



Dear New Braunfels members and friends,

**Tell New Braunfels City Council:
DO NOT DELAY FUNDING FOR PARKS and
GIVE REFUNDS ONLY WHEN BASED ON PUBLIC VALUE**

Once again we are asking for citizens to contact their New Braunfels City Council members regarding fees that developers are required to pay in order to fund land acquisition and development for parks.

If you do not live in New Braunfels, please forward this email to your friends who do.

The New Braunfels City Council will meet on **May 14th at 6:pm at New Braunfels City Hall** (550 Landa Street) to consider the second reading of the Park Land Dedication & Development Ordinance.

Let them know that amendments are needed!

The proposed ordinance raises fees but contains some formulas that will effectively reduce the amount of fees actually collected.

Please tell City Council:

1. Do not delay funding for parks—omit the 3-year phase-in of park development fees.

In the proposed ordinance, only 65% of the fees would be collected in the first year, 85% in the second year, and the full 100% would be collected in the third year. Why delay collection of fees when the income is needed now, as the population grows and sites suitable for new parks disappear? In actual dollars, using this phased in approach, in the first year, collections would be \$539 per dwelling unit after the Private Park Refund. That amount is less than the current income of \$550 per dwelling unit. Collect less? Does that make sense?

2. Refunds for private park development should be based on public value.

In the proposed ordinance, developers would receive a refund of 75% of the park development fee to build a park in a subdivision. Tell City Council that in order to receive that level of refund, the park needs to be built to public park standards. Lesser refund percentages could be set for lesser standards. The fees are being collected in order to provide the current level of service to new residents. New parks put in by the developer might require future investment by New Braunfels citizens to maintain parks that are not built to city standards. Public money should be used to obtain parks that meet public park standards.

Please circulate this message to all citizens of New Braunfels who support conserving land and open space. [Mayor Casteel and your Council representatives](#) need to hear from you before May 14th.

[Contact Information for New Braunfels Mayor and City Council.](#)

Thank you!

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director
[Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance](#)

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