

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 33172 Agenda Number 121.

Meeting Date: 6/12/2014 Department: Watershed Protection

Subject

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance regarding floodplain variances for development of a mixed-use building and associated parking at 801 Barton Springs Road that encroaches within the 25-year and 100-year floodplains of East Bouldin Creek.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:		
Prior Council Action:	March 3, 2011 - Council approved Ordinance 20110303-047 for a planned unit development at this address.	
For More Information:	Kevin Shunk, Watershed Protection Department, (512) 974-9176; Mapi Vigil, Watershed Protection Department, (512) 974-3384	
Boards and Commission Action:		
MBE / WBE:		
Related Items:		

Additional Backup Information

Texas American Headquarters, LLC is seeking to obtain a site development permit for a proposed development called, The Park, which will be located at 801 Barton Springs Road. The site of the proposed development is a 0.8 acre parcel that is entirely within the limits of the 100-year floodplain and more than half of the site is within the 25-year floodplain of East Bouldin Creek. As part of the site's development, the applicant proposes to remove the remnants of a previously demolished building and construct a nine-story mixed-use building with an attached parking garage that includes both commercial office and restaurant uses. The site plan application associated with the project is SP-2013-0210C.

The owner is requesting variances to the City of Austin's floodplain management regulations to: 1) encroach on the 25-year and 100-year floodplains of East Bouldin Creek with a proposed building; 2) not provide normal access from the building to an area that is a minimum of one foot above the design flood elevation; and 3) exclude the building footprint from the drainage easement requirement.

While the finished floor elevation of the proposed building will be 3.3 feet above the 100-year floodplain, there will be flood water surrounding the foundation and in the street in front of the property. A summary of the depth of water during the 25-year and 100-year flood events can be found below:

Depth of water:	100-year flood event	25-year flood event
At the street	1.9 ft.	1.3 ft.
At the front of the proposed building	1.0 ft.	0.5 ft.

THE WATERSHED PROTECTION DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF THIS VARIANCE REQUEST.