

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 3174

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an environmental report as part of a municipality's comprehensive plan for long-range development.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 213.003, Local Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) A comprehensive plan may be adopted or amended only by ordinance following:

(1) a hearing at which the public is given the opportunity to give testimony and present written evidence; and

(2) review by the municipality's planning commission or department, if one exists.

(c) The governing body of a municipality that has adopted a comprehensive plan shall update the plan at least every five years.

SECTION 2. Chapter 213, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 213.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 213.006. ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION REPORT. (a) As part of a municipality's comprehensive plan, the municipality's governing body must also adopt an environmental evaluation report that includes:

(1) projected environmental changes that may be reasonably anticipated due to implementation of the comprehensive plan regarding air, water, and soil quality;

1 (2) any adverse environmental effects to be monitored
2 due to changes in air, water, and soil quality;

3 (3) an evaluation of projected environmental benefits
4 that may be reasonably related to implementation of the
5 comprehensive plan;

6 (4) an evaluation of adverse environmental results
7 that may be reasonably related to implementation of the
8 comprehensive plan;

9 (5) measures for the identification and environmental
10 protection of environmental resources that may reasonably be
11 affected by the plan; and

12 (6) either:

13 (A) an assessment of the cost to remedy or
14 mitigate any adverse effects or results identified in Subdivisions
15 (2) and (4); or

16 (B) a feasibility study of alternative planning
17 that mitigates those adverse effects or results.

18 (b) The environmental evaluation report may include:

19 (1) the organizational structure of community
20 planning committees; and

21 (2) the identification of best practices, procedures,
22 processes, and resources for developing, implementing, achieving,
23 reviewing, and maintaining continuous improvement in environmental
24 policy.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.