

TRAVIS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



HERSHEL LEE, FIRE MARSHAL
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May 29, 2012

Sam Biscoe
Travis County Judge
314 West 11th Street
Suite 520
Austin, TX 78701

RE: Circuit of the Americas Mass Gathering
Public Hearing

Judge Biscoe,

On May 21, 2012, Travis County Fire Marshal's Office received a Mass Gathering Permit Application, fees and supporting documents for a Mass Gathering to be held at the Formula 1 site in Elroy, Texas on November 16, 17 and 18, 2012.

Travis County Fire Marshal Office (TCFMO) has been meeting with Circuit of the Americas (COTA) for approximately 18 months regarding construction of the Formula 1 facility. TCFMO has issued 26 permits to construct buildings/structures at the site. TCFMO has also issued several system permits for fire protection systems that are planned for buildings at the site. We anticipate receiving many other system plans (fire alarm, fire sprinkler, kitchen hood) for the site prior to completion of the facility.

TCFMO has conducted a number of inspections for the underground fire lines and construction is continuing to progress at the site.

The COTA site and facilities are being designed to meet or exceed the requirements of International Fire Code 2009, which has been adopted by Travis County Commissioners Court as Travis County Fire Code Chapter 71.

At the writing of this report, I cannot say that the facility meets the requirements of Travis County Fire Code, because the site and facility are still under construction. I anticipate that upon completion of construction and subsequent to our final inspection, that the site and buildings will be suitable for the anticipated crowd of 250,000 over a period of three days.

I plan to have five fire inspectors at the Formula 1 race event to ensure continued compliance with Travis County Fire Code, monitoring automatic fire systems and assisting with the Incident Management System.

I will be available to answer questions during the Public Hearing on this Mass Gathering Permit application.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hershel Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hershel Lee
Travis County Fire Marshal

Appendix A – List of Permits issued by Travis County Fire Marshal

Appendix B – Permitting by Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources

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Appendix A

COTA – FORMULA 1 PERMITS ISSUED THROUGH MAY 29, 2012

Main Site

- Site Permit issued 06/21/2011
- Private Water Supply Permit issued 06/21/2011

Vinlarek Parking and Drainage

- Site Permit issued 03/07/2012

Travis 77 Site

- Site Permit issued 01/05/2012

Grandstand

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011
- Underground Fire Line (1) Permit issued 01/12/2012
- Underground Fire Line (2) Permit issued 04/17/2012
- Fire Alarm Permit issued 05/16/2012

Event Center

- No plans or permits at this time

Pit Building

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011
- Fire Alarm Permit issued 04/13/2012
- Sprinkler System Permit issued 05/14/2012
- Underground Fire Line (1) Permit issued 04/03/2012
- Underground Fire Line (2) Permit issued 04/17/2012

Media Center

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011
 - Building Permit pulled; due to, change in construction. Required to resubmit updated plans for review and approval
- Submitted for Sprinkler System, required to submit updated sprinkler plans with new floor plans
- Underground Fire Line Permit issued 04/03/2012

Medical Building

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011
- Sprinkler System Permit issued 02/09/2012
- Submitted Fire Alarm Plans, awaiting updated plans addressing review comments
- Underground Fire Line Permit issued 04/03/2012

Team Building 31

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011
- Sprinkler Permit issued 05/07/2012
- Underground Fire Line permit issued 05/08/2012

Team Building 32

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011

Team Building 33

- Building Permit issued 10/27/2011

LCRA/ Austin Energy Substation

- Building Permit issued 08/31/2011
- Submitted Fire Alarm Permit, awaiting updated plans addressing review comments

Amphitheater

- Building Permit issued 05/01/2012

Observation Tower

- Building Permit issued 04/16/2012

Concessions and Restroom No. 1

- Building Permit issued 05/21/2012

Concessions and Restroom No. 3

- No plans or permits at this time

Grand Plaza Concessions and Restroom No. 4

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012

Grand Plaza Concessions Support

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012
- Submitted for Underground Fire Line, under review at this time

Grand Plaza Storefront No. 1

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012
- Submitted for Underground Fire Line, under review at this time

Grand Plaza Storefront No. 2

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012

Grand Plaza Storefront No. 3

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012

Grand Plaza- Ticket Booth No. 1

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012
- Submitted for Underground Fire Line, under review at this time

Grand Plaza- Ticket Booth No. 2

- Building Permit issued 04/03/2012
- Submitted for Underground Fire Line, under review at this time

Maintenance Building

- Building Permit issued 05/03/2012
- Sprinkler Permit issued 05/23/2012
- Underground Fire Line permit issued 05/08/2012

Parking/ Maintenance Canopy

- Building Permit issued 04/25/2012

RV Laundry/ Shower and Restroom

- Building Permit issued 05/21/2012

DSA Building

- No plans or permits at this time

Appendix B

Travis County Authorized Scope of Work: TNR Permit No. 12-0667

Page 1 of 3

Formula 1 “Circuit of the Americas”

Travis County Phases 1 through 4 Site Development Permits:

- TNR Permit No. 11-0349, Phase 1, Issued June 28, 2011**
- TNR Permit No. 11-1156, Phase 2, Issued July 13, 2011**
- TNR Permit No. 11-1241, Phase 3, Issued July 20, 2011**
- TNR Permit No. 11-1390, Phase 4, Issued October 28, 2011**
- TNR Permit No. 12-0243, Phase 5, Issued February 24, 2012**
- TNR Permit No. 12-0480, Phase 6, Issued March 30, 2012**
- TNR Permit No. 12-0667, Phase 7, Issued April 25, 2012**

Initiation and continuation of development of Phases 1, through 6, and issuance of permits for future phases are conditioned on the following requirements:

- 1. Satisfactory progress toward addressing transportation, roadway, improvement, and traffic management issues raised by County staff in review comments submitted to the project engineer dated September 28, 2010, November 12, 2010, April 15, 2011, and June 9, 2011.**
- 2. Prior to the issuance of any additional phases after Phase 6, completion and submission of the Roadway Improvement Agreement, and approval at Commissioners Court, addressing the widening to four lanes of Elroy Road and bridge from where the road is currently four lanes to where it intersects Circuit of the Americas’ driveway.**
- 3. Prior to the issuance of any additional phases after Phase 6, completion and submission to the County of an updated traffic study containing strategies to manage traffic during high volume events at the Circuit of the Americas facility, including improvements to the existing roadway system, plans for offsite parking and shuttling of patrons to and from the facility on buses, and the use of parking available on site, including an additional 5,000 spaces as required by the City of Austin.**
- 4. Continued and satisfactory progress working with the Travis County Sheriff’s Office on the public safety plan addressing emergency vehicle access, fire protection, emergency medical services, public assembly areas, parking, directing of attendees and vehicles, vendor and food concessions, and law enforcement.**
- 5. Compliance with all other applicable federal, state, and local permitting and other regulatory requirements related to construction and occupancy of the Circuit of the Americas facility.**

The permit holder undertakes development of Phases 1 through 6 under this permit at the holder's own risk and without assurance that a permit for any subsequent phase will be granted unless there is full compliance with the above conditions and all other permitting and regulatory requirements.

AUTHORIZED for construction:

1. Earthwork, grading, and utility (water, wastewater, and drainage) improvements as included in the "Formula 1 United States Site Improvements" construction drawings dated June 13, 2011 and sealed by Charles Brigance, P.E., except for the exclusions noted under "EXCLUSIONS" below;
2. Austin Energy Electric Substation (except for building structure as noted under Exclusion 1 below); and,
3. STRUCTURES as they are listed under A through C below (see attached list for comprehensive listing):
 - A. Tunnel 1 under Track
 - B. Tunnel 2 under Track
 - C. Retaining Walls A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, K, L, 1, and 3 through 14
 - D. Three Pedestrian Bridges: Grand Plaza, Turn 3, Turn 16
4. Race track and related safety improvements. Motor racing is dangerous. The design of the track and related safety features are beyond the scope of Travis County review.
5. On the basis of FEMA's letter dated June 28, 2011, work may occur within areas that will be outside of the regulatory floodplain upon future acceptance by FEMA of the LOMR submitted in relationship to the work.
6. Foundations, including drilled piers and poured slabs, may be constructed for the following buildings bringing them up to grade:
 1. Pit Building
 2. Crew Buildings
 3. Media Center
 4. Medical Center
 5. Main Grandstand

7. **BUILDINGS as they are listed under 1 through 9 below and as permitted by the Travis County Fire Marshal:**
 1. Pit Building
 2. Team Buildings 31, 32, and 33
 3. Media Center
 4. Medical Building
 5. Main Grandstand
 6. Concession Buildings:
 - Grand Plaza Concessions Support Building
 - Concessions and Restrooms Nos. 1, 3, and 4;
 - Grand Plaza Storefront Nos. 1, 2, 3; and
 - Grand Plaza Ticket Booths No. 1 and 2
 7. Maintenance Building
 8. Maintenance Canopy
 9. Grand Plaza Observation Tower

8. **Revision R1 Improvements (Revision R1 Scope is attached, and is also included in plan set on Sheet 3)**

EXCLUSIONS not authorized for construction:

1. **No BUILDINGS that are not specifically listed under "AUTHORIZATIONS" above are permitted for construction at this time. Authorization to construct will be given only after the Travis County Fire Marshal has issued a permit to construct such building, and the building has been included in the scope of a TNR Site Development Permit.**

2. **No STRUCTURES that are not specifically listed under "AUTHORIZATIONS" above are permitted for construction. Additional structures will be authorized as structural plans and geotechnical information is received and accepted by TNR, and the structure has been included in the scope of a TNR Site Development Permit.**

3. **Under no circumstances may building construction or site construction occur within effective FEMA floodplain, except for those areas as described by FEMA in their letter dated June 28, 2011, related to the CLOMR submitted in relationship to the work.**

4. **Paving of COTA Boulevard and the outer loop road is not authorized.**
5. **n/a**
6. **n/a**
7. **No driveways connecting to Travis County roadways are authorized.**