Pinellas County Stormwater Manual Amendments

Case #LDR-24-03 April 23, 2024





Our Vision:

To Be the Standard for Public Service in America.

Background



- Board of County Commissioners adopted the Stormwater Manual on February 21, 2017 outlining the requirements for stormwater management within unincorporated Pinellas County for both public and private projects
- Stormwater Manual was subsequently amended with an updated adoption of November 1, 2021
- Since 2021, feedback on the Stormwater Manual regulations has been described as restrictive and inflexible by specific stakeholders



Background (cont.)



- Stakeholder feedback has focused on improving the "ease of use", greater flexibility, reducing costs associated with stormwater management and relief to smaller scale land development projects
- In response to stakeholder feedback, a peer review of the manual was performed by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) and completed in July 2023
- The peer review provided for a suite of recommended updates to the manual including new exemptions, expanded flexibility, incentivizing green infrastructure and numerous technical updates



Proposed Highlights Of Manual Update



- New small site exemption (parcels 1 acre or less)
- New single family exemption for large properties (1 acre and larger)
- Expand and increase thresholds for Administrative Adjustments (e.g.- up to 20% decrease in water quality for large sites w/additional landscape area dedicated to incorporation of green infrastructure)
- Modify standards for exfiltration systems and trench design
- Modify methodology for stormwater runoff calculations based on size of site



Recommendation



- Proposed updates are consistent with the VHB peer review recommendations
- Updates include important input from external stakeholders and collaborative review between Public Works and Development Review Services
- Update will result in relief to small scale land development projects, large lot single family residential projects, greater design & construction flexibility to all projects and construction cost savings
- Development Review Committee recommends Approval
- Local Planning Agency recommended approval (6-0 vote)

This is the second of two required BCC public hearings