

PUBLIC ASSEMBLY ORDINANCE
NOVEMBER 1, 2007
MAIN LIBRARY – 510 N. OREGON

Meeting Date: November 1, 2007
Main Library
9:00 a.m.
Contact: Kelly Carpenter at: Carpenterk@elpasotexas.gov
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Kimberly Forsyth, 541-4631

DEFINITION:

Religious institute definition, issue of religious gathering (worship) in people's home. Does this apply?

Don't amend ordinance to include churches

St. Mark's, St. Pius, St. R.

Feel they are protected by Federal Law!

Increase lot coverage %, Not do the ordinance!

“Churches should be under a completely different set of rules.”

Neighbors go to Pastors, if not resolved, 10-12 neighbors complain to City. City decides if complaint is valid. (No standards proposed.) Use arbitration.

80% lot coverage

Ratio of building to lot size and lot coverage %

Take out special permit altogether

Setbacks in commercial too large

Special use permit is in court in other jurisdictions

Concern with a school at Franklin and North Loop – traffic

Bible studies in houses still a concern

Need to understand the purpose of residential zoning

Apply to private schools and not to churches

This may work in new developments and not in existing neighborhoods

This ordinance discriminates against churches and private schools

15 AC and lot coverage is an issue

Don't apply residential standards to churches, they use commercial standards

This forces churches out to the fringes

Make it easy for existing church uses to stay where they are

Can churches get together and make a proposal?