

## **Meeting Objective**

- 1. Review and suggest improvements for the Barton Springs Zone Redevelopment Exception (per Council resolution)
- 2. Identify next steps for memo to Council

## **Meeting Agenda**

- Arrivals & Introductions [10 min.]
- Review and Discuss Staff Proposal [50 min]
- Break [10 min.]
- Continue Discussion [35 min.]
- Wrap-Up [15 min.]

## **WPO Process Update**

- Watershed Protection Ordinance adopted on October 17, 2013
- Council requested further deliberation on the changes to the BSZ Redevelopment Exception
- Meet with stakeholders to gather additional information, concerns, and suggestions
- Stakeholder input will be used to make appropriate adjustments to staff recommendation to Council

#### Council Resolution 20121213-066

To improve redevelopment opportunities and environmental protection, consider:

- Impact of expanding Redevelopment Exception to <u>residential</u>
   <u>properties</u> in and beyond the Barton Springs Zone
- 2. Impact of partial site Redevelopment Exception
- Other amendments that could encourage redevelopment while providing environmental benefits in and beyond the Barton Springs Zone

Click <u>here</u> for full resolution.

## **2007 BSZ Redevelopment Exception**

#### Goal:

 Achieve better environmental controls and enhanced water quality by providing an opportunity for high-quality redevelopment

#### Strategies:

- Retrofit water quality structural controls where no or poor controls existed before
- Offset highly impervious sites with off-site land mitigation



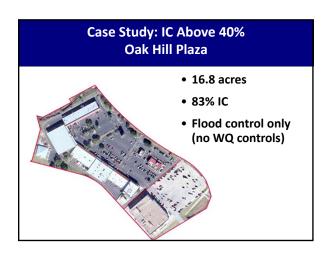


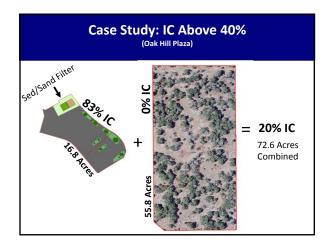


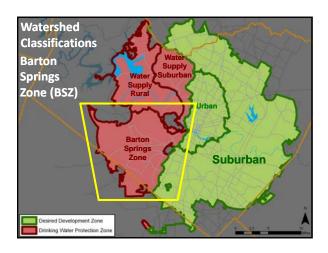


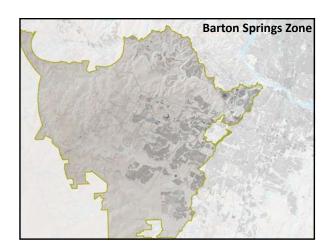
# BSZ Redevelopment Exception: The Basics

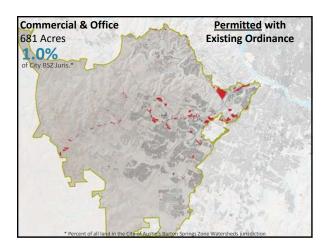
- Property gets to keep (but not exceed) all existing impervious cover
- Sites with less than 40% impervious cover
  - Must use non-degradation (SOS) water quality controls
  - No mitigation land required
- Sites with greater than 40% impervious cover
  - Minimum of sedimentation/ filtration required on-site
  - Must be mitigated by the purchase of off-site land to reach an overall impervious cover (IC) target of 20%

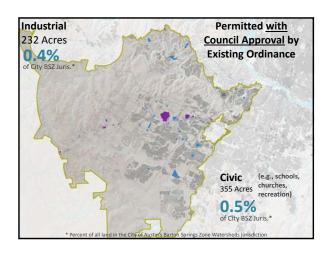


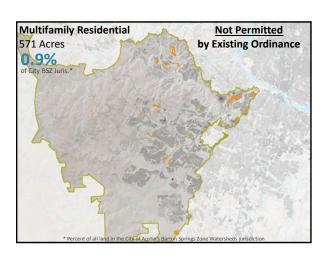


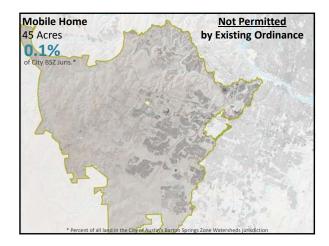


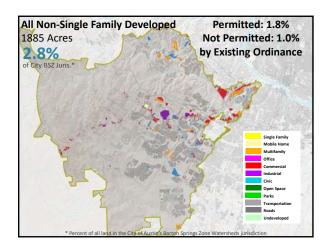












# Benefits of BSZ Redevelopment Exception

- Meet spirit and function of SOS Ordinance
- Remove existing pollution with WQ controls
- More open space preserved
- Reuse existing development vs. loss of greenfields & sprawl
- Private funding pays for retrofit
- Improved community benefits from centrally located properties

#### **Stakeholder Concerns Raised**

- Water quality impacts from construction phase (issues with inspection and enforcement)
- Ordinance should require removal of impervious cover and/or greater water quality treatment
- Potential growth and density impacts from redevelopment (e.g., apartments along Barton Creek greenbelt)
- Ordinance should require a public hearing for every case (Council and/or Environmental Board)
- Requirements are too costly/burdensome and will not incentivize use of the ordinance

### **Staff Findings**

- Few uses of existing BSZ Redevelopment Exception (2 times in 6+ years)
- Amount of land affected by extending option to non-single family residential properties is small (1%\*) but represents a high pollutant load relative to its size (~10x higher)
- Environmental & community benefits of extending ordinance to older, under or un-treated properties outweighs risks
- Propose retaining Council oversight for larger projects
- \* Multifamily 0.9% + Mobile Home 0.1% = 1.0% of COA juris. in BSZ

# Recommendation: Extend to Additional Land Uses

Extend the application of the section to existing authorized residential development with greater than two dwelling units per lot.

- Increase potential for water quality retrofits and preservation of open space
- Exclude single-family and duplex residential to protect existing neighborhoods
- Retain existing Council approval thresholds to provide additional scrutiny for more intense projects

# Recommendation: Allow Use on a Portion of a Site

Change the water quality requirement from the "entire site" to the "redeveloped area or an equivalent area on the site".

- Allow gradual redevelopment of larger sites/projects
- Smaller projects often more feasible/practical
- Water quality retrofit and open space preservation on a shorter time-scale
- Reduced footprint of disturbance during construction

# Recommendation: Encourage Small Multifamily Projects

Adjust Council approval requirement to 25 "additional" multifamily dwelling units (instead of 25 total units).

- Allows small-scale multifamily projects or modest increases in multifamily units without Council action
- Potential to increase housing options & affordability

# Recommendation: Administrative Approval for Small Civic Projects

Remove Council approval requirement for civic uses.

- Current requirement onerous for projects such as small schools and churches
- Existing Council thresholds for dwelling units and traffic trips will catch more intense projects
- Maintain Council threshold for existing industrial uses

#### **Contact Information**

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http://www.austintexas.gov/page/ watershed-protection-ordinance