



COUNTY OF PLACER
Community Development/Resource Agency

**PLANNING
SERVICES DIVISION**

Michael J. Johnson, AICP
Agency Director

E.J. Ivaldi, Deputy Director

HEARING DATE: February 26, 2015
ITEM NO.: 2
TIME: 10:10 AM

TO: Placer County Planning Commission

FROM: Crystal Jacobsen, Principal Planner

DATE: February 26, 2015

SUBJECT: WEST PLACER STORMWATER QUALITY DESIGN MANUAL - WORKSHOP

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

Conduct a public workshop with the Planning Commission and provide an informational overview and status of the West Placer Stormwater Quality Design Manual.

BACKGROUND

As part of the County's on-going Placer County Conservation Plan (PCCP) and the County permit coverage under the State's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) small municipal stormwater program, staff has begun preparation of the West Placer Stormwater Quality Design Manual (Design Manual). The Design Manual is a critical PCCP component to meet Clean Water Act Section 404/401 regulatory requirements and is critical to implement the Post Construction Storm Water Management Program required by the State Water Resources Control Board Phase II Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) General Permit (NPDES Permit).

The County is required to develop a Design Manual that includes Low Impact Development (LID) design standards to reduce runoff, treat stormwater, and provide hydromodification management to reduce the potential of development to increase peak stormwater flows and rapid flow through watersheds. LID is a total site design approach that conserves and uses existing natural site features and systems integrated with hydromodification - distributed, small-scale stormwater controls to mimic or recreate the natural water balance for a site.

The Design Manual will provide a tool for projects to incorporate LID and hydromodification management into project design in order to satisfy requirements for stormwater discharges as part of the NPDES Permit requirements. This program, which is part of the Federal Clean Water Act, requires the County to regulate all projects that create and/or replace 5,000 square feet of impervious surface. The program is intended to prevent pollution, improve and protect stormwater quality, reduce storm water runoff, and enhance the ecologic vitality of local creeks and waterways.

The County Department of Public Works (DPW) staff has been working with other local jurisdictions to implement various requirements of the NPDES permit in the most efficient and economical manner. As part of that effort, DPW has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with

the Cities of Roseville, Auburn, and the Town of Loomis (Lincoln's participation is through the PCCP) that will create a cooperative environment in which the Cities and County can work together to prepare the Design Manual and share the costs. This cooperative, multi-jurisdictional effort will result in a Design Manual that will provide standards for all of western Placer County. The Cities are participating in the development of the Design Manual, public outreach, and staff training.

DESIGN MANUAL OVERVIEW

The Design Manual is intended to provide technical guidance for project proponents in West Placer to develop designs that reduce runoff and pollutants from new impervious surfaces. Regulated projects are required to implement measures for site design, source control, runoff reduction, storm water treatment, and baseline hydromodification management.

LID is a total site design philosophy and approach to manage stormwater. LID measures conserve and use existing natural site features and systems integrated with distributed, small-scale stormwater management controls to mimic the natural water balance for a site. When implemented early in the planning and design process, LID strategies allow owners, developers, builders, and designers to reduce runoff and pollution, recharge groundwater, maintain natural watershed function, and provide for water quality/habitat protection. The approach aims to mimic the hydraulic function of the undeveloped site by capturing, treating, and infiltrating stormwater as close to the source as possible and using small scale landscape-based features located throughout the project site. Examples of such features include disconnected rooftops and impervious areas, pervious pavement, tree planting and preservation, vegetated swales, rain barrels, and rain gardens.

The Design Manual will assist project proponents to identify specific LID site design measures and features, and will assist the County and Cities in determining if the regulated project is being designed to the extent feasible as required by the NPDES Permit and the PCCP.

PROGRAM STATUS

In 2013 the PCCP program was awarded \$114,000 dollars from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Non-traditional Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Program to develop Low Impact Development (LID) standards for western Placer County.

In March 2014, a Request for Proposals (RFP No. 10346) for development of the Design Manual and development code revisions was released. The proposal included an initial assessment of County documents, such as the County's grading and zoning ordinances, land development standards, Storm Water Management Manual, flood damage prevention ordinance, building codes, road standards, pre and initial development application requirements and other public information material, for consistencies and obstacles to implementing LID as well compliance with the NPDES Permit. The proposal also included creating an LID Manual (Design Manual) for western Placer County that provides the necessary standards for regulatory coverage as described for the PCCP and the NPDES permit requirements as well as public and stakeholder outreach and staff training.

The Cities and the County have worked with consultants to form a Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to help guide the development of the Design Manual. The Steering Committee is comprised of various City and County staff and the consultation team. The consultant team includes CBEC ECO Engineering, CDM Smith, and Dyett & Bhatia. The TAC is comprised of eight members and includes an architect, biologist, development community member, engineer, floodplain engineer, landscape architect, a non-governmental organization member, and a land use planner. The TAC objective is to provide technical input to the Steering Committee and consultants on the Design Manual and site planning as well as species design.

On December 19, 2014, the Steering Committee and consultant team held the first public outreach meeting. The meeting was well attended with approximately 40 people participating. The Steering Committee has established a website to help inform the public of this work effort. The next step for public outreach includes a second public outreach meeting once a draft Design Manual document has been reviewed by the TAC and participating Agencies. Steering Committee meetings are ongoing.

The preliminary phases of the Design Manual development are underway. The Steering Committee and consultant team have completed several tasks, which are under review or in the process of being updated. These tasks include:

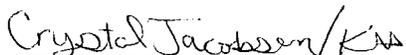
- Developing goals and objectives
- Discussing and refining general content layout for the Design Manual
- Format for design sheets
- Discussing and refining the Table of Contents
- Developing draft process flow charts
- Developing a list of Best Management Processes (BMPs)
- Drafting a BMP sizing technical memo
- Developing the Post-Construction Stormwater Quality Plan template

The Draft Design Manual is scheduled to be completed in late spring of 2015. The next steps for the Design Manual include draft document preparation, followed by further public outreach.

ACTION REQUESTED

No formal action is necessary at this time as this report is intended to provide an informational overview and status of the West Placer Stormwater Quality Design Manual.

Respectfully submitted,



Crystal Jacobsen, Principal Planner

cc: Rebecca Taber - Engineering and Surveying Division
Mary Keller – Department of Public Works
Environmental Health Services
Air Pollution Control District
Andy Fisher - Parks Department
Karin Schwab – County Counsel
Michael Johnson - CDRA Director
EJ Ivadi – Deputy Director
Holly Heinzen – CEO Office

Subject/chrono files