

Old Enfield Homeowners' Association

Attn: Austin City Council

May 8, 2012

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of the board of directors of the Old Enfield Homeowners' Association (OEHA), seeking equity in terms of zoning cases in our neighborhood. Specifically, we request that zoning cases in our neighborhood be directed to the Planning Commission, as is the case with comparable neighboring districts.

Our neighborhood is bounded by Lamar Boulevard on the east, Enfield Road on the south, Mopac on the west, and Windsor Road on the north. Unlike most other central Austin neighborhoods, zoning cases in Old Enfield, which does not have a neighborhood plan, are reviewed by the Zoning and Platting Commission rather than the Planning Commission. In fact, to our knowledge, Old Enfield stands alone in this regard. All other central Austin neighborhoods have either gone through the neighborhood planning process or are otherwise exempt from review by the Zoning and Platting Commission. Specifically, the Downtown district is subject to a distinct and recently completed "Downtown Planning Process" with zoning matters addressed by the Planning Commission; the University of Texas is not subject to municipal zoning; the Robert Mueller neighborhood is subject to a unique master planning process negotiated between the developer and the City; and the "Triangle" development at the junction of Lamar Boulevard and Guadalupe Streets is subject to the control of the General Land Office and School Land Board. Thus, Old Enfield is the only central Austin neighborhood under the City's zoning jurisdiction in which zoning cases are reviewed by the Zoning and Platting Commission.

OEHA would like zoning cases within our neighborhood boundaries to be put through the same review and decision-making process experienced by our neighbors. Placing Old Enfield's cases under the Planning Commission's review would ensure consistency of decision-making and treatment in relation to nearby neighborhoods. Please help us ensure consistency in zoning-related decision-making by placing our neighborhood under review by the Planning Commission.

Respectfully,



Jason Nichols,
President, OEHA, on behalf of the OEHA board of directors