



DATE: October 3, 2019
TO: Raleigh City Council
FROM: Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC)
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2020 SMAC Work Plan

The Stormwater Management Advisory Commission is pleased to present its annual work plan for Fiscal Year 2020 to the Raleigh City Council for your review and approval. The Commission welcomes the Council's input related to priorities or particular areas of focus within this work plan.

I. Sustainable Development and Water Quality

- A. Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI): Work with staff to implement a GSI program as directed by City Council. Continue evaluations and recommendations for implementing GSI practices including ordinance revisions, design guidance, city policies in GSI use, outreach, training, and education of the community on the benefits of GSI practices. Evaluate how the City might incorporate volume-based controls into City ordinances and practices to improve water quality and reduce stream bank erosion. The addition of volume control of stormwater runoff has recently been reviewed and recommended by the Commission to become part of an updated stormwater utility fee crediting program.
- B. Incentives for reducing stormwater impacts: Evaluate possible incentives such as stormwater utility fee credits, reduction of impervious area, and City funding participation.
- C. Streambank stabilization and restoration programs: Work with staff to develop and implement a streambank stabilization program aimed at reducing sediment and protecting other City infrastructure adjacent to streams and creeks. Coordinate this program with other stream restoration projects and efforts. Recommend program priorities, funding levels, and implementation strategies to cooperate with other City Departments and initiatives as appropriate.
- D. Stormwater utility credit and adjustment manual: Continue to periodically review the fee crediting policy and manual for potential revisions as requested by staff, City Council, and other advisory bodies. Recommend proposed



revisions as appropriate. Changes related to credits and adjustments shall be coordinated with changes being made to the Stormwater Design Manual.

II. Drainage System Policies

- A. Policies for maintaining, inspecting, and constructing private and public drainage facilities: Review and recommend revisions as appropriate. Support staff in the development of updated levels of service for managing and maintaining municipal stormwater system assets. This work will advance the stormwater asset management program.
- B. City stormwater drainage policy for drainage improvements on private property: Review and recommend revisions as appropriate. This review shall include development and implementation of a backyard stream stabilization program as appropriate based on City Council approvals.
- C. Policy for public drainage easements for drainage systems on private property that will be maintained by the City: Review and recommend revisions as appropriate.
- D. Policy for private and public lakes: Following further review by City Council, review and recommend any additional revisions or enhancements to the lake preservation policy as appropriate.
- E. Policy for capital project classification: Review program practices and policies related to the classification of capital projects (infrastructure, drainage assistance, stormwater quality cost share, etc.) to develop a policy for clearly defining project types and funding sources.
- F. Incorporate equity considerations into stormwater policies: Review program policies and consider how equity and investments in vulnerable communities may be incorporated into stormwater programs and policies.

III. Regulatory Programs – Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) related

- A. Planning and development ordinances: Identify and evaluate state and federal laws or local ordinances that impact stormwater management, water quality, and use of stormwater utility fees. Review and recommend revisions as appropriate



as well as respond to council requests. This shall include the ongoing Stormwater Design Manual rewrite.

- B. Stormwater drainage and floodplain ordinances: Identify ordinances that regulate stormwater drainage and flooding. Receive updates and provide input as appropriate to the stakeholder involvement process underway to recommend changes to the flood prone area regulations. Review and recommend revisions to City Council as appropriate.
 - C. Soil erosion control ordinance and other requirements related to soil erosion: Review and recommend revisions as appropriate.
 - D. Infill development and redevelopment policies and ordinances: Identify ordinances and policies that relate to infill development. Review and recommend revisions as appropriate, including incorporating changes into the Stormwater Design Manual rewrite as referenced above.
- IV. Stormwater Education and Outreach Programs
- A. Stormwater education programs: Periodically review and recommend revisions as appropriate.
 - B. Community outreach and involvement programs: Periodically review and recommend revisions and improvements as appropriate and needed to broaden community engagement in various aspects of stormwater programs. Community outreach programs shall include consideration of equity issues and improving communications with vulnerable and underrepresented communities and populations within the city.
 - C. Flood Early Warning Systems: Support staff in the review, development, and implementation of a Flood Early Warning System. A pilot project is envisioned during FY20 to identify the needs, resources, costs, and benefits associated with a potential citywide flood early warning system. This work would build upon the tools and resources that are already in use such as rainfall and stream level monitoring, flood cameras, and flood warning signage.
- V. Work Requiring Review for Recommendations to Council
- A. Proposed Raleigh Rainwater Rewards projects and proposed Drainage Assistance projects: Review projects proposed by property owners for City



funding and provide recommendations to Council. Periodically review and recommend policy revisions related to these programs as appropriate.

- B. Requests for variances to stormwater control ordinances: Review variance requests as submitted by the regulated community and provide recommendations to Council.
- C. Annual Stormwater Operating and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budgets: Review the Operating and CIP budgets, associated funding and rate impacts, priorities for funding, program levels of service, and provide comments and recommendations to Council. The Commission envisions significant review and input associated with the FY21 Stormwater Program budget recommendations (that will occur during the FY20 work cycle) to include options for enhanced levels of service.

The Raleigh City Council approved this work plan on October 2019.