AGENDA
Special Town Council Meeting Meeting
6:00 PM - Tuesday, August 27, 2019
TOWN HALL - 127 N. COLLINS RD.

Page

A. Invocation

B. Pledge Of Allegiance

C. Call Meeting To Order

Mayor calls the Meeting to order, states the date and time. State Councilmembers present and declare a quorum present.

D. Announcements

Council and Staff may make general announcements. No Town Council actions or discussion will be taken until such matter is placed on the agenda and posted in accordance with law.

E. Public Forum

Citizens may speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation. No Town Council actions or discussion will be taken until such matter is placed on the agenda and posted in accordance with law.

F. Public Hearing

Open or continue public hearing, consider testimony and other information provided, close public hearing, and take necessary action with respect to the following:

4 - 16 1. Discuss, consider and act upon the second reading of ordinance 19-24, an amendment for the Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) and Building Code ordinances to cause said ordinances to be in compliance with House Bill 2439 & House Bill 2497 that take effect on Sept.1, 2019: An ordinance of the Town of Sunnyvale, enacting amendments to the Town Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning Ordinance) and Building Code regulations; providing

for compliance with new state laws affecting materials used in the construction or renovation of residential and commercial buildings, rules and proceeding before the Zoning Board of Adjustment; providing for appeals; providing related directives to the Town Manager; providing a conflict clause; providing a savings/repealing, penalty and severance clause; providing for publication and setting an effective date.
Agenda Item Report - AIR-19-014 - Pdf

17 - 30 2. Discuss, consider and act upon the second reading of ordinance 19-25, an amendment for the Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) and Building Code ordinances to cause said ordinances to be in compliance with House Bill 3167 that take effect on Sept. 1, 2019: An ordinance of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, enacting amendments to the Town Unified Development Ordinance (Subdivision Ordinance); providing for compliance with new state legislation affecting procedures for approving plats, replats and related site plans; providing a conflict clause; providing a severance clause; and setting an effective date.
Agenda Item Report - AIR-19-015 - Pdf

G. Adjourn

All locations identified are in the Town of Sunnyvale unless otherwise indicated. For a detailed property description, please contact the building official at Town Hall. All items on the agenda are for possible discussion and action. Please turn off all telephones and handheld communication devices while in attendance at this meeting.

The Sunnyvale Town Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberation about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.087 (Economic Development).

The Town of Sunnyvale is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal access to communications will be provided to those who provide notice to the Director of Development Services at (972)226–7177 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

I hereby certify that the foregoing notice was posted on Aug. 22, 2019, in the following location and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting:

Town Hall at 127 N. Collins Road

_____

Rachel Ramsey, Town Secretary

Regular Town Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

To:	Town Council
Subject:	Discuss, consider and act upon the second reading of ordinance 19-24, an amendment for the Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) and Building Code ordinances to cause said ordinances to be in compliance with House Bill 2439 & House Bill 2497 that take effect on Sept.1, 2019: An ordinance of the Town of Sunnyvale, enacting amendments to the Town Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning Ordinance) and Building Code regulations; providing for compliance with new state laws affecting materials used in the construction or renovation of residential and commercial buildings, rules and proceeding before the Zoning Board of Adjustment; providing for appeals; providing related directives to the Town Manager; providing a conflict clause; providing a savings/repealing, penalty and severance clause; providing for publication and setting an effective date.
Meeting:	Regular Town Council Meeting - 26 Aug 2019
Department:	Development Services
Staff Contact:	Rashad Jackson, Director of Development Services

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval. The ordinance/amendment is required to bring our development standards in line with State requirements.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Please see the text below from the Texas Municipal League (TML) law staff. It provides background on the purpose for the attached ordinance. Our legal staff has drafted this interim ordinance to bring our codes (Unified Development Ordinance & Building Codes) up to par with the new State requirements. The ordinance is considered interim in the sense that it will suspend our current regulations and implement the standards required per the adopted bills. Adoption of the ordinance will automatically bring our codes in line with the requirements of the bill's Sept. 1 deadline.

House Bill 2439

'HB 2439 by Representative Dade Phelan (R – Beaumont) is effective September 1, 2019, and generally provides – with some exceptions – that a city can't regulate building materials or methods beyond those in a nationally-recognized building code.

More specifically, it provides that a city may not adopt or enforce a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, building code, or other regulation that: (1) prohibits or limits, directly or indirectly, the use or installation of a building product or material in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the building product or material is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building; or (2) establishes a standard for a building product, material, or aesthetic method in construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the standard is more stringent than a standard for

the product, material, or aesthetic method under a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building.
Examples of materials allowed by the 2018 International Residential Code for home exteriors include, among others: (1) concrete, stone, or masonry; (2) fiber cement siding; (3) horizontal aluminum; (4) vinyl siding; or (5) wood siding. A city that has, through an IRC amendment or any other regulation, mandated a percent masonry requirement is thus preempted. A builder can now use vinyl siding or wood siding if he or she chooses because those are a "building product or material [that] is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building."
The bills prohibitions aren't limited to aesthetic building products or materials.....
The bill provides certain exceptions to the above, such as historic landmarks and districts in certain circumstances.' Staff has attached a FAQ drafted by TML that may answer some questions regarding the effects of this bill.

House Bill 2497

House Bill 2497 affects Board of Adjustment procedures. The overall variance process is the same except it has been slightly expanded upon. Those who may appeal a decision by an administrative official has been expanded to include persons other than just the applicant. Those who may appeal are noted below.

1. a person who filed an application that is the subject of the decision, or
2. a person who is the owner or representative of the owner of property that is the subject of the decision,
3. a person who is aggrieved by the decision and is the owner of real property within 200 feet of the property that is the subject of the decision, or
4. any officer, department, board, or bureau of the municipality affected by the decision.

ATTACHMENTS:

HB 2439 - Ordinance 19-24
HB 2439 - TML FAQ

SUNNYVALE, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 19-24

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, ENACTING AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (ZONING ORDINANCE) AND BUILDING CODE REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NEW STATE LAWS AFFECTING MATERIALS USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERICAL BUILDINGS, RULES AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT ; PROVIDING FOR APPEALS; PROVIDING RELATED DIRECTIVES TO THE TOWN MANAGER; PROVIDING A CONFLICT CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS/REPEALING, PENALTY AND SEVERANCE CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the 2019 Legislature enacted HB 2439, prohibiting municipal regulation of materials used for construction and renovation of residential and commercial buildings in certain instances and subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, HB 2439 affects both the enactment of new regulations and the enforcement of existing regulations pertaining to materials for construction or alteration of residential and commercial buildings; and

WHEREAS, HB 2439 was signed by the Governor on June 14, 2019 and has an effective date of September 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that Town regulations prescribing the types of materials, products or aesthetic methods used for the construction or alteration of residential and commercial buildings are essential for preserving the public health and safety of its citizens and substantially further the economic development and general welfare of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the exemptions to the provisions of HB 2439 hereinafter provided by this Ordinance are in accordance with the purpose and content of such law; and

WHEREAS, there is insufficient time before HB 2439 takes effect to amend specific provisions of the Town's zoning and building regulations that may conflict with the provisions of HB 2439; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Ordinance to supersede enforcement of regulations prescribing the types of materials, products or aesthetic methods used for construction or renovation of residential and commercial buildings, in so far as they conflict with HB 2439; and

WHEREAS, it is the further intent of this Ordinance to provide procedures for appealing decisions of officials in the enforcement of regulations prescribing the types of materials, products and aesthetic methods used for construction or renovation of residential and commercial buildings; and

WHEREAS, it is the further intent of this Ordinance to provide information to citizens of the Town, Texas, that are affected by HB 2439 concerning the prohibitions and limitations on enactment and enforcement of zoning and building regulations prescribing the types of materials, products and aesthetic methods used for construction or renovation of residential and commercial buildings; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Legislature enacted HB 2497, which requires amendments to procedures applicable to the rules of and appellate procedures before the Zoning Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, HB 2497 was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2019 and has an effective date of September 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town Council of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas ("Town"), to fully comply with the provisions of HB 2439 and HB 2497, while maximizing the public health, safety and general welfare of its citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The foregoing recitals hereby are incorporated by reference and made a part hereof as if fully set forth.

SECTION 2. Definitions. The following definitions apply to the provisions of this ordinance:

(a) "National model code" means a publication that is developed, promulgated, and periodically updated at a national level by organizations consisting of industry and government fire and building safety officials through a legislative or consensus process and that is intended for consideration by units of government as local law.

(b) "Residential building" means a building having the character of a one-family or two-family dwelling or a multiple single-family dwelling that is not more than three stories high with separate means of egress, including the accessory structures of the dwelling and that does not have the character of a facility used for the accommodation of transient guests or a structure in which medical, rehabilitative, or assisted living services are provided in connection with the occupancy of the structure.

(c) "Commercial building" means a building for the use or occupation of people for a public purpose or economic gain, or a residence if the building is a multi-family residence that is not defined as a residential building.

(d) "Building Code" means any of the following adopted by the Town, as amended: the International Residential Code, the National Electrical Code; the International Building Code; and the Unified Development Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Prohibitions on Enforcement.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision contained in the Town's ordinances, regulations or rules to the contrary, an official responsible for enforcement of the Town's Zoning Ordinance or Building Codes, as designated by Town charter, ordinance or other authorization of the Town, shall not:

(1) prohibit or limit, directly or indirectly, the use or installation of a building product or material in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the building product or material is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building; or

(2) enforce a standard for a building product, material, or aesthetic method in construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the standard is more stringent than a standard for the product, material, or aesthetic method under a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building.

(b) An applicant who proposes to use a building material, product or aesthetic method in the construction or alteration of a residential or commercial building that is prohibited or limited by the Town's adopted Zoning Ordinance or building codes, as amended, or that is less stringent than the standard established by such Ordinance or building codes, as amended, shall identify each provision in a national model code published within the last three code cycles that approves the use of such building material, product or aesthetic method, as a necessary requirement of the application.

(c) An applicant may agree in writing to employ a building material, product or aesthetic method for use in the construction or alternation of a residential or commercial building that otherwise cannot be enforced under subsection (a).

SECTION 4. Exemptions for ordinances, requirements and programs. The prohibitions in Section 3 do not apply to the following ordinances, requirements or programs of the Town or State, and the officials responsible for enforcement of the Town's Zoning Ordinance and Building Codes, as designated by Town charter, ordinance or other authorization of the Town, shall apply all regulations and standards prescribed by such enactments, requirements or programs, whether such ordinances, requirements or programs existing or hereafter adopted or established, to the fullest extent therein provided:

(a) a local amendment of a building code to conform to local concerns if the amendment does not conflict with Sections 3(a) or (b);

(b) a program established by a state agency that requires particular standards, incentives, or financing arrangements in order to comply with requirements of a state or federal funding source or housing program;

(c) a requirement for a building necessary to consider the building eligible for windstorm and hail insurance coverage under Chapter 2210, Texas Insurance Code;

(d) an ordinance or other regulation that regulates outdoor lighting that is adopted for the purpose of reducing light pollution and that: (1) is adopted by a governmental entity that is certified as a Dark Sky Community by the International Dark-Sky Association as part of the International Dark Sky Places Program; or (2) applies to outdoor lighting within five miles of the boundary of a military base in which an active training program is conducted;

(e) an ordinance that regulates outdoor lighting and is adopted under Subchapter B, Chapter 229, Texas Local Government Code, or under Subchapter B, Chapter 240, Texas Local Government Code; or

(f) installation of a fire sprinkler protection system under Tex. Occupation Code, section 1301.551(i), or under Tex. Health and Safety Code, section 775.045(a)(1).

SECTION 5. Exemptions for Buildings. The prohibitions in Section 3 do not apply to the following buildings, and the officials responsible for enforcement of the Town's Zoning Ordinance and Building Codes, as designated by Town charter, ordinance or other authorization of the Town, shall apply all regulations and standards prescribed by those ordinances or codes to such buildings, whether such provisions are existing or hereafter adopted or established, to the fullest extent.

(a) a building located in a place or area designated for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance by the Town which were adopted by the Town Council prior to April 1, 2019:

(b) a building located in a zoning district designated by the Town Council after April 1, 2019 for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance by the Town, and for which the owner has voluntarily consented in writing to the application of the regulations or standards prohibited by Section 3, including the following zoning districts and any district that may hereafter be created by the Town Council for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance;

(c) a building located in a place or area designated for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance that a municipality may regulate under Section 211.003(b), Texas Local Government Code, if the municipality (1) is a certified local government under the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. Section 300101 et seq.); or (2) has an applicable landmark ordinance that meets the requirements under the certified local government program as determined by the Texas Historical Commission;

(d) a building located in an area designated as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places;

(e) a building designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark;

(f) a building designated as a State Archeological Landmark or State Antiquities Landmark;

(g) a building listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated as a landmark by a governmental entity;

(h) a building located in a World Heritage Buffer Zone; and

(i) a building located in an area designated for development, restoration, or preservation in a main street Town under the main street program established under Section 442.014, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 6. Appeal. An applicant, landowner or other aggrieved person may appeal the decision of an official responsible for enforcement of the Town's Zoning Ordinance or Building Codes, as designated by Town charter, ordinance or other authorization of the Town, applying a regulation or standard to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building, which application is asserted to be prohibited by Section 3, in the following manner:

(a) If the decision applies a requirement of a building code, to the Building Board of Appeals, or if there is no Building Board, to the Zoning Board of Adjustment; or

(b) if the decision applies a requirement of the zoning ordinance, to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The appeal shall identify the provision or provisions which the appellant alleges to have been applied in violation of Section 3. The appeal shall be filed, processed and decided in the manner provided for appeals by the appellate entity herein designated.

SECTION 7. Amendments to Zoning Board of Adjustment Procedures. Notwithstanding any other provision contained in the Town's ordinances, regulations or rules to the contrary, the following provisions apply to the adoption of or amendment to rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and to appellate procedures before the Board.

(a) Rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment adopted or amended on or after September 1, 2019, must be approved by the Town Council.

(b) Appeals to the Board from the decision of an administrative official made on or after September 1, 2019, shall be governed by the following rules:

(1) an appeal of a decision by an administrative official that is not related to a specific application, address or project may be made by an aggrieved person or any officer, department, board, or bureau of the Town affected by the decision.

(2) an appeal of a decision by an administrative official that is related to a specific application, address or project may be made by: the applicant; the owner or owner's

representative of the property that is the subject of the decision; an aggrieved person who is the owner of property within 200 feet of the property that is the subject of the decision; or any officer, department, board, or bureau of the Town affected by the decision.

SECTION 8. Conflict/Savings Clause. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other regulation or rule prescribed by charter, another ordinance, resolution or authorization of the Town, the provisions of this ordinance shall control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all rights and remedies of the Town are expressly saved as to any and all complaints, actions, claims, or lawsuits, which have been initiated or have arisen under or pursuant to such conflicting Ordinance, or portion thereof, on the date of adoption of this Ordinance shall continue to be governed by the provisions of that Ordinance and for that purpose the conflicting Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect..

SECTION 9. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its second reading per Town charter. The applicability of an exemption specified by Sections 4 and 5 of this Ordinance that is hereafter adopted or established by ordinance shall take effect on the effective date of such ordinance.

INTRODUCE AND READ AT THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AUG. 26, 2019.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, on this the 27 day of August 2019.

_____
Saji George, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Rachel Ramsey, Town Secretary

H.B. 2439 (2019)
Legal Q&A
Scott Houston

1. **What is H.B. 2439?**

H.B. 2439 by Representative Dade Phelan (R – Beaumont) is effective September 1, 2019, and generally provides – with some exceptions – that a governmental entity, including a city, may not adopt or enforce a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, building code, or other regulation that: (1) prohibits or limits, directly or indirectly, the use or installation of a building product or material in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the building product or material is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building; or (2) establishes a standard for a building product, material, or aesthetic method in construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the standard is more stringent than a standard for the product, material, or aesthetic method under a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building. *See* TEXAS GOV'T CODE Section 3000.002(a)(1) & (2).

A rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, building code, or other regulation adopted by a city that conflicts with the bill is void. 3000.002(e).

2. **Why was the bill needed?**

According to the Texas House Business and Commerce Committee Report:

> There have been concerns raised regarding the elimination of consumer and builder choice in construction through overly restrictive local municipal zoning ordinances, building codes, design guidelines, and architectural standards. Critics argue that these restrictive ordinances, codes, guidelines, and standards create monopolies, increase the cost of construction, and ultimately price thousands of Texans out of the housing market. C.S.H.B. 2439 seeks to address these concerns and eliminate the ability of a governmental entity to enact overly restrictive, vendor-driven building regulations.

In other words, the undertone was that cities were enacting ordinances that required builders to use products available from only one or a few sources to benefit those vendors. Of course, the bill goes much, much further than that. Legislators are already hearing from city officials about the bill's detrimental affects.

3. **What is meant by a city regulation that "prohibits or limits, directly or indirectly, the use or installation of a building product or material in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the building product or material is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building?"**

The best way to understand this core provision of the bill is to break it down into two elements:

- The bill clearly applies only to residential or commercial "buildings." 3000.002(a)(1). Those terms are not defined, so their normal meaning applies. 311.011. That means it is safe to say that single- and multi-family homes, as well apartments, are subject to the bill's limitations. Commercial buildings typically include retail and warehouses, but not industrial or more intense uses. A city can define the terms by ordinance, but shouldn't be unreasonable. In other words, it doesn't make sense to classify a single-family home as an industrial use.

  "Construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration" appears to cover just about any type of change to a building.

- A "building product or material [that] is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building." 3000.002(a)(1).

  Most agree that the language above references the International Code Council model codes and a handful of others. Currently, cities should normally be operating under: (1) the International Residential Code (IRC) for residential construction; (2) the National Electrical Code (NEC) for electrical construction in both residential and commercial construction; and (3) the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and the International Building Code (IBC) for all construction other than single-family residential. With regard to plumbing codes, a city may be operating under the plumbing provisions of the IRC and/or either the plumbing provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) or International Plumbing Code (IPC). Other ICC Codes includes the International Fire Code (IFC), the International Fuel Gas Code (IFGS), the International Property Maintenance Code, and several more.

  The ICC code cycles update every three years. The last three code cycles as of 2019 are 2018, 2015, and 2012.

  Examples of materials allowed by the 2018 IRC for home exteriors include, among others: (1) concrete, stone, or masonry; (2) fiber cement siding; (3) horizontal aluminum; (4) vinyl siding; or (5) wood siding. *See* Table R703.3(1). A city that has, through an IRC amendment or any other regulation, mandated a percent masonry requirement is thus preempted. A builder can now use vinyl siding or wood siding if he or she chooses because those are a "building product or material [that] is approved for use by a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building."

  The bills prohibitions aren't limited to aesthetic building products or materials. Any city that has amended any ICC or other code should review those amendments with their building official and legal counsel to determine if an amendment runs afoul of the bill's prohibitions.

4. **What is meant by a city regulation that "establishes a standard for a building product, material, or aesthetic method in construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building if the standard is more stringent than a standard for the product, material, or aesthetic method under a national model code published within the last three code cycles that applies to the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of the building?"**

Most agree that any city regulation requiring that a building look a certain way (i.e., above-and-beyond an appearance that comes about through compliance with minimum national model code standards) is prohibited. 3000.002(a)(2). Some have argued that architectural features, front elevation requirements, roof pitch, window size, and similar requirements may be preempted. Of course, those things may or may not be addressed by a base international model code. If they are not, they are not preempted. In any case, each city should consult its attorney on specifics.

5. **Can a city continue to adopt amendments to its building codes?**

Yes, but they can't conflict with the prohibitions in the bill. A city that adopts a building code governing the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial building may amend a provision of the building code to conform to local concerns if the amendment does not conflict with the prohibitions discussed in questions 3 and 4, above. 3000.002(b). The prohibition against amendments that conflict with the bill overrides authority in other law to make amendments. *See, e.g.*, TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE 214.212(c); 214.214(b); 214.216(c).

6. **May a city use private deed restrictions to require certain materials or methods?**

Probably not. State law authorizes the City of Houston and any city that doesn't have zoning to enforce certain private deed restrictions. TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE Subchapter F. (an authorized city may enforce a deed restriction that "regulates architectural features of a structure"). However, the language in H.B. 2439 arguably preempts such a regulation because it would be "establishing a standard or limiting a product." Of course, private deed restrictions between property owners are still enforceable.

7. **Does a city have any option at all with regard to controlling building materials or construction methods?**

That's debatable, but the obvious method is by agreement. A city can enter into an agreement wherein a person voluntarily agrees to abide by certain standards. For commercial construction, the incentivizing tool would be a Local Government Code "Chapter 380 agreement." For residential and commercial, it would be a "neighborhood empowerment zone" under Chapter

378 of the Local Government Code. Property and/or sales tax abatements could be other options.

8. Are some structures exempt from the prohibitions in the bill?

Yes. The prohibitions in questions 3 and 4, above, do not apply to:

1. a program established by a state agency that requires particular standards, incentives, or financing arrangements in order to comply with requirements of a state or federal funding source or housing program;
2. a requirement for a building necessary to consider the building eligible for windstorm and hail insurance coverage;
3. an ordinance or other regulation that: (i) regulates outdoor lighting for the purpose of reducing light pollution; and (ii) is adopted by a city that is certified as a Dark Sky Community by the International Dark-Sky Association as part of the International Dark Sky Places Program;
4. an ordinance or order that: (i) regulates outdoor lighting; and (ii) is adopted under the authority of state law; or
5. a building located in a place or area designated for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance that a city may regulate through zoning, if the city: (i) is a certified local government under the National Historic Preservation Act; or (ii) has an applicable landmark ordinance that meets the requirements under the certified local government program as determined by the Texas Historical Commission (a city that doesn't meet (i) or (ii) can adopt or enforce a regulation in questions 3 and 4, above, that applies to a building located in a place or area designated on or after April 1, 2019, by the city for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance, if the city has the voluntary consent from the building owner);
6. a building located in a place or area designated for its historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance by a city, if designated before April 1, 2019;
7. a building located in an area designated as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places;
8. a building designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark;
9. a building designated as a State Archeological Landmark or State Antiquities Landmark;
10. a building listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated as a landmark by a city;
11. a building located in a World Heritage Buffer Zone; or
12. a building located in an area designated for development, restoration, or preservation in a main street city under the main street program.

3000.002(c)(1)-(12); 3000.002(d). In addition, the bill does not affect provisions regarding the installation of a fire sprinkler protection system under Section 1301.551(i), Occupations Code. 3000.004. Section 1301.551(i) provides that:

> Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, after January 1, 2009, a municipality may not enact an ordinance, bylaw, order, building code, or rule requiring the installation of a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler system or any other

fire sprinkler protection system in a new or existing one- or two-family dwelling. A municipality may adopt an ordinance, bylaw, order, or rule allowing a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler specialist or other contractor to offer, for a fee, the installation of a fire sprinkler protection system in a new one- or two-family dwelling.

9. How are the bill's prohibitions enforced?

The attorney general or an aggrieved party may file an action in district court to enjoin a violation or threatened violation of the bill. 3000.003. The attorney general may recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in bringing an action under the bill, and sovereign and governmental immunity to suit is waived and abolished to the extent necessary to enforce the bill. *Id*.

Regular Town Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

To:	Town Council
Subject:	Discuss, consider and act upon the second reading of ordinance 19-25, an amendment for the Unified Development Ordinance (Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) and Building Code ordinances to cause said ordinances to be in compliance with House Bill 3167 that take effect on Sept. 1, 2019: An ordinance of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, enacting amendments to the Town Unified Development Ordinance (Subdivision Ordinance); providing for compliance with new state legislation affecting procedures for approving plats, replats and related site plans; providing a conflict clause; providing a severance clause; and setting an effective date.
Meeting:	Regular Town Council Meeting - 26 Aug 2019
Department:	Development Services
Staff Contact:	Rashad Jackson, Director of Development Services

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval. The ordinance/amendment is required to bring our development standards in line with State requirements.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Our legal staff has drafted this interim ordinance to bring our codes (Unified Development Ordinance & Building Codes) up to par with new state procedural requirements per HB 3167. The ordinance is considered interim in the sense that it will suspend our current regulations and implement the standards required per the adopted bills. Adoption of the ordinance will automatically bring our codes in line with the requirements by the bills Sept. 1 deadline.

House Bill 3167, considered the 'shot clock' bill, is intended to speed up municipalities development review time for applications. The bill requires that a decision is made (approval or denial) for a subdivision application or similar applications within 30 days of submittal. If the city fails to do this, the plat or plan can be considered approved. At this time staff already provides review comments within the 15 day response period and applications are typically heard by P&Z by the 30 day deadline. Our current process is already in compliance.

The main issue staff sees with this bill are issues that arise after the first staff review / 15 day response period. It could be difficult for staff to get compliance prior to the 30 day deadline presentation to P&Z. At this point staff intends to note any pending matters in the staff memos as stipulations / recommendations as we have in the past. The bill applies to the following applications:

- preliminary plats
- final plats / minor plats
- replats

- related site plans
- construction plans (civil plans)

ATTACHMENTS:

HB 3167 - Ordinance 19-25
HB 3167 FAQ - TML

SUNNYVALE, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 19-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, ENACTING AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE); PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NEW STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING PLATS, REPLATS AND RELATED SITE PLANS; PROVIDING A CONFLICT CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERANCE CLAUSE; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas passed HB 3167 which was signed by Governor Abbott on June 14, 2019, with an effective date of September 1, 2019 (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Act requires extensive revisions to the Subdivision Ordinance and to the way in which the plats and plans, as defined in the Act, are processed by the staff and the Planning & Zoning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Sunnyvale urges the Texas Legislature to reconsider the provisions of the Act at its earliest opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The Town Council hereby acknowledges the provisions of the Act and suspends the application of any ordinance or process contained in the Subdivision Ordinance, as it now exists or as it may be amended, that conflict with the provisions and requirements of the Act.

SECTION 3. The Town Council further directs the Town's Planning & Zoning Commission, staff and outside consultants to process, approve, approve with conditions or deny all plats and plans, as defined in the Act, in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the Act.

SECTION 4. Conflict/Savings Clause. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other regulation or rule prescribed by charter, another ordinance, resolution or authorization of the Town, the provisions of this ordinance shall control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all rights and remedies of the Town are expressly saved as to any and all complaints, actions, claims, or lawsuits, which have been initiated or have arisen under or pursuant to such conflicting Ordinance, or portion thereof, on the date of adoption of this Ordinance shall continue to be governed by the provisions of that Ordinance and for that purpose the conflicting Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its second reading per Town charter.

INTRODUCED AND READ AT THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON AUG. 26, 2019.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, on this the 27 day of August 2019.

_____
Saji George, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Rachel Ramsey, Town Secretary

H.B. 3167 (2019)
Legal Q&A
Scott Houston

1. What is H.B. 3167?

House Bill 3167 by Rep. Tom Oliverson (R – Houston) is legislation that becomes effective on September 1, 2019. The bill makes numerous changes to the site plan and subdivision platting approval process, and it will require most cities to make changes to their subdivision ordinance, zoning ordinance, and/or unified development code approval processes. A chart of the process required by the bill is included at the end of this Q&A.

2. Why was the bill needed?

The Texas House Land and Resource Management Committee Report states that:

> Concerns have been raised regarding the process for plat and land development application approval by political subdivisions. It has been suggested that some political subdivisions circumvent statutory timelines for approving an application by simply denying the application with generic comments that do not fully address specific deficiencies with the application. C.S.H.B. 3167 seeks to provide greater certainty and clarity for the process by setting out provisions relating to county and municipal approval procedures for land development applications.

In other words, the bill is meant to force cities to speed up the site plan/subdivision plat approval process, and to provide more information when a plan or plat isn't approved. In reality, it may create red tape that slows the process down and/or results in substandard planning. A list of witnesses for and against the bill is available at:
https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/witlistbill/pdf/HB03167H.pdf#navpanes=0.

3. What types of development applications are subject to H.B. 3167?

The bill applies to plans and plats. It defines a "plan" to mean a subdivision development plan, including a subdivision plan, subdivision construction plan, site plan, land development application, and site development plan. TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE § 212.001(2). It defines "plat" to include a preliminary plat, general plan, final plat, and replat. *Id*. § 212.001(3).

Many have questioned the meaning of these terms. Does the reference to "site plan" only refer to that term as used in Chapter 212, Subchapter B? And what does the term "general plan" refer to? That term is mentioned in current law in a handful of places. *Id*. §§ 212.010; 212.044; 212.047. As mentioned in those sections, the term may be referring to the city's comprehensive plan. In the context of H.B. 3167, the term is included in the definition of "plat." The City of Houston's ordinance, which was praised by some developers, defines the term "general plan" as "a site plan submitted for the purpose of establishing a street system for a large tract to be developed in sections. The General Plan is submitted with the subdivision plat for the first section being platted. The General Plan is valid for 4 years and can be extended by planning commission

action. Upon planning commission approval, the General Plan establishes the street system for future development." Thus, it appears that the term "general plan" in H.B. 3167 means something different than where it appears in other places in Chapter 212.

The bill also provides that the approval procedures as amended by the bill apply to a city regardless of whether it has entered into an interlocal agreement, including an interlocal agreement between the city and county relating to extraterritorial jurisdiction subdivision platting agreement as required by state law. *Id*. § 212.0085.

4. What application materials are included in the definition of "plan?"

Looking at the definitions in the question above, some say that essentially any type of plan that shows the layout of a project is subject to the bill. The bill uses some terms that aren't common in planning, such as including "general plan" in the definition of "plan." No one is certain what a "general plan" means, so each city should decide and define that term in its ordinance(s).

The bill amends Local Government Code Chapter 212, which relates to subdivision platting. It seems to insert a "site plan" and "site development plan" into the subdivision plat approval process, but those are traditionally based on the zoning authority in Chapter 211. As such, most attorneys argue that a zoning site plan isn't subject to the bill's requirements.

Because of the ambiguity, each city may wish to define certain term(s) in its ordinance for clarity.

5. How does H.B. 3167 change the plan/plat approval timeline?

The bill requires the municipal authority responsible for approving plats to take the following action with regard to the "initial approval" of a plan or plat within 30 days after the date the plan or plat is filed: (1) approve, (2) approve with conditions, or (3) disapprove with explanation. *Id*. § 212.009(a).

Current law defines "the municipal authority responsible for approving plats" as the municipal planning commission or, if the city has no planning commission, the governing body of the city. Also under current law, the governing body by ordinance may require the approval of the governing body in addition to that of the municipal planning commission. *Id*. § 212.006(a).

If an ordinance requires that a plan or plat be approved by the governing body of the city in addition to the planning commission, the governing body shall approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove the plan or plat within 30 days after the date the plan or plat is approved by the planning commission or is approved by the inaction of the commission, and a plan or plat is approved by the governing body unless it is approved with conditions or disapproved within that period.

6. May the city and applicant agree to extend the deadline in the question above?

Yes, but only if the applicant (not the city) requests the extension. The parties may extend the 30-day period described above for a period not to exceed 30 days if: (1) the applicant requests the extension in writing to the municipal authority responsible for approving plats or the governing body of the municipality, as applicable; and (2) the municipal authority or governing body, as applicable, approves the extension request. *Id*. § 212.009(b-2).

7. What does a city do when it approves a plan or plat?

If a plan or plat is approved, the municipal authority giving the approval shall endorse the plan or plat with a certificate indicating the approval. *Id*. § 212.009(c).

8. What if the municipal authority responsible for approving plats fails to approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove with explanation a plan or plat within the prescribed period?

A plan or plat is approved by the municipal authority unless it is disapproved within the periods described above and in accordance with the bill's procedures. *Id*. § 212.009(b).

If that happens, the authority on the applicant's request shall issue a certificate stating the date the plan or plat was filed and that the authority failed to act on the plan or plat within the period. *Id*. § 212.009(d).

9. What must a city do with regard to approval, approval with conditions, or disapproval with explanation?

A municipal authority or governing body that conditionally approves or disapproves a plan or plat shall provide the applicant a written statement of the conditions for the conditional approval or reasons for disapproval that clearly articulates each specific condition for the conditional approval or reason for disapproval. *Id*. § 212.0091(a).

Each condition or reason specified in the written statement: (1) must be directly related to the requirements under the subdivision platting law and include a citation to the law, including a statute or municipal ordinance, that is the basis for the conditional approval or disapproval, if applicable; and (2) may not be arbitrary. *Id*. § 212.0091(b).

10. If the municipal authority approves with conditions or disapproves with explanation, what is the applicant entitled to do?

After the conditional approval or disapproval with explanation of a plan or plat, the applicant may submit to the municipal authority or governing body a written response that satisfies each condition for the conditional approval or remedies each reason for disapproval provided, and the municipal authority or governing body may not establish a deadline for an applicant to submit the response. *Id*. § 212.0093.

11. What must the city do with regard to the applicant's written response?

A municipal authority or governing body that receives a written response shall determine whether to "approve" or "disapprove [with explanation]" the applicant's previously conditionally-approved or disapproved plan or plat not later than the 15th day after the date the response was submitted. *Id*. § 212.0095(a). Again, a city may not establish a deadline before which the applicant must submit the response. *Id*. § 212.0093

A municipal authority or governing body that receives a response shall approve a previously conditionally approved or disapproved plan or plat if the response adequately addresses each condition of the conditional approval or each reason for the disapproval. *Id*. § 212.0095(c).

A previously conditionally-approved or disapproved plan or plat is approved if: (1) the applicant files a response that adequately addresses each condition of the conditional approval or each reason for disapproval, and (2) the municipal authority or governing body that receives the response does not disapprove the plan or plat on or before the 15th day the response was submitted. *Id*. § 212.0095(d).

The two paragraphs above mean the plan or plat must be approved if: (1) the applicant's written response addresses all the issues raised in the city's prior approval with conditions or disapproval with explanation; and (2) no new issues are raised by the applicant's written response. *Id*. § 212.0095(d)(2). What to do when new issues are raised by the applicant's written response is the subject of some debate and is addressed in question 12, below.

12. What if the applicant's written response changes the plan or plat in a way that creates new issues?

At least two schools of thought exist in relation to what happens once the city receives the applicant's written response: (1) the written response and 15-day decision period of the city continues repeatedly in relation to new issues raised by corrections; or (2) the city must disapprove with explanation a submission that creates new issues, which starts the process from the beginning.

Under the first process, it appears that – if the applicant's written response raises new issues – a city may, once again, "approve" or "disapprove with explanation" the plan or plat on or before the 15th day the response was submitted. Section 212.0095(d) supports that conclusion:

> (d) A previously conditionally approved or disapproved plan or plat is approved if: (1) the applicant filed a response that meets the requirements of Subsection (c); and (2) the municipal authority or governing body that received the response *does not disapprove the plan or plat* on or before the date required by Subsection (a) and in accordance with Section 212.0091.

Disapproval must follow the process spelled out previously:

- A municipal authority or governing body that conditionally approves or disapproves a plan or plat shall provide the applicant a written statement of the conditions for the conditional approval or reasons for disapproval that clearly articulates each specific

condition for the conditional approval or reason for disapproval. *Id*. §§ 212.0095(b); 212.0091(a) (Note that (a) includes the "conditional approval" option, but a city can't use that. It can only disapprove with explanation because it is limited to doing so by Section 212.0095(d)(2)).

- Each condition or reason specified in the written statement: (1) must be directly related to the requirements under the subdivision platting law and include a citation to the law, including a statute or municipal ordinance, that is the basis for the conditional approval or disapproval, if applicable; and (2) may not be arbitrary. *Id*. §§ 212.0095(b); 212.0091(b) (Again, only disapproval with conditions is allowed at this stage).

Presumably, the approval or disapproval with explanation for new issues within 15 days allows the applicant to once again submit a written response, which once again triggers the 15 day deadline. That process could conceivably continue until all issues have been addressed.

The second process presumes that the applicant's written submission and the city's response to it within 15 days is a "one-and-done" proposition. That process interprets Sections 212.0095(b)(2) and (c)-(d) to allow approval if all of the items are corrected or disapproved with explanation if not. The disapproval with explanation would mean that the applicant starts again at the beginning by resubmitting the plan or plat.

13. Does the bill provide for an alternative plan or plat approval procedure?

Yes, but only if they applicant agrees. An applicant may elect at any time to seek approval for a plan or plat under an alternative approval process adopted by a city if the process allows for a shorter approval period than the approval process described in the questions above. *Id*. § 212.0096.

An applicant that elects to seek approval under the alternative approval process described above is not: (1) required to satisfy the requirements of the statutory approval process in the bill above before bringing an action challenging a disapproval of a plan or plat; or (2) prejudiced in any manner in bringing the action described by (1), including satisfying a requirement to exhaust any and all remedies. *Id*. § 212.0096(b).

This alternative approval procedure may be a way to grant more authority to staff and speed up internal processes. An applicant would usually have nothing to lose by trying a city's alternative process because the applicant could always opt back in to the procedures in the bill.

14. May a city require an applicant to waive any deadlines or procedures in the bill?

Maybe, but only with regard to a plan, not a plat. A municipal authority responsible for approving plats or the governing body of a city may not request or require an applicant to waive a deadline or other approval procedure. *Id*. § 212.0097. The waiver prohibition applies only to "plats" and not to "plans," which could allow a city to require a waiver for anything other than an actual plat, which is defined in the bill as a preliminary plat, general plan, final plat, and

replat. Of course, the prohibition against establishing a deadline by which the applicant must submit a written response remains in place. *Id*. § 212.0093.

15. What is the burden of proof in a legal action challenging the disapproval of a plan or plat?

In a legal action challenging a disapproval of a plan or plat, the city has the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that the disapproval meets the requirements of the subdivision platting law or any applicable case law, and the court may not use a "deferential standard." *Id*. § 212.0099.

16. May a city require a plan or plat to meet administrative completeness requirements before being considered "filed?" May a city have a submittal calendar that corresponds to the city's internal meetings process?

The bill doesn't appear to modify the authority of a city to require an administrative completeness review (i.e., meet a checklist of requirements) prior to being accepted for filing. A city could also continue to have a submittal calendar that corresponds, for example, to planning and zoning commission meetings. In other words, the bill doesn't make any additions related to acceptance for filing requirements. Thus, if a city believes it had the authority to do so prior to the bill, it should be able to continue those practices.

One exception is that, if a groundwater availability certification is required, the 30-day period begins on the date the applicant submits the groundwater availability certification to the municipal authority responsible for approving plats or the governing body, as applicable. *Id*. § 212.009(b-1).

17. How does the bill interact with Chapter 245 (the "permit vesting statute")?

Chapter 245, in sections 245.001(a) and (b), provides in relevant part that:

> Each regulatory agency shall consider the approval, disapproval, or conditional approval of an application for a permit solely on the basis of any orders, regulations, ordinances, rules, expiration dates, or other properly adopted requirements in effect at the time: (1) the original application for the permit is filed for review for any purpose, including review for administrative completeness; or (2) a plan for development of real property or plat application is filed with a regulatory agency.
>
> Rights to which a permit applicant is entitled under this chapter accrue on the filing of an original application or plan for development or plat application that gives the regulatory agency fair notice of the project and the nature of the permit sought. An application or plan is considered filed on the date the applicant delivers the application or plan to the regulatory agency or deposits the application or plan with the United States Postal Service by certified mail addressed to the regulatory agency. A certified mail receipt obtained by the applicant at the time of deposit is prima facie evidence of the date the application or plan was deposited with the United States Postal Service.

The above means that an applicant could submit something for approval that would trigger vesting, but that doesn't necessarily mean that the application is "filed" for purposes of H.B. 3167. However, Section 245.001(e) provides that:

> (e) A regulatory agency may provide that a permit application expires on or after the 45th day after the date the application is filed if:
>
> (1) the applicant fails to provide documents or other information necessary to comply with the agency's technical requirements relating to the form and content of the permit application;
>
> (2) the agency provides to the applicant not later than the 10th business day after the date the application is filed written notice of the failure that specifies the necessary documents or other information and the date the application will expire if the documents or other information is not provided; and
>
> (3) the applicant fails to provide the specified documents or other information within the time provided in the notice.

The subsection above provides additional authority for a city to require "administrative completeness" prior to an application being considered as "filed" for purposes of H.B. 3167.

18. What are best practices and practical tips for compliance with the bill?

The following suggestions were provided by planners and land use attorneys:

- Review ordinances to make sure they: (1) include all grounds for approval with conditions or denial with explanation; and (2) specifically reference/cross-reference the development code, municipal code, charter, criterial manuals, and other rules that may be cited as a result of H.B. 3167.
- Conduct a study of the cost to provide service for the required staffing levels necessary to meet H.B. 3167 timelines. For instance, a city may need additional engineering services. Adopt new fees that require development to cover the associated costs.
- Establish a detailed internal review process with internal deadlines.
- If a city doesn't have both the planning commission and governing body approval process (as allowed in Local Government Code Section 212.006), it should consider adopting such a process so that if one misses something (e.g., an item that needs to be conditionally approved), the other one can address it.
- Define "filed" in the city's ordinance to mean the day the administrative review process is finished and the plan or plat is placed on the planning and zoning commission agenda.
- Create a waiver form and make it available to applicants. The city can't request a waiver for plats, but it arguably can for plans (see question 14, above), and staff could point out that the process may actually be longer without one.
- Develop standard forms with fill-in-the-blanks and have a comment bank that includes citations to point out frequent errors.

- Establish a detailed quality control checklist (with code citations) and require it to be submitted, and stamped by the submitting engineer, as part of the completeness review.
- Host meeting/informational sessions for the development community to roll out process changes.
- Require pre-application conferences before applicants can submit.
- Limit filing to a schedule or certain day(s) of week.
- Consider whether you need to add dates to the planning and zoning commission meeting schedule, and consider what happens to the application if the commission is unable to meet within the 30-day timeframe (e.g., because of a lack of quorum).
- Delegate any applications to staff rather than the "authority responsible for approving plats" to avoid the 30-day provisions.
- Require supporting "studies" (i.e. traffic impact analysis, drainage study, etc.) be submitted prior to the first application for development.
- Consider requiring submission and approval of preliminary utility plans, potentially as part of a service availability determination, separate and prior to any submission of the actual preliminary plan or plat. Consider the same regarding: utility evaluations (city and third party); TxDOT or county road approvals (curb cuts/driveways); traffic impact analysis; variance approvals; and any other submissions that need to be made to the county and ESD (or any other governmental entity that needs to review) prior to filing.
- Do not accept a final plat for review until subdivision construction plans are approved and either a fiscal surety is filed or the infrastructure improvements are constructed.
- Call responses "notices of code deficiency" that state "your submission fails to comply with section _____ regarding _____" or "does not adequately address section _____ regarding _____."

19. Does the bill contain any beneficial provisions?

Yes. With regard to the approval of replats, the bill provides that:

1. a replat of a subdivision or part of a subdivision may be recorded and is controlling over the preceding plat without vacation of that plat if the replat: (a) is signed and acknowledged by only the owners of the property being replatted; (b) is approved by the municipal authority responsible for approving plats; and (c) does not attempt to amend or remove any covenants or restrictions (*Id*. § 212.014); and
2. for a replat that, during the preceding five years, any of the area to be replatted was limited by an interim or permanent zoning classification to residential use for not more than two residential units per lot or any lot in the preceding plat was limited by deed restrictions to residential use for not more than two residential units per lot: (a) if the proposed replat requires a variance or exception, a public hearing must be held by the municipal planning commission or the governing body of the city and; (b) if a proposed replat does not require a variance or exception, the city shall, not later than the 15th day after the date the replat is approved, provide written notice by mail of the approval of the replat to each owner of a lot in the original subdivision that is within 200 feet of the lots to be replatted according to the most recent municipality or county tax roll; (c) sections (a) and (b) do not apply to a proposed replat if the municipal planning commission or the governing body of the city holds a public hearing and gives notice of the hearing in the

manner provided by section (b); (d) the notice of a replat approval required by section (b) must include: (i) the zoning designation of the property after the replat; and (ii) a telephone number and e-mail address an owner of a lot may use to contact the city about the replat (*Id*. § 212.015).

H.B. 3167 Development Approval Process