# SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM Interdepartment Correspondence Sheet

To: Zoning Commission Members

From: Scott R. Halty, Director, Resource Protection & Compliance Department,

San Antonio Water System

Copies To: Andrew Wiatrek, Manager, Edwards Aquifer and Watershed Protection Division,

Michael Barr, Supervisor, Aquifer Protection and Evaluation Section, Michael A.

Escalante, Environmental Protection Specialist III

**Subject:** Zoning Case Z2018013 (Mosaic Babcock Apts.)

Date: November 14, 2017

## **SUMMARY**

A request for a change in zoning has been made for an approximate 9.02-acre tract located on the city's northwest side. A change in zoning from "R-6 MLOD ERZD to MF-33 MLOD ERZD" is being requested by the applicant, Mosaic Land Development, and represented by Brown & Ortiz, P.C. The change in zoning has been requested to allow a multi-family development. The property is currently designated as a Category 2.

Based on the site evaluation of the property, and the information submitted by the applicant, SAWS staff recommends **approval** of the proposed land use. Should the City Council rezone the property that is the subject of this report, the San Antonio Water System recommends that any development on that property after the zoning classification has been changed should be restricted as stated in the environmental recommendations section of this report.

## **LOCATION**

The subject property is located in City Council District 8, at 14715 Babcock Road, approximately 0.30 miles south of North Loop 1604 West on Babcock Road. The property lies within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone (Figures 1 and 2).

#### SITE EVALUATION

## 1. Development Description:

The proposed change is from R-6 MLOD ERZD to MF-33 MLOD ERZD and will allow for the development of a multi-family development on 9.02 acres. Currently the property is undeveloped and vegetated.

## 2. Surrounding Land Uses:

Cedar Point condos and townhomes borders to the north of the subject property. The eastside of the subject property is bordered by Babcock Road with the campus of the University of Texas at San Antonio located beyond. College Park subdivision bounds the western portion of the subject property. Blue Bonnet Hill apartments lies to the south of the subject property.

#### 3. Water Pollution Abatement Plan:

As of the date of this report, a WPAP has not been submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). A WPAP will be required to be submitted to and approved by the TCEQ prior to commencement of construction.

## 4. Geologic Conditions:

The Aquifer Protection and Evaluation Section of the San Antonio Water System conducted a site evaluation on October 23, 2017, of the referenced property to assess the geologic conditions and evaluate any environmental concerns present at the site. SAWS Environmental Geologist, Mr. Bruce Keels, P.G., was present during the site evaluation.

The subject site was observed to be a vacant single family residential property, approximately 9.02 acres in area. An abandoned water well and a septic system were observed on the vacant lot. An unnamed floodplain tributary to Huesta Creek crosses the eastern portion of the subject site. Stormwater occurring on the site would drain to the east and south into the unnamed tributary to Huesta Creek.

Using U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 95-4030 it was determined that the subject site is underlain by the Cyclic and Marine Member of the Person Formation throughout the majority of the subject site, with a small area of the Upper Confining Unit underlying the southeastern corner of the subject site, separated by an inferred fault. No visible evidence of this fault was observed on the subject site.

The Cyclic and Marine Member of the Person Formation is characterized by the presence of thinly bedded mudstone, packestone and grainstone with structurally based porosity. The full section thickness of this member is approximately 80 to 90 feet thick. The Undivided Upper Confining Unit is characterized by the presence of massive limestone with very low porosity and permeability throughout the formation. The full section thickness of this member is approximately 30 feet thick.

No sensitive geologic features other than the noted abandoned water well and septic system were identified within the subject site.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**

The environmental concerns associated with this development being constructed on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone are:

## Site Specific Concerns

- 1. An abandoned water well was observed on site and there is potential for contamination of the Edwards Aquifer via the well.
- 2. A septic system was observed on site and there is potential for contamination of the Edwards Aquifer.
- 3. The eastern portion of the property lies within the 100-year floodplain, where recharge may occur.

## **General Concerns**

- 1. The improper use of pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers needed for landscape maintenance that may be carried off in the first flush of stormwater run-off.
- 2. The build-up of hydrocarbons and other pollutants on streets, parking lots and other paved areas that are then carried off in the first flush of stormwater run-off.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations address the environmental concerns raised by the construction of this development on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone:

## **Site Specific Recommendations**

- 1. The impervious cover shall not exceed 50% on the site.
- 2. A floodplain buffer shall be provided along the eastern portion of the property as required in Ordinance No. 81491, Section 34-913
- 3. The well on site shall meet the requirements of the SAWS Ground Water Resource Protection Section. Wells that are no longer in use or abandoned shall be properly plugged in accordance with SAWS water well plugging procedures. The Ground Water Resource Protection Section should be notified at (210) 233-3546 upon discovery and/or prior to any activities such as plugging of wells.

- 4. The existing septic system will have to be properly abandoned according to state regulations. The wastewater from the septic tank shall be removed by a licensed waste transporter.
- 5. The land uses within the project site shall be in conformance with the table of permitted uses at the time the re-zoning is approved. Should a proposed use be listed as requiring City Council approval, the owner/operator shall apply for re-zoning for that particular use at the project site. If the land use is listed as special use, a special permit must be obtained for that use. If the land use is listed as not allowed, that land use will not be permitted on the project site.
- 6. The owner of all water pollution abatement structures shall ensure these structures are properly maintained and kept free of trash and debris. A signed water quality maintenance plan must be submitted to the Aquifer Protection & Evaluation Section of SAWS. If at any time the ownership of the property changes, the seller must disclose to the buyer all the requirements of the water quality maintenance plan. The new owner must submit a signed water quality maintenance plan to the Aquifer Protection & Evaluation Section of SAWS.
- 7. Landscaped areas shall be sensitive to minimizing water needs, i.e., use of native plants. Each purchaser of an individual lot or tenant within this development shall be informed by the seller or lessor in writing about Best Management Practices (BMP) for pesticide and fertilizer application. Preventing Groundwater Pollution, A Practical Guide to Pest Control, available form the Edwards Aquifer Authority (210) 222-2204, or equivalent information produced by the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service, Texas Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, shall be used.
- 8. The applicant shall notify the Construction Monitoring of SAWS at (210) 233-3565 no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of construction at the site. If any significant geologic features such as, but not limited to, solution openings, caves, sinkholes, or wells are found during the excavation, construction, or blasting, the developer shall notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Aquifer Protection & Evaluation Section of SAWS at (210) 233-3522.

#### **General Recommendations**

- 1. Prior to the release of any building permits the owner/operator of any Category 2 property shall submit an Aquifer Protection Plan to the Aquifer Protection & Evaluation Section of the San Antonio Water System.
- 2. The City of San Antonio shall inspect all future construction of the sewage collection system to include service laterals and sewer mains for proper construction according to State and City Regulations and Code.

- 3. Prior to the release of any building permits, the following shall be submitted to the SAWS Aquifer Protection & Evaluation Section of the Resource Protection Division:
  - A. A copy of the Water Pollution Abatement Plan shall be submitted for the development within the area being considered for re-zoning,
  - B. A set of site specific plans which must have a signed Engineers Seal from the State of Texas,
  - C. A WPAP approval letter from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,
  - D. A copy of the approved Water Pollution Abatement Plan.
- 4. The Resource Protection & Compliance Division staff shall have the authority to inspect the site to ensure that the approved recommendations are being strictly adhered to during and after construction of the project.

Based on the site evaluation of the property, and the information submitted by the applicant, staff recommends **approval** of the proposed land use. Additionally, SAWS staff recommends that the applicant, or any future owner, comply with the above recommendations in regards to the development of the subject property.

APPROVED:

Andrew Wiatrek

Manager

Edwards Aquifer and Watershed Protection Division

Scott R. Halty

Director

Resource Protection & Compliance Department

MJB:MAE



