

Rationale for Ordinance

- Comprehensive Watershed Ordinance 1986
- Austin an early US leader in watershed protection
- Complex current code & criteria
- Better understanding of watershed management
- Unique challenges in eastern watersheds
- Some development patterns leading to property loss, unsustainable public & private expense
- Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan alignment

Council Resolution 20110113-038

1. Creek Protection
2. Floodplain Protection
3. Development Patterns and Greenways
4. Improved Stormwater Controls
5. Mitigation Options
6. Simplify Regulations and Maintain Opportunity
7. Coordinate with Regional Partners

Stakeholder Input

Anticipated Benefits

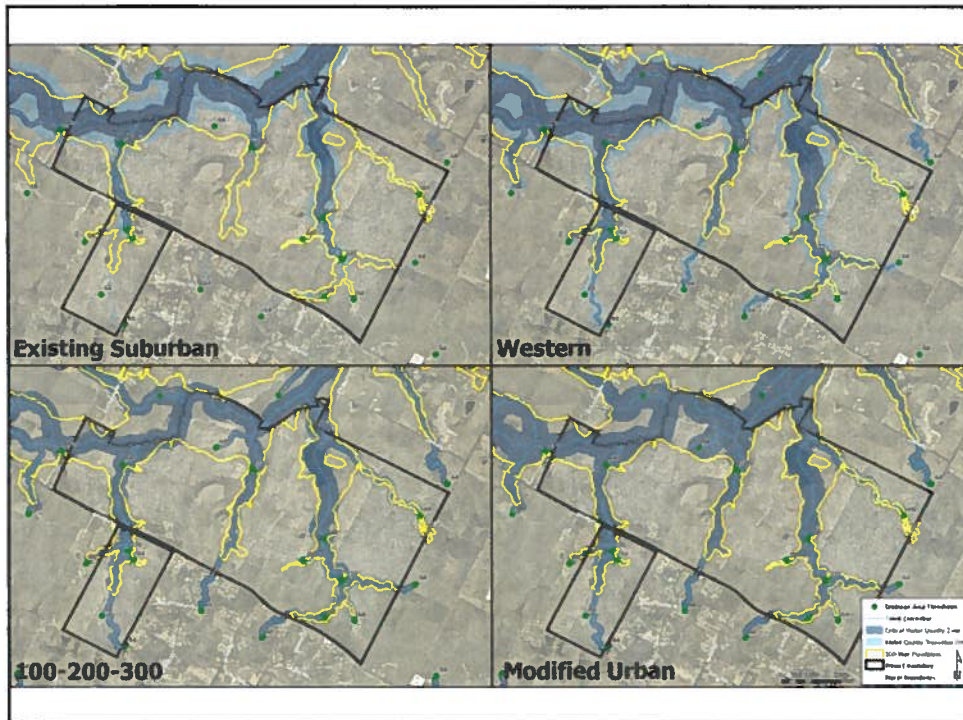
- Bring best of watershed science into code
- Improved stream buffers, especially in east
- Restoration of natural floodplain function
- Sustainable maintenance of waterways
- Complements trail & greenway system
- Mitigation system for activity centers
- Simpler buffer & site rules
- Majority of properties maintain existing development potential & increase flexibility

Stakeholder Meeting Progress

- 1. Kickoff Meeting (Aug)**
- 2. Stream Protection (Sep – Oct)**
 - **Riparian Zone Benefits**
 - **Problems & Costs of Stream Encroachment**
 - **Stream Setbacks: History & Regional Comparison**
 - **Case Studies**
 - **Stakeholder Feedback**

Stakeholder Meeting Progress

- 3. Floodplain Protection (Oct – Nov)**
 - **Current Floodplain Regulations/Shortcomings**
 - **Benefits & Safeguards of Natural Floodplains**
 - **Stakeholder Feedback**
- 4. Stream Buffer Scenarios/Proposals (Nov – Dec)**
 - **Stream Buffer Considerations**
 - **Comparison of Existing vs. 3 Potential Buffer Options**
 - **Manning's n (channel vegetation) Analysis**
 - **Stakeholder Feedback**
 - **"Front-Runner" Buffer Proposal & Stakeholder Straw Poll**



Adoption Schedule

Stakeholder Meetings	Sep 2011 – April 2012 (Meetings approx. every two weeks)
1. Creek Protection:	Sep 9, 23, Oct 7
2. Floodplain Protection:	Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 2
3. Development Patterns & Greenways:	Dec 16 – Jan
4. Improved Stormwater Controls:	Feb
5. Mitigation Options (DDZ) + Rule Simplification & Flexibility	Mar
6. Draft Ordinance:	Apr

Boards & Commissions	May – June 2012
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City Council	August 2012
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Travis County Commissioner's Court	Fall 2012
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Staying Involved

- **Email distribution list and meeting support materials prior to each meeting**
- **Ordinance website with meeting summaries, videos, presentations, documents and schedule**
- **Briefings to Environmental Board**
- **Public Hearings: Boards, Commissions, Council**

Contact Information

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**[www.austintexas.gov/watershed/
ordinances2.htm](http://www.austintexas.gov/watershed/ordinances2.htm)**