

Onion Creek Floodplain Changes

Public Meeting February 27, 2017



Meeting Overview

- New Floodplain Study
 - Why?
 - Where?
 - When?
- How will it affect you?
 - Flood Safety
 - Development Rules
 - Flood Insurance
- Group Q&A
- Breakout Groups



Onion Creek Floodplain Study

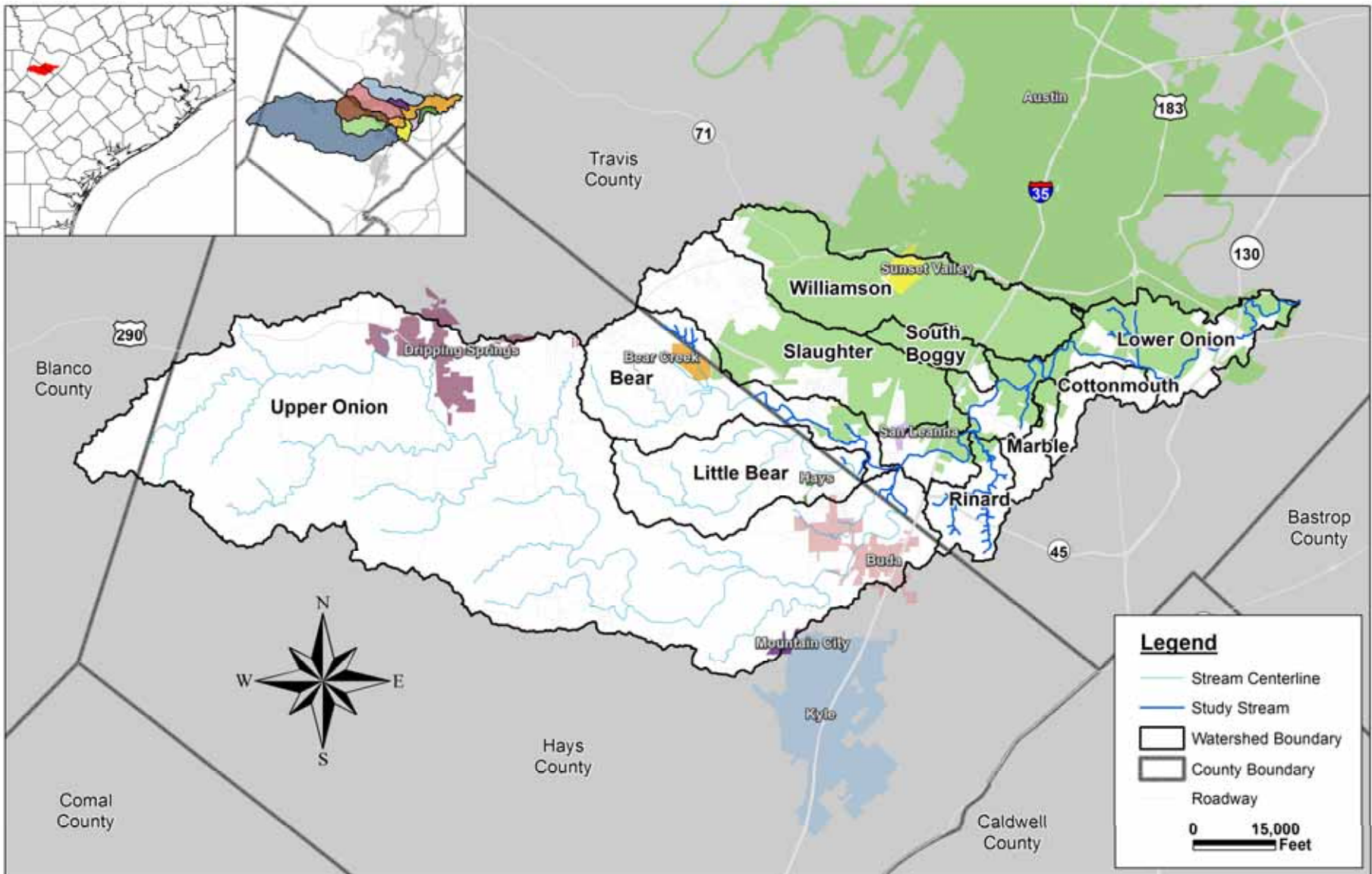
- Initiated in 2014 after the 2013 Halloween Flood
- Goal: Understand and seek to mitigate flood risk
 - Public safety
 - Improved regulatory tools
 - Flood mitigation
- Final products
 - Floodplain models and maps
 - Flood mitigation alternatives
- Total project cost approximately \$1.25 million

Floodplain Study Basics

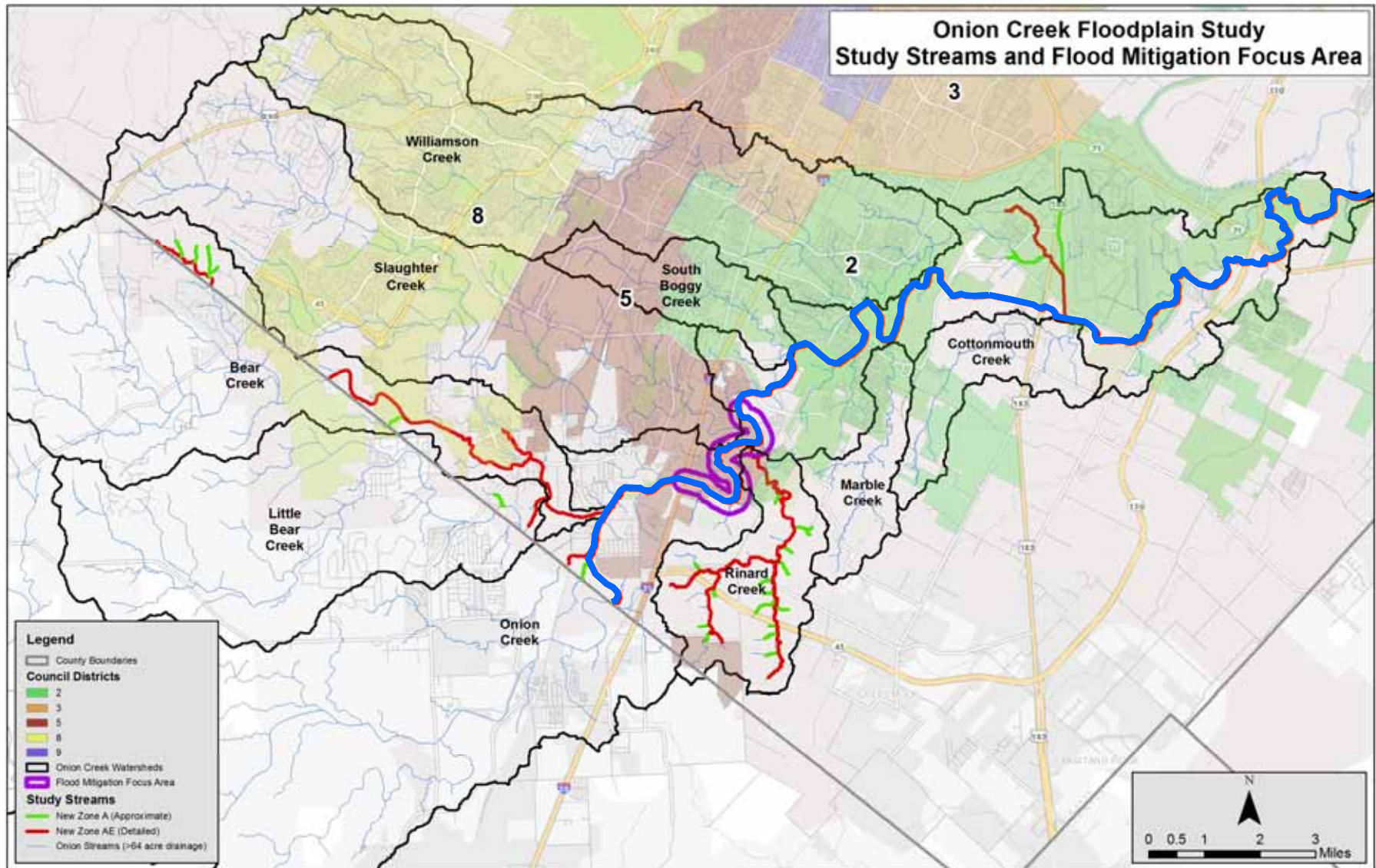
- 4 parts to a study
 - Survey
(size of the creek?)
 - Hydrology
(how much water?)
 - Hydraulics
(how high is the water?)
 - Mapping
(where does the water go?)



Onion Creek Watershed



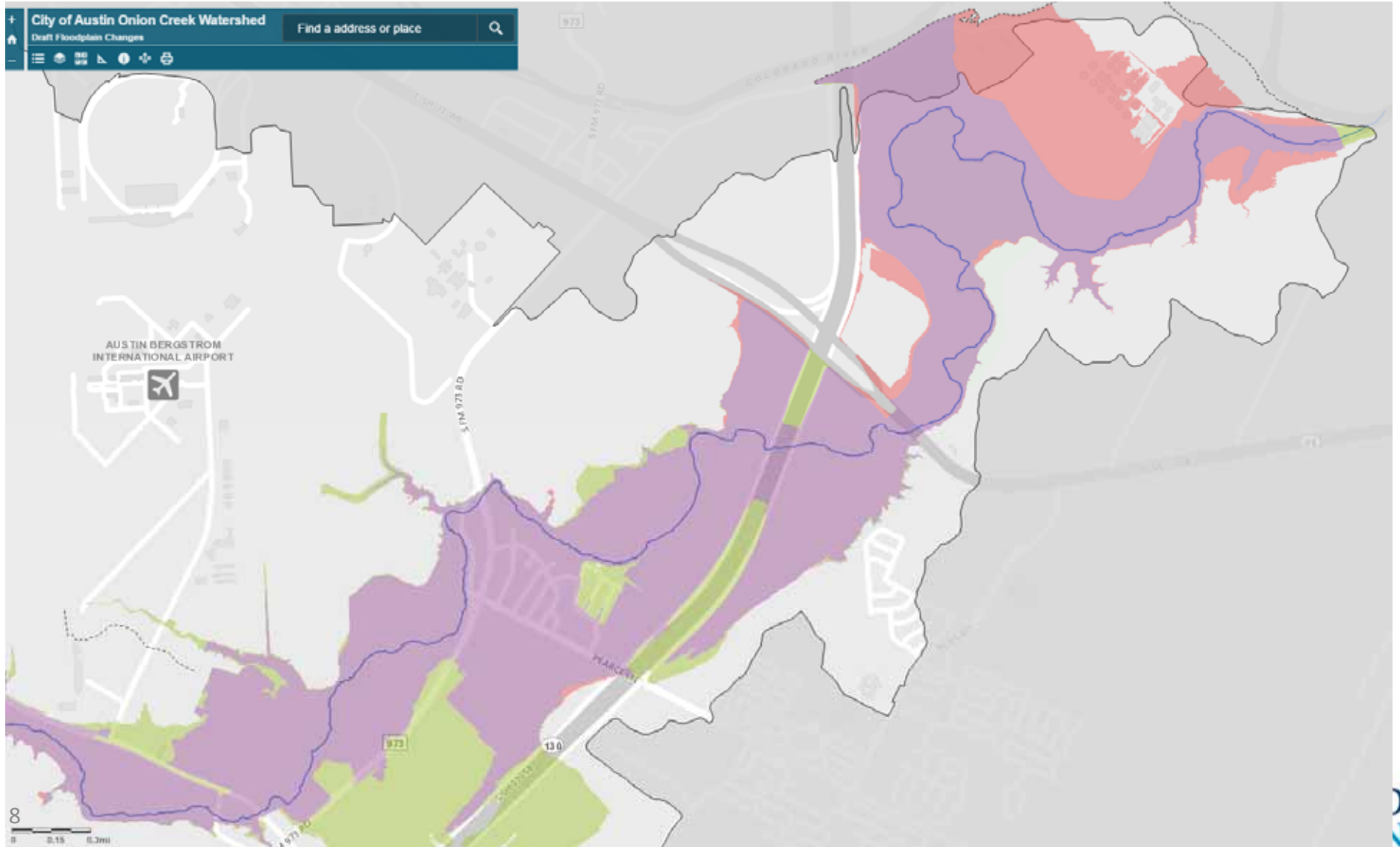
Scope of Work – Floodplain Study



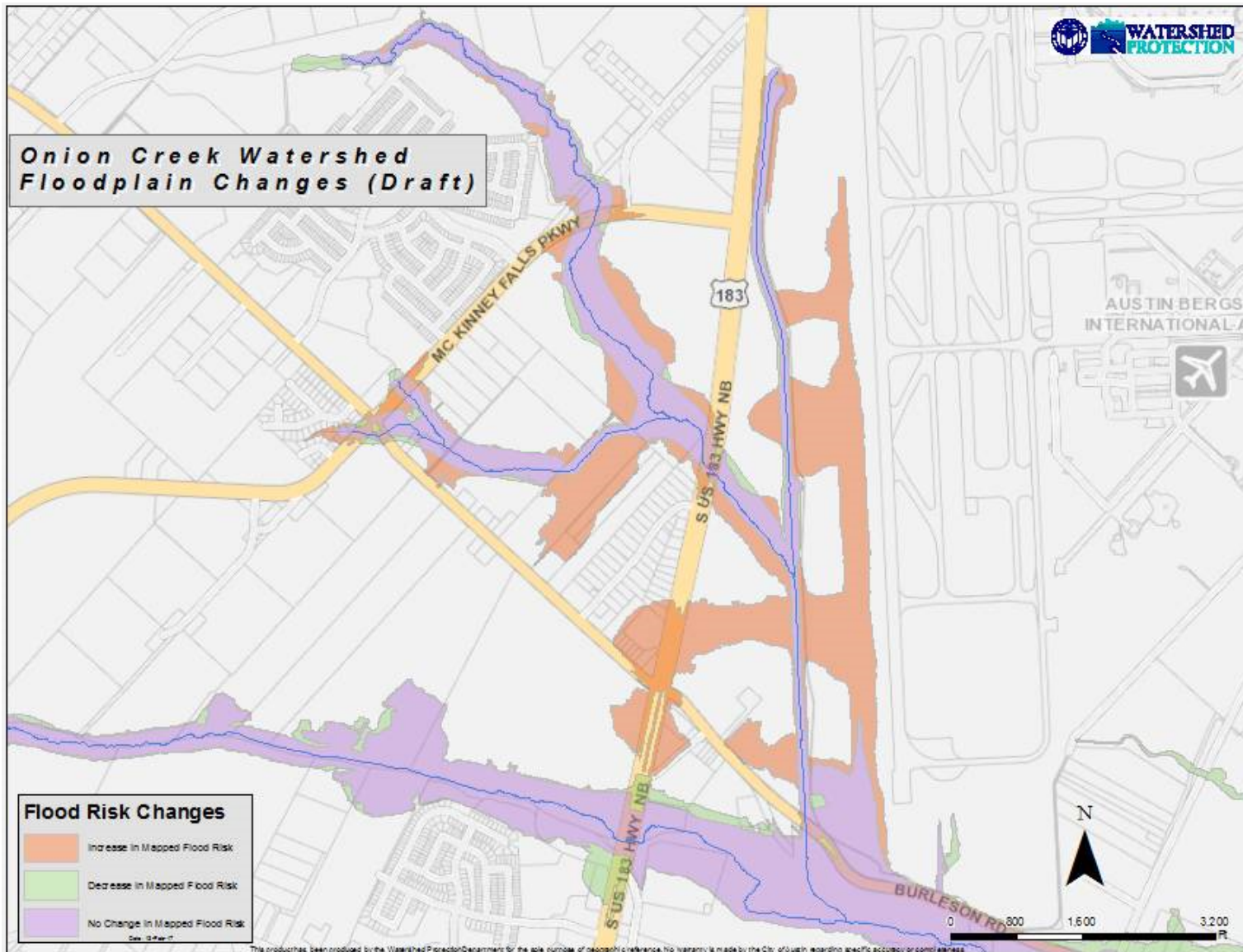
Fully-developed vs. FEMA floodplains

- There are two types of floodplain maps used in Austin
 - FEMA floodplains are printed on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and show the risk as it exists today. They are used to set flood insurance rates.
 - Fully-developed floodplain maps depict what flood risk is anticipated to be based on future development. These maps are used by the City to regulate development and ensure new buildings will remain protected from floods as development occurs.

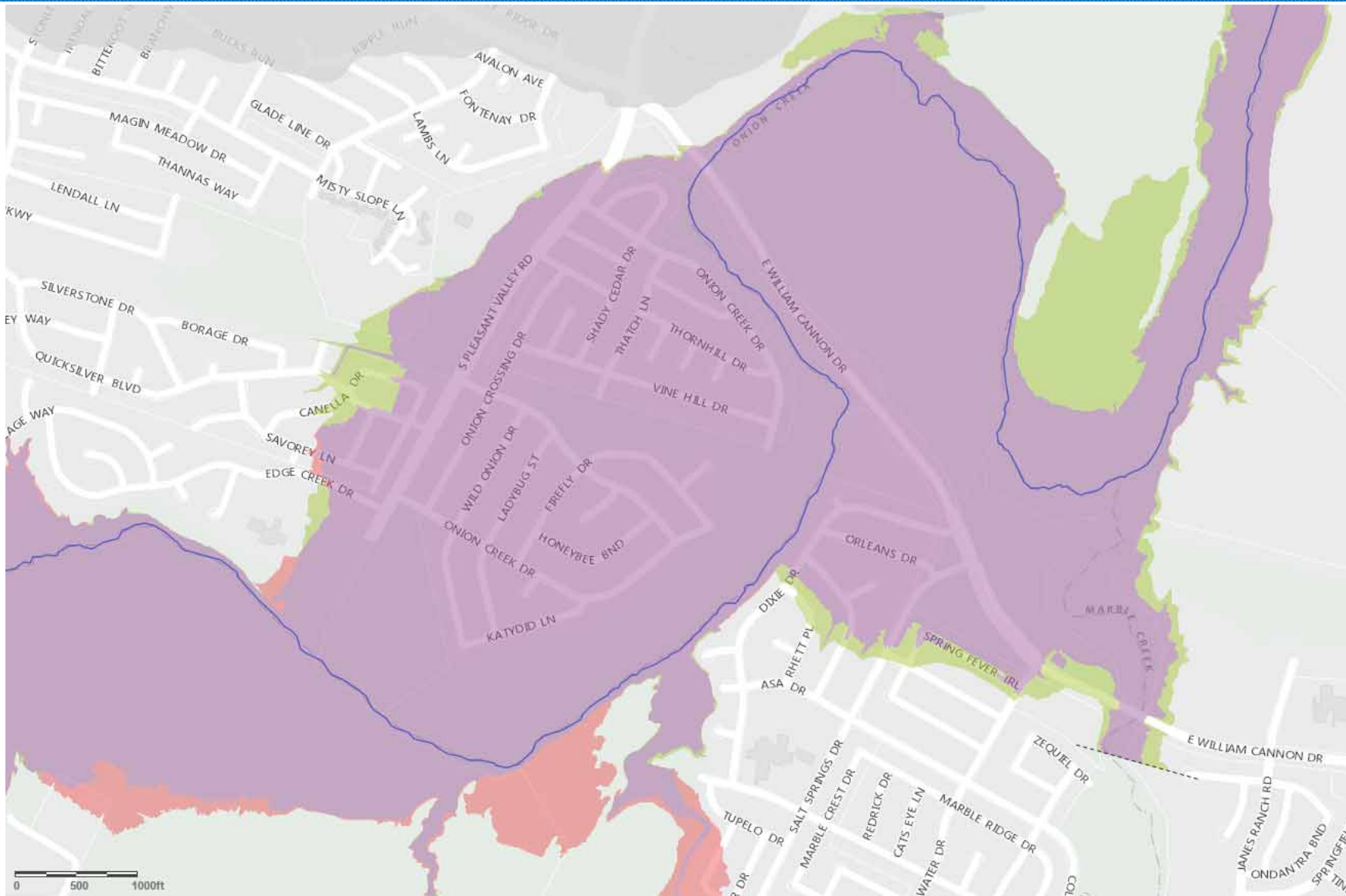
Floodplain Changes – Burleson Road to Colorado River



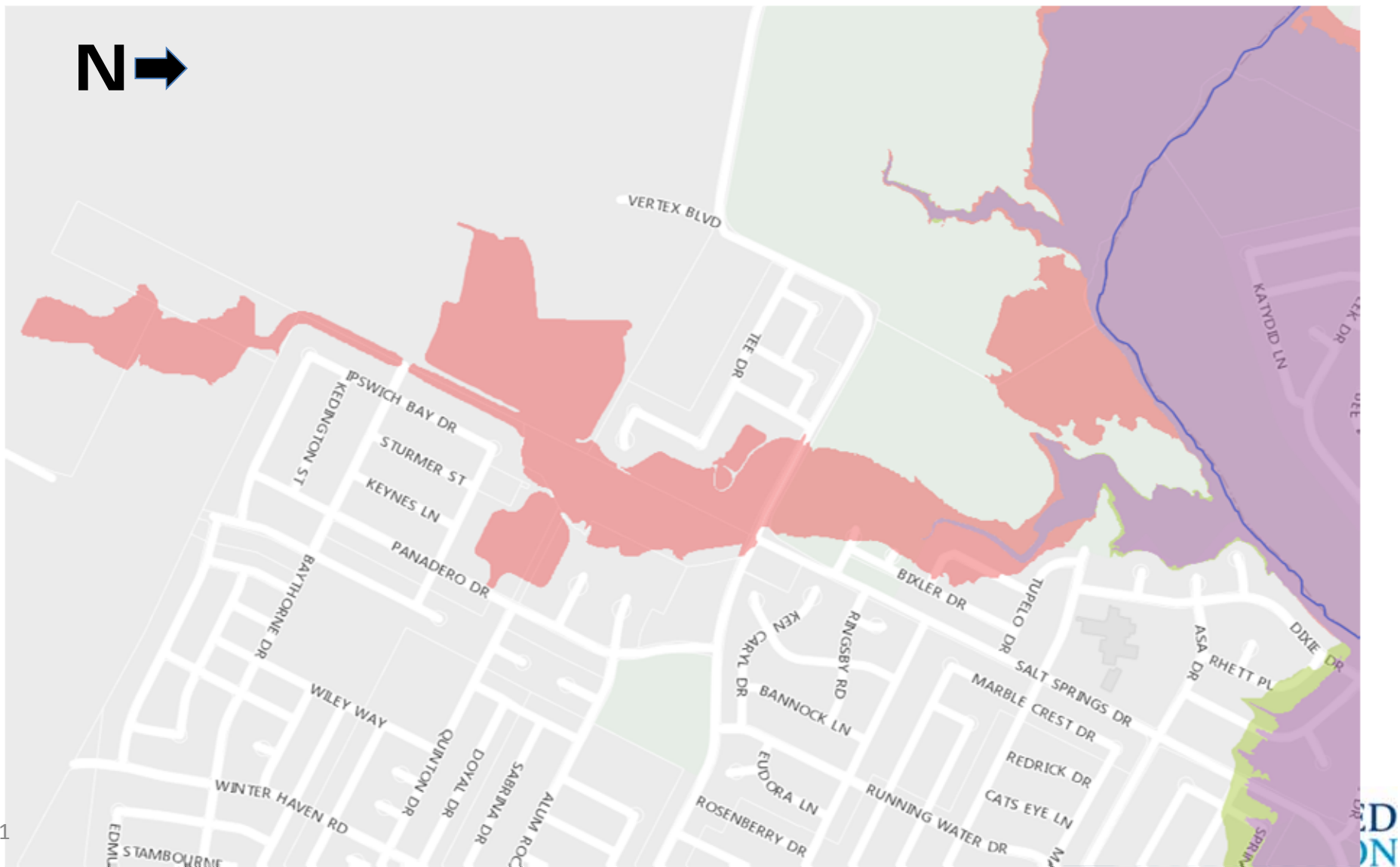
Floodplain Changes-Burleson Rd / US Hwy 183 / McKinney Falls Pkwy



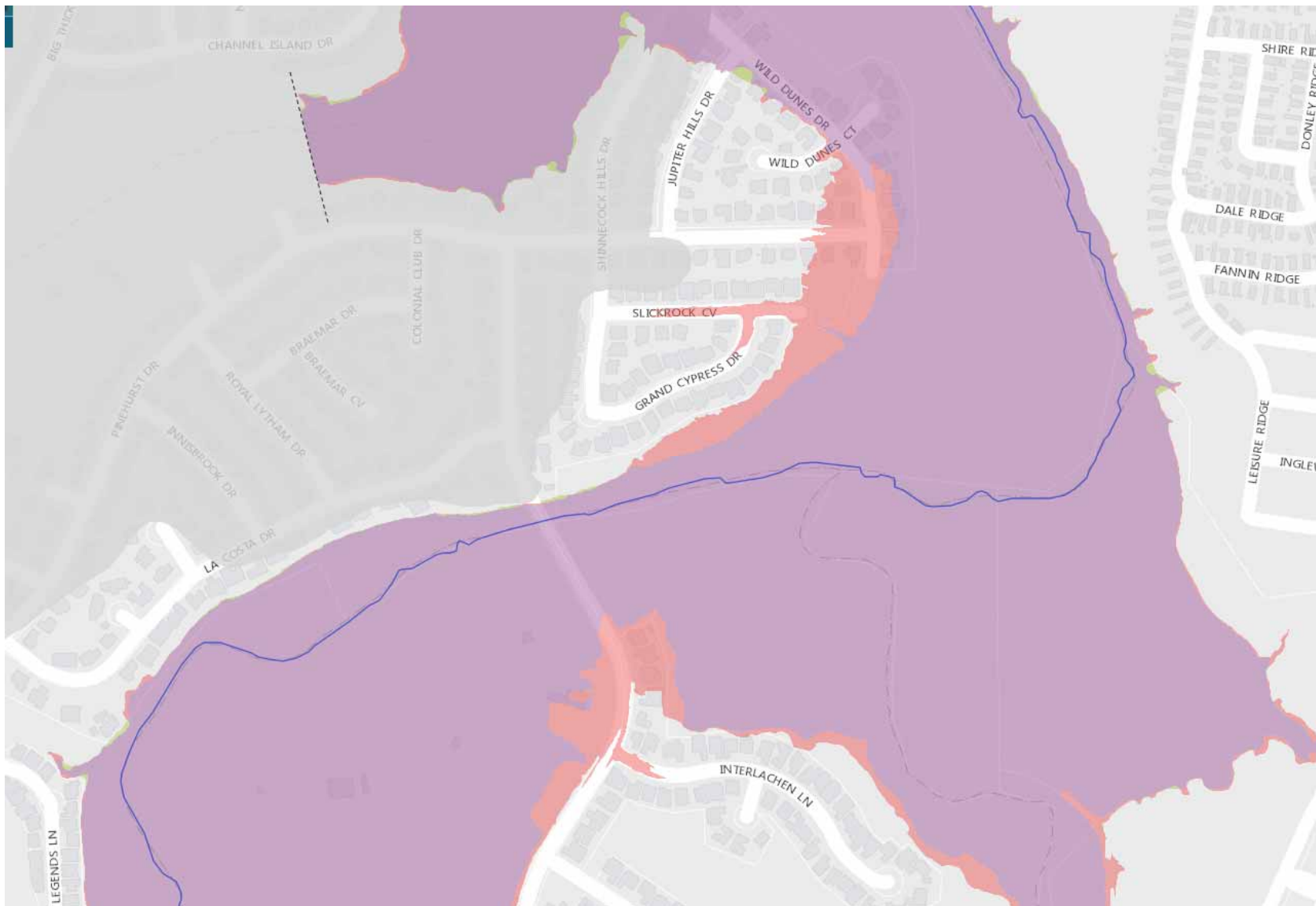
Floodplain Changes – Lower Onion Buyout Area

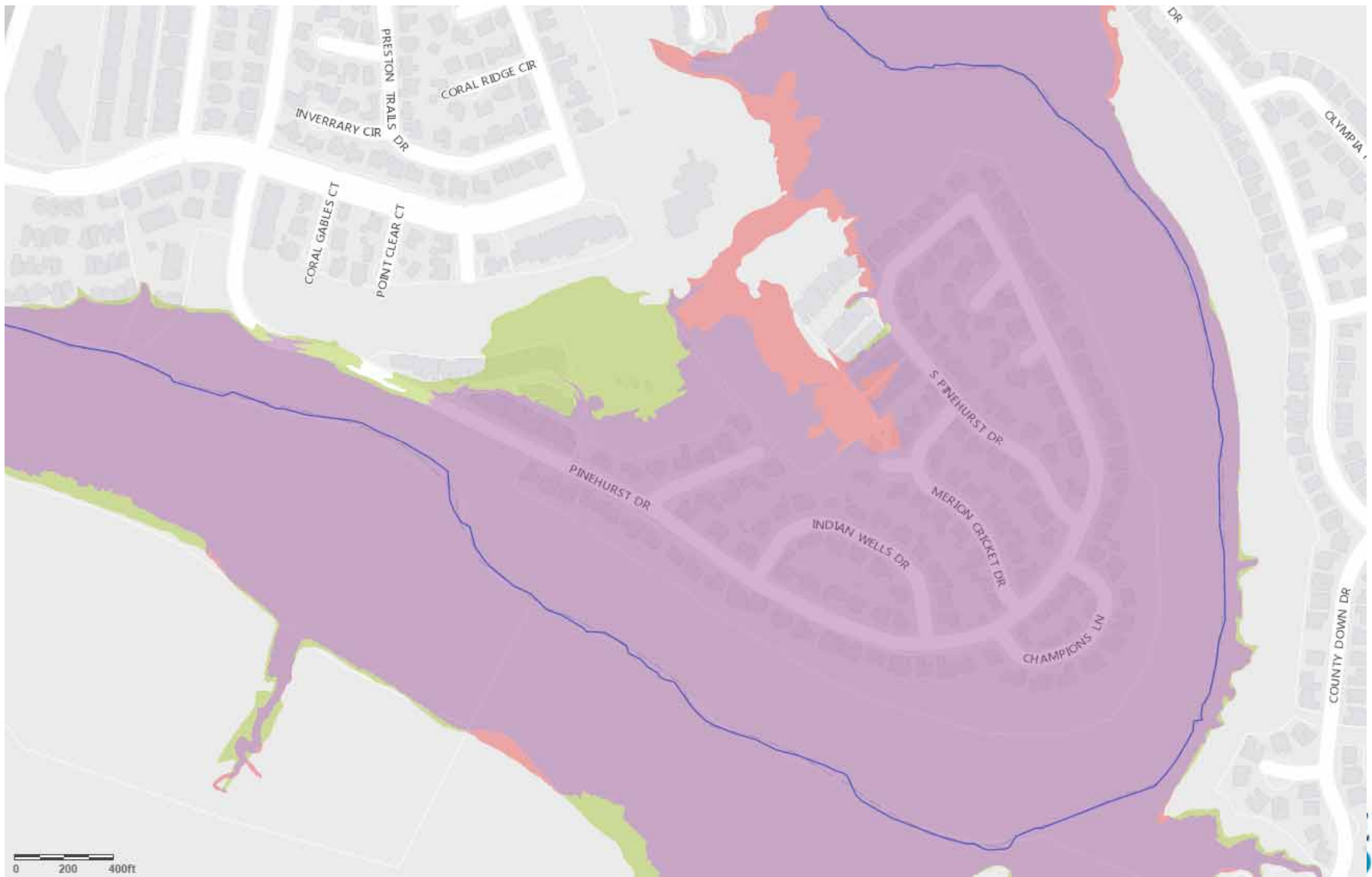
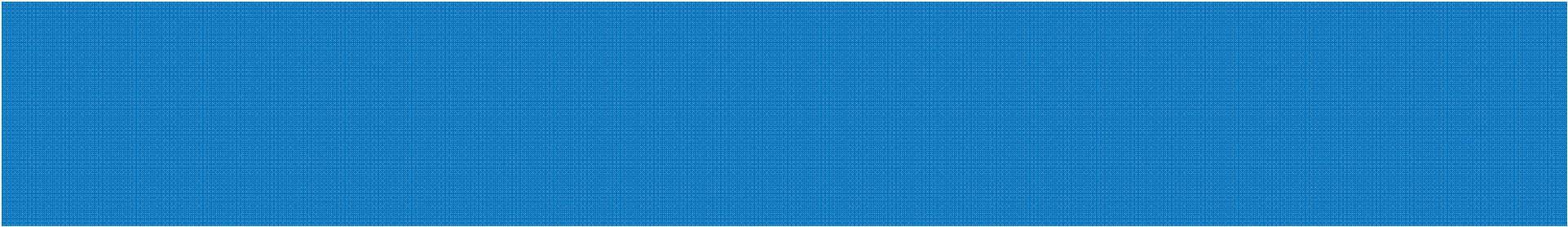


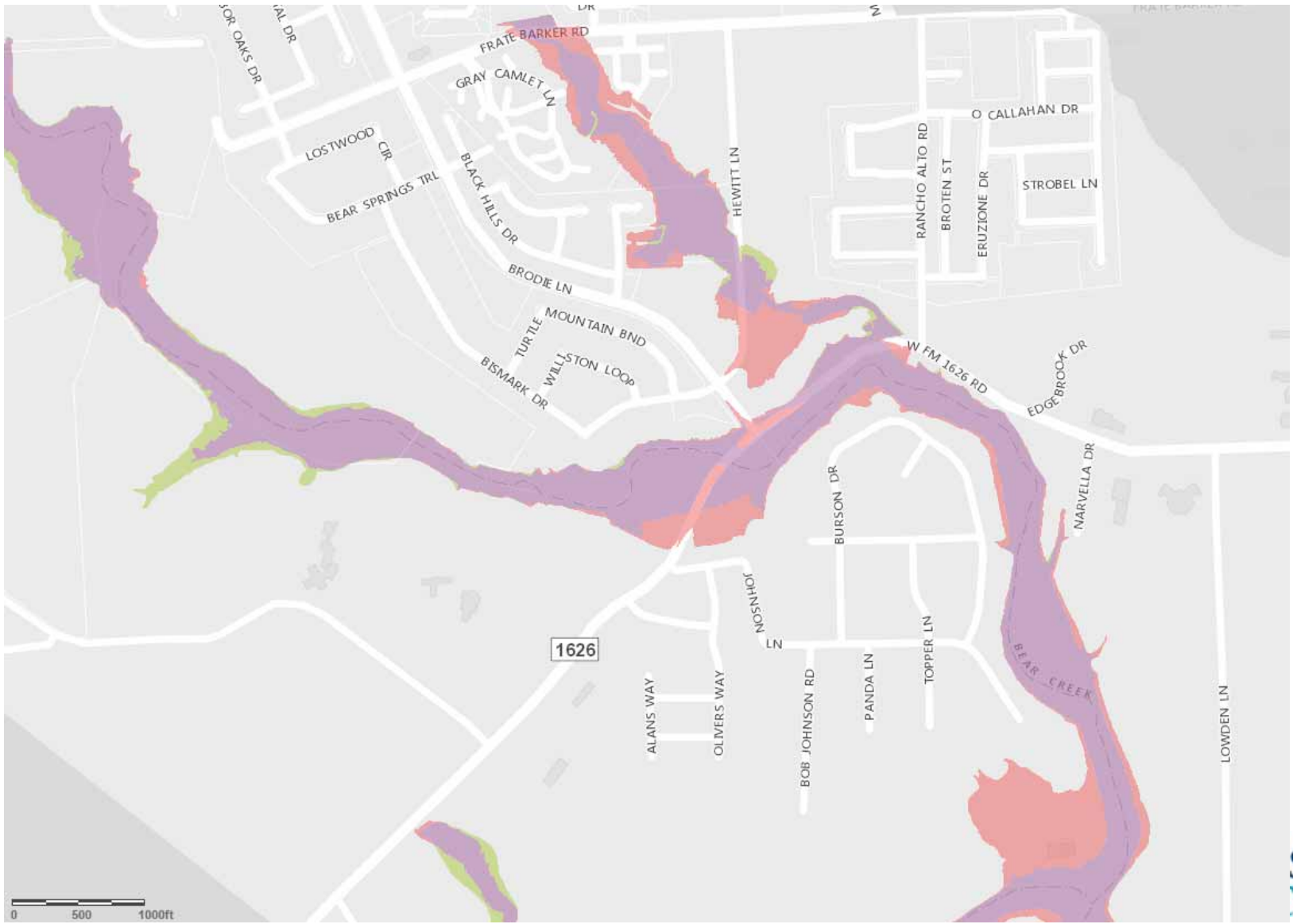
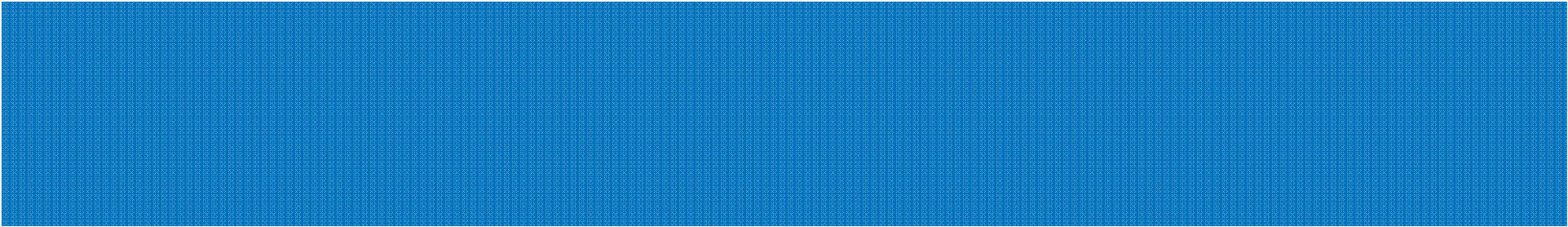
Floodplain Changes – Paces Mill



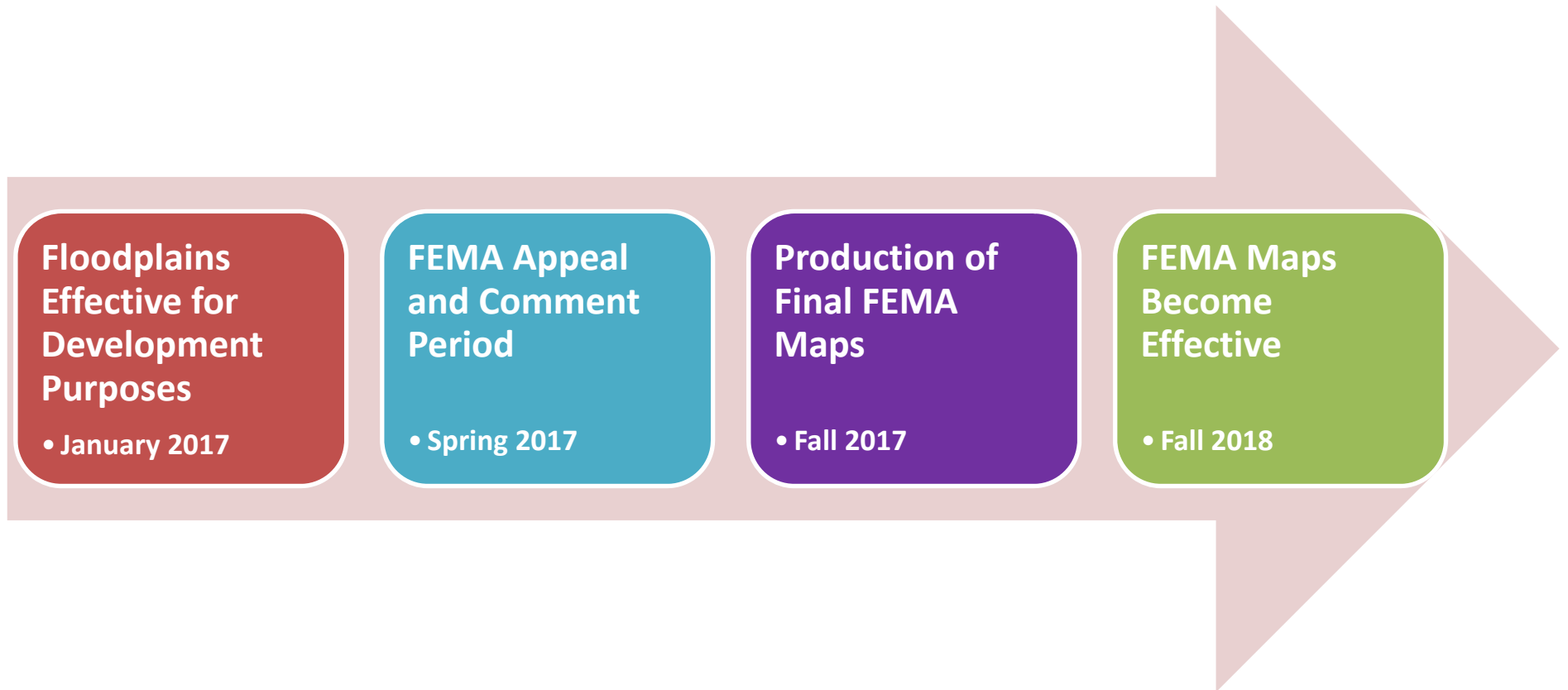
Floodplain Changes – Wild Dunes Area



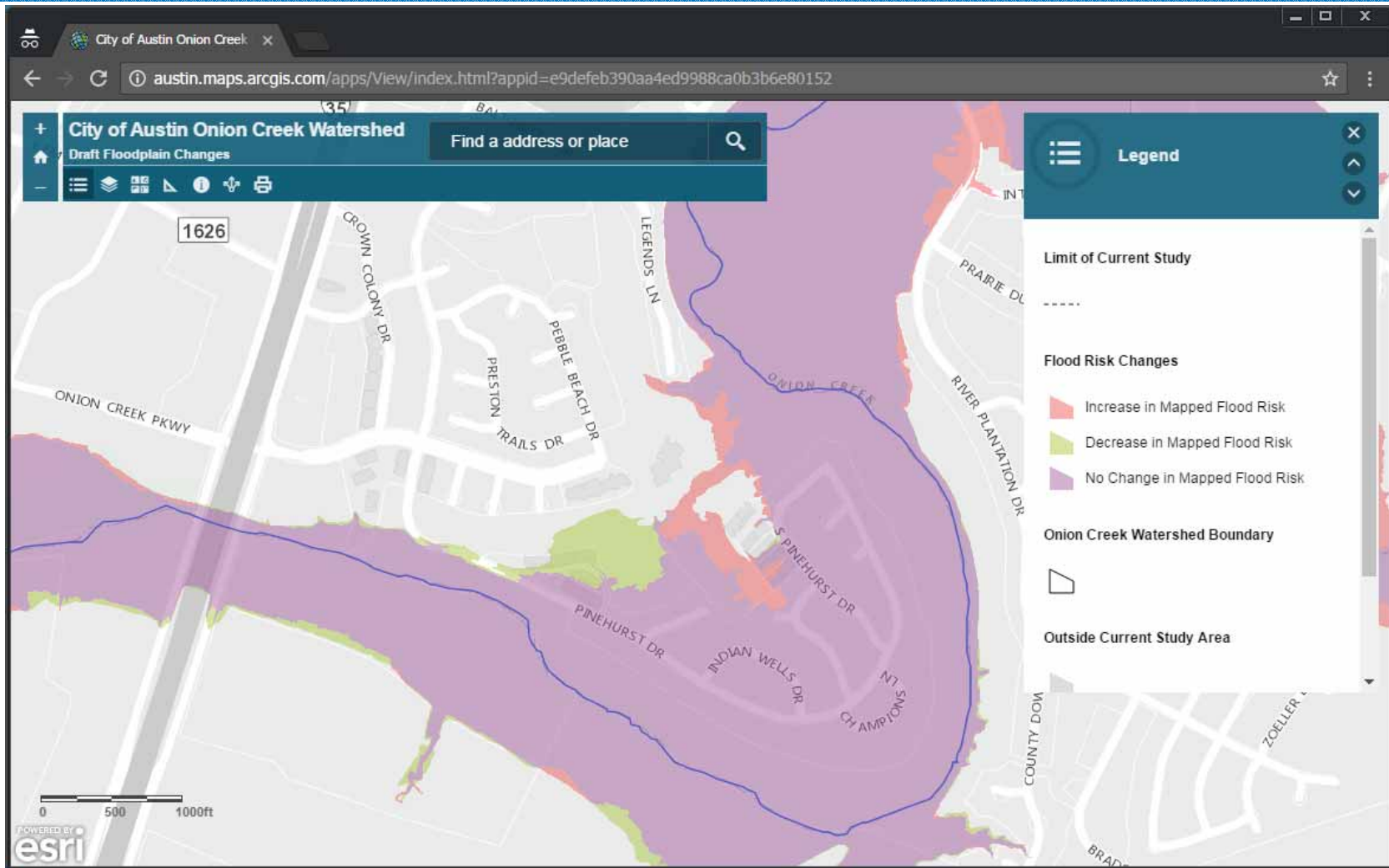




Timeline for New FEMA Maps



Floodplain Changes Web Map



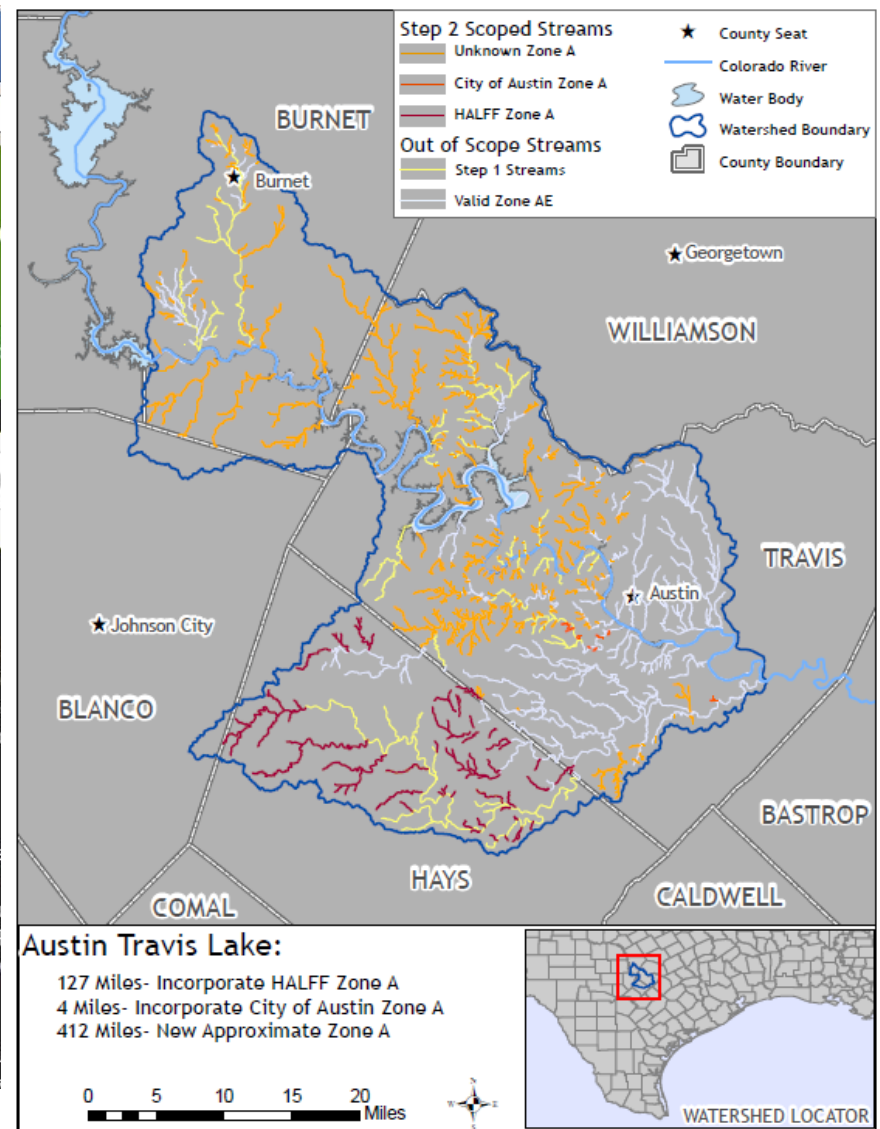
<http://www.austintexas.gov/onioncreekstudy>



Preliminary FEMA FIRM Maps

RiskMAP6.com – Austin-Travis Lakes HUC

The screenshot shows the RiskMAP6.com website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site name and a search bar. Below this is a green header with the RiskMAP6.com logo and the tagline "Helping communities understand their flood risk". A navigation menu includes links for Home, What is Risk MAP?, The Risk MAP Process Path, Communities: Know the Risk, Take Action: Empowering Communities, and Contact Us. A "Subscribe" section invites users to sign up for "The Voice" newsletter. Two prominent green buttons are labeled "Find Your Preliminary Flood Maps" and "Find Your Effective Flood Map". On the left side, there is a "Steps to Resilience" list with icons for: Watershed Selected for Discovery, Discovery, Project Area Selection, Project Kick-off Meeting, Flood Risk Review Meeting, and Resilience Meeting. The main content area features a "Welcome to RiskMAP6.com" message and a paragraph explaining the program's purpose: "Thank you for visiting RiskMAP6.com. Risk MAP stands for Mapping, Assessment and Planning, which is a nationwide program developed by FEMA to work together with State and local communities in building an understanding of a community's picture of their natural hazard risk. An informed public is empowered to take actions to reduce their flood risk." Below this, it states: "FEMA Region 6 covers a five state area: Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Find out more about Risk MAP and the Risk MAP Process Path for Region 6 through our website. Also, sign up for our bi-annual FEMA Region 6 Risk MAP newsletter, 'The Voice', through this website. Past issues are also available under the Resources tab." At the bottom, it begins to mention: "If your community is currently involved in a Risk MAP study, please visit the Communities: Know the Risk tab. If Preliminary Flood Maps..."



How you may be affected

- Flood safety and preparedness
- Flood insurance
- Development rules



- Goal: Better understanding, communication, and mitigation of flood risk.

Flood Safety & Preparedness

Learn...

... Flooding can be deadly. Learn where flooding may occur.

www.ATXFloodPro.com

www.ATXFloods.com

Plan...

... Make an emergency plan and kit.

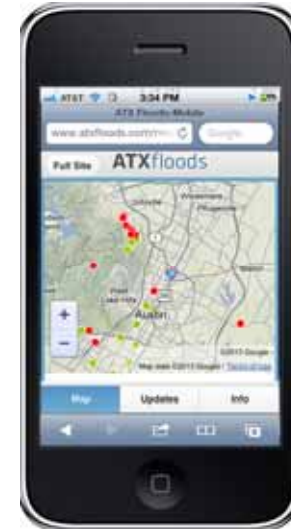
www.austintexas.gov/department/preparedness

preparedness

... Consider purchasing flood insurance.

Live...

... Flooding can have devastating effects on families and the community.



Flood Insurance

Average Austin Flood Insurance Claim Value is \$26,700



- *Most homeowners and renters policies do not cover flood damages.*
- *FEMA has a new type of policy designed to ease homeowners newly mapped into the floodplain into the program.*
- *Talk to your insurance agent to get a quote for flood insurance.*
- *Find an insurance agent and more info at www.FloodSmart.gov*

Regulations and Development



- Stricter permit regulations apply for any building, remodeling, construction or other development and repairs on properties in the floodplain.
- This minimizes flooding impacts to the community and the development.
- The cost of Flood Risk is shared by everyone in the community

Questions?

City of Austin
Watershed Protection Department

Floodplain Office

(512) 974-2843

FloodPro@austintexas.gov

<http://www.austintexas.gov/onioncreekstudy>

