## **Deviating Developments**

An Introduction to Planned Developments, Specific Use Permits, and Zoning Board of Adjustment Variances

April 3, 2024

Galen Gatten Municipal Law Section Head City Attorney's Office

1

1

# **Topics for discussion**



- Planned Developments
- Specific Use Permits
- Variances
- Application to Bluebonnet Ridge
- Questions

2



2

### **Planned Developments**



- A Planned Development (PD), also known as a Planned Development District (PDD) or a "floating" district
- PDs establish site specific requirements for development
- PDs may allow <u>deviations</u> from the regulations found in a City's zoning and subdivision ordinances
- PDs should still advance the goals of the City's comprehensive plan

4

## Planned Developments (cont'd)



### G Criteri

As a legislative decision, the decision to rezone to a Planned Development district is subject to the City Council's discretion. However, a rezoning is subject to state law and factors set out in the case law. The Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council may consider any or all of the following factors, along with any other relevant facts or circumstances:

- The criteria set out in Section 10.4.2.G and 10.3.8.
- 2. The degree to which the planned development:
  - a. addresses a unique situation,
  - b. confers a substantial benefit to the City, or
  - c. incorporates creative site design to achieve the purposes of this Code, and represents an improvement in quality over what is possible through strict application of the otherwise applicable district or development standards. The improvements in quality may include, but are not limited to:
    - (i) improvements in open space provision and access;
    - (ii) environmental protection;
    - (iii) tree/vegetation preservation:
    - (iv) creation of multiple-use projects including residential, commercial, or recreational facilities;
    - (v) efficient provision of streets, roads, and other utilities and services; or
    - (vi) increased choice of living and housing environments.
- The applicant's proposal is impracticable to achieve within one of the City's residential, non-residential, or mixed-use zone districts in accordance with Article 2, Zoning Districts, but is consistent with the criteria above.

5

5

# Planned Developments (cont'd) Planned Developments (cont'd) Printer of the control of the cont

6





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Deviating Developments: An Introduction to Planned Developments, Specific Use Permits, and Zoning Board of Adjustment Variances

Also available as part of the eCourse 2024 Land Use Fundamentals eConference

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2024 Land Use Fundamentals session "Deviating Developments: An Intro to PDs, SUPs, and Variances"