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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
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STORMWATER UTILITY**

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Josh Cummings, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston County Drainage Manual Users
FROM: Ryan Langan
Thurston County Drainage Manual Administrator

DATE: June 26, 2018

SUBJECT: Drainage Scoping Report Submittal Requirements – Clarification for Single Family Residential Projects.

SUMMARY

Effective immediately, the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual (DDECM) Administrator modifies DDECM Volume I, Section 3.2.1 to exclude from the requirement to submit a Scoping Report those Single Family Residential (SFR) projects that exceed the thresholds of Core Requirement #6 (Runoff Treatment) and Core Requirement #7 (Flow Control) of DDECM Volume I, Chapter 2 that do not reasonably expect to construct flow control or runoff treatment facilities to demonstrate compliance with those Core Requirements.

BACKGROUND

Thurston County requires that any project exceeding the thresholds of Chapter 2, for which Core Requirements #6 (Runoff Treatment), and/or 7 (Flow Control) apply, submit a Drainage Scoping Report prior to project application submittal. The intent of this requirement is to provide the applicant with recommendations of additional information, studies, suggestions, or requirements that might apply to the project and that should be included in the project submittal documents.

A Scoping Report Submittal is most important in projects that will require runoff treatment and flow control facilities. However, there are many projects that exceed the thresholds for Core Requirements #6 and #7 that do not require treatment or flow control facilities and adequately manage runoff in compliance with the DDECM using on-site measures including downspout infiltration, downspout and driveway dispersion, post-construction soils restoration and other BMPs in accordance with Core Requirement #5. SFR construction, including construction of small outbuildings and minor clearing and grading of a single residentially zoned lot often falls into this category of projects.



Stormwater Utility
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Building No. 4, Room 100, 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 754-4681 TTY/TDD call 711 or 1-800-833-6388

While submittal of a Drainage Scoping Report for SFR projects that do not require treatment or flow control facilities it is no longer required, the applicant may still submit a Drainage Scoping Report to get a preliminary review of their project as it relates to the stormwater requirements, at their option.

The Drainage Manual Administrator has consulted with staff in the Stormwater Utility and the Development Review Division of the Public Works Department on this issue over the past few months and has concluded that relaxing the submittal requirements for Drainage Scoping Reports as described above is as protective of water quality while reducing the administrative burden to staff and applicants.

CONCLUSIONS

Commencing immediately, Single Family Residential projects that exceed the thresholds in Chapter 2 and trigger Core Requirements #6 – Water Quality Treatment and # 7 – Flow Control but do not reasonably expect to need to install runoff treatment or flow control facilities to meet those requirements, are exempt from the requirement in DDECM, Volume I, Section 3.2.1 to submit a Drainage Scoping Report.