



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Brian Smith**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Katie Coyne**  
**Mary Ann Neely**  
**Linda Guerrero**  
**Peggy Maceo**  
**Wendy Gordon**  
**Kevin Ramberg**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Curtis Smith**  
**Andrew Creel**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Kaela Champlin**  
**Virginia Collier**  
**Chris Herrington**  
**Atha Phillips**  
**Jose Guerrero**  
**Christina Romero**  
**Sara Hartley**  
**Mateo Scoggins**  
**Matt Hollon**  
**Kelly Gagnon**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.**

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

*Speakers should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.*

**Speakers**

**Lauren Ice**

**3. EDUCATION**

- a. Texas Campaign for the Environment Update—Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment (**10 mins**)

**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of May 1, 2019 **(5 minutes)**  
**The minutes of the Environmental Commission meeting of May 1, 2019 were approved on Commissioner Thompson's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent.**
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
  - a. Update on Villas on Rio Grande (SP-2018-0362C.SH) Heritage Tree variance **(5 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS\***
  - a. Update on water quality trends in streams and reservoirs in Austin: 1984 to 2018—Mateo Scoggins, Program Manager III, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  - b. Update on Watershed Protection Department 2019 Master Plan—Matt Hollon, Planning Manager, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  - c. Update on 2018 State of Our Environment Report—Kaela Champlin, Project Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. Review and recommend approval to include Austin Water Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone—Christina Romero, Financial Manager II, Austin Water **(10 minutes)**  
**A motion to recommend approval to include Austin Water Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Coyne's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent.**
8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. **Name:** Austin Green Improvement District No. 1, C12M-2018-0005  
**Applicant:** Steven Spears, GroundWork  
**Location:** 11600-12337 Harold Green Road (2 Mile ETJ)  
**Staff:** Virginia Collier, Planner Principal, Planning and Zoning Department and Atha Phillips, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department  
**Watershed:** Elm Creek, Colorado River Basin  
**Request:** Consider a petition requesting City consent to the creation of the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1 and make a recommendation to Council on the petition.  
**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends City Council approve a Consent Agreement and a Strategic Partnership Agreement for the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1.  
**Note:** The Austin Green Planned Unit Development application (C814-2018-0154) may be discussed but no action will be taken.  
**(30 minutes)**  
**A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Coyne's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent. Commissioner Ramberg recused.**

**A motion to approve a Consent Agreement and a Strategic Partnership Agreement for the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1 was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Coyne's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent. Commissioner Ramberg recused.**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee –Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, and Wendy Gordon
- b. Development Committee –Pam Thompson and Wendy Gordon
- c. Air Quality Committee –Mary Ann Neely, Pam Thompson, and Wendy Gordon
- d. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely, and Wendy Gordon
- e. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee –Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, and Brian Smith
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- j. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee – Mary Ann Neely
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero, and Pam Thompson
- l. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- m. Report on the Zilker Park Working Group – Mary Ann Neely
- n. Other reports from Commissioners

**10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items**

- a. None

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 8:27 PM.**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. For additional information, please call **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Environmental Commission, please contact **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.

*\* A member of the public may not address a board or commission at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing, per City Code Section 2-1-144(E).*