

**Community Development Council
February 7, 2001, Meeting Minutes**

Don Lindsay, Chairman

The following summarizes the key issues discussed:

WETLANDS (Don Lindsay)

Vinson Elkin's Sharon Maddox gave an excellent summary of the current wetlands requirements and the possible effect of the recent Supreme Court decision.

Basically, the Supreme Court decided that the Corps of Engineers can no longer use the migratory bird law to justify jurisdiction over isolated wetlands. This is a good ruling for the business community but, unfortunately, it is as vague as the definition of "isolated". The definition will become clearer over time as it gets tested, probably in the courts.

PLATTING PROBLEMS AT CITY (Jim Box)

The City of Houston is instituting improved procedures relating to platting of communities. We intend to invite Marlene Gafrick to either the March or April CDC Meeting to present these new procedures and to discuss ways that developers and engineers can improve as well.

HOUSTON UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT ORDINANCE (Carl Stevens)

The City of Houston passed the new ordinance providing for 70% reimbursement for water and sewer construction costs and up to \$3,000 per house for drainage costs. This is an excellent ordinance designed to make development inside the City more economically competitive with traditional County developments done inside utility districts.

Note: This is an outstanding example of how the GHBA can achieve things that benefit the members.

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLANS (Teague Harris)

In addition to the silt fences, inlet protectors, etc, there are new regulations coming regarding the addition of sedimentation ponds. This has been a way of life in Austin for some time. Now it is our turn. Just more costs.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL (Bryan Smith)

At the March meeting, Southwestern Bell's Directors of Engineering and Construction will present various new procedures they are implementing to improve their performance to developers and builders. They also want to discuss ways that the developers can help them in this effort.

OTHER ISSUES BEING FOLLOWED:

- Clean Air (Harless Benthul)
- Surface Water Conversion (Jim Box)
- City's Historic Preservation and Landscape Ordinances (Mike Shaffer)
- Building Codes in the City of Houston (Park Patterson)

7 MARCH 2001		COMMITTEE	HEADING	SUMMARY	POSITION	STATUS
GREATER HOUSTON BUILDERS ASSOCIATION	SB365-Armbrister HB2411 - Ritter	Business & Commerce Licensing & Regs.	International Residential Code	Adopting the IRC in municipalities throughout the State	TAB Bill	In Senate Committee 3/6/01 Left Pending
SB - Brown HB - Marchant			Implied Warranties	Mandating express warranties; allowing for disclaimer of implied warranties	TAB Bill	
SB623 - Duncan HB2129 - Hope	Business & Commerce Civil Practices	Residential Construction Liability Act		Clarifies damage caps and applicability	TAB Bill	In Senate Committee
SB - Brown		Diesel Incentive Program		To take the place of the construction shift and Tier I, II purchases	Brown Bill support	
SB1172 - Wentworth HB1445 - Turner, B	Land & Resource Mgmt	County Platting		Deletes dual authority in ETJs	TAB Bill	Working with county associations and TML
SB980 - Carona HB2117 - Walker	Business & Commerce Land & Resource Mgmt	Moratorium Ordinance		Requires municipalities to follow due process when establishing moratoria	TAB Bill	In Committee
SJR29 - Shapleigh HJR5 - Solomons	Business & Commerce Business & Industry	Home Equity Amendment		Changes waiting period and signing location for remodels and repairs	TAB Bill	In Committee
SB243 - Harris	Intergovernmental Relations	Impact Fees		Requires govt. entities to consider benefits of new development in fees	TAB Bill	Agreed to bill with TML Hearing 2/20 - IGR - passed Senate 03/05/01
HB1199 - Brimer Amendment to DPS Omnibus Cleanup Bill	Land & Resource Mgmt	Ashley's Law		Relieving builders of responsibility for disclosure of residents who are sexual predators	TAB Bill	Shapiro wants to attach to something else as an amendment
SB540 - Sibley HB196 - Reyna	Business & Commerce Licensing	Mechanical Code		Adds IMC to statute	BOAT - support	Hearing 2/14 - Licensing Left Pending
SB511 - Sibley HB217 - Reyna	Business & Commerce Licensing	Plumbing Code		Adds IPC to statute	BOAT - support	Hearing 2/14 - Licensing Left Pending

<p>GREATER HOUSTON BUILDERS ASSOCIATION</p>	<p>7 MARCH 2001</p>	<p>PAGE 2</p>	<p>Clarifies that portions of Chapter 53 of the Property Code are voluntary; and clarifies affidavit language</p>	<p>TAB?</p>	
<p>HB2056 – Coleman</p>	<p>Business & Industry</p>	<p>M&M Liens</p>			