

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Commissioners Court Meeting

Item ID 36528 Agenda Number 99.

Meeting Date: 9/25/2014 Department: Watershed Protection

Subject

Approve second and third readings of an ordinance authorizing floodplain variances to demolish the existing single-family house at 4515 Speedway and construct a new two story duplex. This property is partially in the 25-year floodplain and entirely in the 100-year floodplain of Waller Creek. (THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THIS ITEM WAS HELD AND CLOSED ON AUGUST 28, 2014)

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 28, 2013 - City Council denied a floodplain variance request at this address. August 28, 2014 - City Council approved on first reading only on a vote of 4-2 with Council Member Tovo off the dais.
For More Information:	Kevin Shunk, 974-9176; Mapi Vigil, 974-3384
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The owner proposes to demolish the existing 672 square foot single-family house to develop a new two story duplex at 4515 Speedway. The proposed duplex will have 2,775 square feet in conditioned area, 327 square feet for covered parking, 848 square feet for covered deck and patio area and 168 square feet for balcony area. The property is entirely within the 100-year and partially in the 25-year floodplain of Waller Creek. The development is the subject of Building Permit application number 2014-043204 PR.

The owner seeks variances to the City of Austin's floodplain management regulations to: 1) encroach on the 25-year and 100-year floodplains of Waller Creek with the 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; 3) alter the property in a way that increases its nonconformity; and 4) exclude the entire property from the drainage easement requirement.

The depth of water at the curb in front of this property is 2.1 feet during the 100-year flood event and 1.7 feet during the 25-year flood event. The depth of water at the proposed duplex will be 1.5 feet during the 100-year flood event and 1.1 feet during the 25-year flood event. The proposed finished floor is 1.2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation.

THE WATERSHED PROTECTION DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF THIS VARIANCE REQUEST.