



## ***UDC Update Request Application for External Parties*** ***(neighborhoods, external agencies, stakeholders, etc.)***

### ***Part 1. Applicant Information***

Name: Deborah Reid Organization (if applicable): Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Signature: Deborah Reid

Digitally signed by Deborah Reid  
Date: 2020.04.22 16:50:53 -05'00'

Date: April 22, 2020

(Include title if representing a governmental agency or public/private organization)

### ***Part 2. Basis for Update (check only one)***

- ☐ Clarification amendments to provide for ease of interpretation and understanding of the existing provisions of the UDC  
(Note: Clarification amendments should not change or alter the intent or meaning of existing UDC provisions)
- ☐ Editing change that does not alter the impact of the provisions being addressed including changes such as spelling, grammar correction, formatting, text selection, or addition of text in compliance with existing ordinance, statutes or case law
- ☐ Completed Rule Interpretation Determination (RID)
- ☒ Requested by the Zoning Commission, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, HDRC, City Council or other appropriate city board or council (CCR, resolution or signature of the chairperson is required)

### ***Part 3. Reason(s) for Update (check all that apply)***

- ☐ Modify procedures and standards for workability and administrative efficiency
- ☐ Eliminate unnecessary development costs
- ☐ Update the procedures and standards to reflect changes in the law or the state of the art in land use planning and urban design
- ☒ See Part 4 (if none of the provided choices in this section apply, please discuss the reasons for the proposed update in Part 4)

### ***Part 4. Summary of Proposed Update with Suggested Text (see application instructions)***

This amendment would update this section with specific definitions of key terms related to floodplains and riparian areas, consistent with current science and federal floodplain recommendations.

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## *UDC 2021 Proposed Amendment*

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### **Amendment 14-1**

**Applicant:** Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

**Amendment Title** – ‘Sec. 35-F106. – Floodplain Definitions.’

**Amendment Language:**

#### **Sec. 35-F106. - Special Floodplain Definitions.**

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**Ecological functioning\*:** The fundamental **ecological services** that floodplain, riparian areas or **SMZ areas** perform fall into three major categories: (1) hydrology and sediment dynamics, (2) biogeochemistry and nutrient cycling, and (3) habitat and food web maintenance while performing these ecological services: assist in mitigating nonpoint source pollution; stabilize stream banks and reduce floodwater velocity resulting in reduced erosion and downstream flood peaks; maintain water levels in streams, lakes, water tables and aquifers; sequester greenhouse gases to improve air quality; and supply food, cover and water for a diversity of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife especially migratory birds. Adverse impact includes the physical impacts due to erosion, scour and deposition associated with increased frequency and volume of runoff that negatively alters the ecological functioning of the receiving water body. The NRCS allowable method will be used to calculate impact and capacity of the receiving water body/floodplain within the watershed.  
([https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/?cid=nrcs143\\_014199](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/?cid=nrcs143_014199)).

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**Green infrastructure or nature-based storm water management:** Incorporates both the natural environment and engineered systems as an effective approach to storm water management that protects, restores, or mimics the natural water cycle and enhances community safety and quality of life.  
(<https://www.americanrivers.org/threats-solutions/clean-water/green-infrastructure/what-is-green-infrastructure/>)

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**Riparian areas:** Riparian areas are lands that occur along watercourses and water bodies. Typical examples include flood plains and streambanks. They are distinctly different from surrounding lands because of unique soil and vegetation characteristics that are strongly influenced by the presence of water.  
[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/?cid=nrcs143\\_014199](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/?cid=nrcs143_014199)

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**Tributary:** is a freshwater stream that feeds into a larger stream or river and are sites of intrinsic ecological value where particular biophysical processes and ecosystem services may be concentrated (Kiffney *et al.*, 2006). In addition, they play a crucial role on downstream channel morphology (Torgersen *et al.*, 2008).

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