



BUILDING BASTROP

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BASTROP REACHES 30-DAY MILESTONE DURING TEMPORARY MORATORIUM  
ON NEW DEVELOPMENT**

*City Continues to Engage Community Around Building Bastrop Initiative*

**BASTROP, TEXAS – September 24, 2018** – One month into the temporary moratorium on new development, the City of Bastrop continues to work with developers and residents in support of the [Building Bastrop](#) initiative. Building Bastrop is the comprehensive effort to rewrite the City’s land-use regulations to not only address drainage issues, but also define what Bastrop should look like in the future.

The City hosted its first community event with an open house on Tuesday, September 18 to share the progress of Building Bastrop. More than 75 community members attended and visited stations facilitated by the Planning Department, Public Works, Simplecity Design and more. The event provided an opportunity for the public to ask questions and share feedback on the strategic reform of Bastrop’s land-use regulations and to preview initial findings from Simplecity Design’s DNA mapping process.

“The Building Bastrop initiative is a collaborative effort, and we will continue to work in close coordination with developers and the community at large as we update our land-use regulations to support fiscally sustainable development,” said Mayor Pro Tem Lyle Nelson. “We continue to learn along the way, and we’re pleased with the progress we’ve already made.”

As part of the Building Bastrop initiative, the temporary moratorium was enacted to stop development that could create an adverse impact on the community. Since the temporary moratorium went into effect in August, the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and City staff have met with members of the development community every Thursday morning, and more than a dozen individual project meetings have been held to date. Staff has also set aside Tuesday mornings to address drainage concerns, from holding pre-development meetings with individuals and developers to conducting project field visits.

The moratorium defines seven different categories for anyone seeking to initiate projects or continue progress on those underway. Thirteen exceptions and one exemption have already been issued to qualifying projects. On September 11, the Burses Crossing Shopping Center

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received the first exemption from City Council, which will allow for the development of a HomeGoods retail store. Exceptions that have been approved include the Blakey Drainage Channel, which allows construction to continue on the new Seton medical clinic, and several residential developments such as Piney Creek Bend, The Colony and Pecan Park. A complete list of exceptions and exemptions can be found on the Building Bastrop webpage.

On August 23, the City Council revised the emergency ordinance to clarify that trade permits are not impacted by the temporary moratorium as they do not affect drainage. Anyone seeking a trade permit for projects such as roofing, plumbing or HVAC repair can follow the standard trade permit application process. To date, 95 trade permits have been issued during the moratorium.

“The temporary moratorium and emergency drainage ordinance were implemented to help address flooding concerns in Bastrop that could be avoided with more responsible regulations,” said Mayor Connie Schroeder. “Building Bastrop marks a new beginning for the City. Our focus is on making appropriate changes to ensure new development doesn’t negatively impact our citizens.”

As the City works to reform its land-use regulations, Simplecity Design continues to collaborate with staff to map the DNA of Bastrop and develop an Assessment and Analysis Report with code change recommendations. The full report will be shared with the public at another open house to be held on October 18. An interactive “Design Rodeo” has also been scheduled for November 29 and 30, when the community will be invited to provide additional input on what they want to see reflected in Bastrop’s updated regulations.

For the most up-to-date information on Building Bastrop, visit [www.CityofBastrop.org/BuildingBastrop](http://www.CityofBastrop.org/BuildingBastrop).

**About The City of Bastrop:**

The Mission of the City of Bastrop is to continuously strive to provide innovative and proactive services that enhance our authentic way of life to achieve our vision.

For more information on the City of Bastrop, visit [www.cityofbastrop.org](http://www.cityofbastrop.org) and follow us on social media via Instagram, Facebook or Twitter. Residents can also tune in to BTXN TV via Time Warner Channel 10 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99, or watch online at [www.btxn.tv](http://www.btxn.tv).

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