

Thursday, June 18, 2009

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 78

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance for floodplain variances requested by the Austin Independent School District. The variances will allow construction of the House Park Field House Addition at 1301 Shoal Creek Boulevard in the 25-year and 100-year floodplains of Shoal Creek. A variance will also waive the requirement for normal access from the building to an area that is one foot above the 100-year floodplain.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Joe Pantalion, 974-3438; Mapi Vigil, 974-3384; Kevin Shunk, 974-9176

The Austin Independent School District proposes to demolish the existing Field House at the House Park Stadium, located at 1301 Shoal Creek Boulevard, and construct a new Field House building at the north end of the athletic field. The proposed development is the subject of site plan application number SP-2009-0002CSX.

The proposed field house structure is 3,120 square feet with ramps for access to the entrances. The Field House will be built on a pier and beam foundation to accommodate for floodplain storage and allow flood water to flow underneath the building. The applicant seeks variances to the City of Austin's floodplain management regulations to obtain a site development permit to: 1) construct the building within the 25-year and 100-year floodplains; and 2) not provide normal access from the building to an area at or above the Regulatory Flood Datum (RFD), which is defined as the 100-year floodplain elevation plus one foot. The depth of water during the 100-year flood event at the proposed Field House is up to 4.2 feet deep.

Staff recommends approval of the variance with conditions.