



**Public Hearing
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 35
AGENDA DATE: Thu 01/12/2006
PAGE: 1 of 1**

SUBJECT: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Sections 25-8-2(D)(7)(a) and 25-8-2(D)(10)(a) of the City Code to provide more consistency in nomenclature in describing the watersheds within each regulated area. (Suggested date and time: January 26, 2006 at 6:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 301 West 2nd Street)

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Watershed Protection and **DIRECTOR'S**
DEPARTMENT:Development Review **AUTHORIZATION:** Joe Pantalione

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Roxanne Jackson, 974-1918

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: October 18, 2005 - Code & Ordinances Subcommittee - Approved; November 16, 2005 - Environmental Board

The proposed modification to the above noted sections of City Code are recommended in order to update references to watershed names that are currently inconsistent with terminology utilized by City staff, development community and the general public. The result of the update to the watershed names will be consistency in nomenclature between the various COA documents such as the Land Development Code and Drainage Criteria Manual as well as GIS map products that are made available for use by City staff and external customers. The recommended changes are considered solely administrative and have no impact to the regulatory designation of a watershed or the actual boundaries of a watershed. Upon approval of these amendments, GIS files, databases and other official documents will be updated.

Proposed Changes to City Code §25-8-2

§ 25-8-2 DESCRIPTIONS OF REGULATED AREAS.

(A) This section describes the watersheds, aquifers, and water zones that are regulated by this subchapter. A map of these areas is available for inspection at the offices of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

(B) Except as provided in Subsection (C), the director shall determine the boundaries of the areas described in Subsection (D).

(C) The council shall determine the boundaries of the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone after receiving a recommendation from the director. For property within 1500 feet of a boundary, the director may require that an applicant provide a certified report from a geologist or hydrologist verifying the boundary location.

(D) In this subchapter:

(1) BARTON SPRINGS ZONE means all watersheds that contribute recharge to Barton Springs, including those portions of the Barton, Williamson, Slaughter, Onion, Bear and Little Bear Creek watershed located in the Edwards Aquifer recharge or contributing zones.

(2) BARTON CREEK WATERSHED means the land area that drains to Barton Creek.

(3) EDWARDS AQUIFER is the water-bearing substrata also known as the Edwards and Associated Limestones Aquifer and includes the stratigraphic rock units known as the Edwards Formation and Georgetown Formation.

(4) EDWARDS AQUIFER CONTRIBUTING ZONE means all land generally to the west and upstream of the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone that provides drainage into the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone.

(5) EDWARDS AQUIFER RECHARGE ZONE means all land over the Edwards Aquifer that recharges the aquifer, as determined by the surface exposure of the geologic units comprising the Edwards Aquifer, including the areas overlain with quaternary terrace deposits.

(6) SOUTH EDWARDS AQUIFER RECHARGE ZONE means the portion of the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone that is located south of the Colorado River and north of the Blanco River.

(7) SUBURBAN WATERSHEDS include all watersheds not otherwise classified as urban, water supply suburban, or water supply rural watersheds, and include:

(a) the Brushy, Carson, Cedar, Cottonmouth, ~~Country Club~~ Country Club

Proposed Changes to City Code §25-8-2

East, Country Club West, Decker, ~~East Dry Dry Creek NE, Dry Creek East, Elm Elm Creek, Elm Creek South,~~ Gilleland, Harris Branch, Lake, Maha, Marble, North Fork, Plum Creek, Rattan, Rinard, South Boggy, South Dry, Walnut, and Wilbarger creek watersheds;

(b) the Colorado River watershed downstream of U.S. 183; and

(c) those portions of the Onion, Bear, Little Bear, Slaughter, and Williamson creek watersheds not located in the Edwards Aquifer recharge or contributing zones.

(8) URBAN WATERSHEDS include:

(a) the Blunn, Buttermilk, East Boggy, East Bouldin, Fort, Harper Branch, Johnson, Little Walnut, Shoal, Tannehill, Waller, and West Bouldin creek watersheds;

(b) the north side of the Colorado River watershed from Johnson Creek to U.S. 183; and

(c) the south side of the Colorado River watershed from Barton Creek to U.S. 183.

(9) WATER SUPPLY RURAL WATERSHEDS include the Lake Travis watershed and Lake Austin watershed, excluding the Bull Creek watershed and the area to the south of Bull Creek and the east of Lake Austin.

(10) WATER SUPPLY SUBURBAN WATERSHEDS include:

(a) the Bull, Eanes, ~~North Dry Dry Creek North, Taylor Slough Taylor Slough North, Taylor Slough South~~ and West Bull creek watersheds;

(b) the Town Lake watershed on the south side of Town Lake from Barton Creek to Tom Miller Dam;

(c) the Town Lake watershed on the north side of Town Lake from Johnson Creek to Tom Miller Dam; and

(d) the Town Lake watershed on the east side of Lake Austin from Tom Miller Dam to Bull Creek.

Source: Section 13-7-3 and 13-2-500(d); Ord. 990225-70; Ord. 000309-39; Ord. 010329-18; Ord. 031211-11.