

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTIONS 25-12-52 AND 25-12-53 RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FLOOD HAZARD AREAS AND WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF CITY CODE SECTIONS 25-1-501 AND 25-1-502 RELATING TO INITIATION AND REVIEW OF CODE AMENDMENTS.

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

PART 1. Subsection (A) of City Code Section 25-12-52 (*Definitions*) is amended to amend the definitions of “Base Flood”, “Design Flood”, and “Flood Hazard Area” to read:

(A) Except as otherwise provided, the definitions in this subsection apply to all articles in this chapter:

(1) **BASE FLOOD.** A flood that has the following characteristics:

- (a) For areas amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, a flood that has a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (100-year flood) calculated under fully developed conditions as prescribed by the Drainage Criteria Manual as amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data;
- (b) For areas not yet amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, a flood that has a 0.2 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (500-year flood) calculated under the conditions underlying the FEMA Flood Insurance Studies listed in 25-12-53(B)(1) [Flood Insurance Rate Map as of January 6, 2016, as subsequently revised], or as calculated under existing conditions as prescribed by the Drainage Criteria Manual using data predating Atlas 14; or
- (c) For the Colorado River, a flood that has a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (100-year flood) calculated under the conditions underlying the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map dated January 6, 2016, or as subsequently revised.

(3) **DESIGN FLOOD.** A flood that has the following characteristics:

- 38 (a) For areas amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, a flood associated
39 with an area of a floodplain subject to a one percent or greater
40 chance of being flooded in any year (100-year flood) based on
41 projected full development in accordance with the City of Austin
42 Drainage Criteria Manual as amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data;
43
- 44 (b) For areas not yet amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, a flood
45 associated with an area of a floodplain subject to a 0.2 percent or
46 greater chance of being flooded in any year (500-year flood)
47 calculated under the conditions underlying the FEMA Flood
48 Insurance Studies listed in 25-12-53(B)(1) [~~Flood Insurance Rate~~
49 Map as of January 6, 2016, as subsequently revised Flood Insurance
50 Rate Map as of January 6, 2016, as subsequently revised], or as
51 calculated under existing conditions as prescribed by the Drainage
52 Criteria Manual using data predating Atlas 14;
53

54 (8) **FLOOD HAZARD AREA.** An area that has the following characteristics:

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- 56 (a) For areas amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, an area within a
57 floodplain subject to a one percent or greater chance of being
58 flooded in any year (100-year flood) based on projected full
59 development in accordance with the City of Austin Drainage
60 Criteria Manual as amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data;
61
- 62 (b) For areas not yet amended to incorporate Atlas 14 data, an area of a
63 floodplain subject to a 0.2 percent or greater chance of being flooded
64 in any year (500-year flood) calculated under the conditions
65 underlying the FEMA Flood Insurance Studies listed in 25-12-
66 53(B)(1) [~~Flood Insurance Rate Map as of January 6, 2016, as~~
67 subsequently revised], or as calculated under existing conditions as
68 prescribed by the Drainage Criteria Manual using data predating
69 Atlas 14;
70
- 71 (c) For the Colorado River, an area within a floodplain subject to a one
72 percent or greater chance of being flooded in any year (100-year
73 flood) as depicted on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map dated
74 January 6, 2016, or as subsequently revised.
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76 **PART 2.** Subsection (B) of City Code Section 25-12-53 (*Flood Loads*) is amended to
77 read:

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79 (B) **Establishment of flood hazard areas.** The City establishes a flood hazard area
80 that includes the following:

- 81 (1) areas of special flood hazard areas identified by the Federal Emergency
82 Management Agency in the current scientific and engineering report
83 entitled, "The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Williamson County, Texas
84 and Incorporated Areas" dated December 20, 2019, with accompanying
85 Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) dated December 20, 2019, the
86 current scientific and engineering report entitled "The Flood Insurance
87 Study (FIS) for Travis County, Texas and Incorporated Areas" dated
88 January 6, 2016, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps dated
89 January 6, 2016, the current scientific and engineering report entitled,
90 "The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Hays County, Texas and
91 Incorporated Areas" dated January 17, 2025, with accompanying Flood
92 Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) dated January 17, 2025, and any revisions
93 are adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this section; and
94
- 95 (2) the 100-year and 25-year floodplains as defined in the Austin City Code
96 are adopted by reference and declared to be part of this section.
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98 **PART 3.** Council waives the requirements of City Code Section 25-1-501 (*Initiation Of*
99 *Amendment*) regarding initiation of a Land Development Code amendment.
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101 **PART 4.** Council waives the requirements of City Code Section 25-1-502 (*Amendment;*
102 *Review*) regarding commission review of a Land Development Code amendment.
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104 **PART 5.** This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2024.
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106 **PASSED AND APPROVED**
107

108 §
109 §
110 _____, 2024 § _____

111 Kirk Watson
112 Mayor
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APPROVED: _____ **ATTEST:** _____

Deborah Thomas
Interim City Attorney

Myrna Rios
City Clerk

DRAFT