

ORDINANCE NO.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-1-144 OF THE CITY CODE
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Subsections (B) through (G) of City Code Section 2-1-144 (*Environmental Commission*) are amended to read:

- (B) The Environmental Commission should include [~~a Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District board member or staff person who has professional expertise in geology, hydrology, or ecology; and members who have~~]:
- (1) members who have demonstrated concern for and the desire to improve the status of the natural resources and living environment of the City;
 - (2) members who have professional expertise, or who have demonstrated expertise, in geology, hydrology, civil engineering, land planning, [Ø] ecology, arboriculture, urban forestry, or landscape architecture; and
 - (3) one Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District board member or staff person who has professional expertise in geology, hydrology, or ecology [expertise in arboriculture, urban forestry, or landscape architecture].
- (C) A member described in Subsection (B) (3) need not be a City resident.
- (D) Not more than three members should be employed in land development or related activities.
- (E) The department director[~~, the urban forester, the city arborist,~~] and the director of the Development Services [Parks and Recreation] Department are ex officio members of the commission for the purpose of deliberation on a matter relating to the Watershed Protection Department or the Development Services Department, respectively [department for which each of them works].
- (F) The commission may:

- 1 (1) review and analyze the policies relating to the environmental quality of the
2 city;
- 3 (2) act as an advisory board to the city council, the city manager, and the
4 department in their efforts to oversee the protection and integrity of the
5 natural environment;
- 6 (3) promote growth management and land use planning, minimize degradation
7 of water resources, protect downstream areas, and promote recreation
8 opportunities and environmental awareness; and
- 9 (4) advise [~~study, investigate, plan, advise, report,~~] and recommend on any
10 issue [~~action, program, plan, or legislation~~] which the commission
11 determines necessary or advisable for the enhancement and stewardship of
12 the urban forest both public and private [~~care, preservation, pruning,~~
13 ~~planting, replanting, removal, or disposition of trees and shrubs and other~~
14 ~~landscaping in public parks, along streets, and in other public areas~~].

15 (G) The commission shall:

- 16 (1) assist the city council, the city manager, and the department in studying,
17 promoting and enforcing environmental protection policies to assure the
18 health, safety, welfare and quality of life of all citizens within the City's
19 incorporated boundaries as well as those within its extraterritorial
20 jurisdiction where the boundaries apply; and
- 21 (2) oversee the development and implementation of [~~develop and establish~~] a
22 comprehensive [~~urban forest~~] plan for the planting, maintenance, and
23 replacement of trees in the City's jurisdiction, and revise the plan as
24 necessary [~~parks, along streets, and in other public areas~~]. When a portion
25 of the plan has been developed and established, it shall be submitted to the
26 city council for adoption before implementation.

27 **PART 2.** Subsection (H)(15) of City Code Section 2-1-144 (*Environmental*
28 *Commission*) is amended to read:

- 29 (15) all matters pertaining to the City's urban forest, including public and
30 private trees.

31 **PART 3.** Subsection (I)(1) of City Code Section 2-1-144 (*Environmental Commission*)
32 is amended to read:

- 33 (1) review all variances to requirements for water quality protection [~~related to~~
34 ~~environmentally sensitive areas~~];

