, 1400, 1404 & 1406 E. 38 ½ St.

Item #197 & #198 – DB-90 Request; 4900 Gonzales St.

The community has been blind-sided on DB-90 because it is being applied more broadly than VMU & VMU2 cases typically were typically. VMU cases & VMU2 cases (the category that DB-90 is replacing and which it most closely mirrors) was limited to certain corridors and City staff and Planning Commission are now failing to respect these previously conventions.

Furthermore, the rules that outline the parameters that apply to projects granted the DB-90 designation are on the same agenda on which the City is scheduled to vote on these 9 cases. Until the rules are adopted and understood by the Council and the public, no action should be taken on any DB-90 cases. This, too, is a good justification for a postponement in addition to the fact that neighborhoods are typically granted 1 postponement on a case.

An additional concern is that there are more than 20 active DB-90 cases in Central East Austin (D1 & D3). That is about half of all DB-90 cases. This disparate impact must be fully analyzed and policy measures that mitigate this disparate impact must be in place before the Council proceeds.

Thank you in advance for your support and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Raul Alvarez

East Austin Conservancy