



Clark County Environmental Services

2013-2018 NPDES Stormwater Permit STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 13, 2014, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Elections Building - 1408 Franklin St., Conference Room

Attendees:		
Don Benton, Ron Wierenga, Rod Swanson, Jane Tesner Kleiner, Chris Clifford, Earl Rowell		Clark County - DES
Heath Henderson, Greg Shafer, Sue Stepan- Ali Safayi		Clark County – Public Works
Holly Gaya		Clark County - PIO
Jon Dunaway		Clark County – Fire Marshal
Doug Ballou / Art Stubbs		NACCC
Jeff Breckel		Lower Columbia Fish Recovery
Barry Cain / Matt Grady		Gramor Development
Gary Schaeffer / Dick Rylander		Clean Water Commission
Maury Harris / Ron Melcer / Brian Leonard		Salmon Creek Watershed Council
Michele Holen		Clark County Association of Realtors
Lehman Holder		Sierra Club
Todd Horenstein / Jennifer Halleck		Vancouver Public Schools
Jamie Howsley		BIA of Clark County
Ryan Jeynes / Kelly Uhacz		City of Battle Ground, ASCE SW Branch
Lance Killian		Killian Pacific
James Martin II		Washington State University
Mike Bomar / Bonnie Moore / Elizabeth Scott		Columbia River Economic Devel. Council
Jeff Deringer		Nutter Corporation
Kenneth Opp		Real Property Management Services
Sydney Reisbick / Val Alexander		Friends of Clark County
Kali Robson		Nothing But NW Natives
Ginger Schmidt		Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Assoc.
Gretchen Starke		Vancouver Audubon Society
Dave Cone		Evergreen School District
Kevin Tapani		Tapani Underground
Kevin Wann		Pacific Lifestyle Homes
Terry Wollam		Re/Max Equity Group

Agenda Topics:

4:00	1. Welcome	All
4:05	2. Feedback from last meeting	All
± 4:20	3. Design Manual and Code update changes	Ron, Tim, & all
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review summary of changes for municipal code 13.26A/40.386 • Review summary of changes for stormwater manual 	
± 5:20	4. Policy questions	Ron & all
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing at stormwater facilities • County ownership of facilities 	
5:55	5. Next steps – Public outreach process – April / May	Jane Tesner Kleiner

MEETING SUMMARY:

Welcome and Introductions – around the table introductions

Feedback from last meeting –

- SAC members are interested in seeing the technical documents. We can send links to the [current DOE manual](#) that we are using. Links to the drafts will be available soon to the SAC members for their review and comment.
- What is the definition for “redevelopment?” This and other key terms are defined in the manual’s glossary and match definitions used by the state of Washington. It is the intent to apply the definitions universally as standards.
- Pollutants can be naturally occurring or from development.
- For the [Stormwater Management Plan](#) (currently being revised in a separate process), the “flow restoration program” is being removed for future work. The county is meeting requirements to manage flows to forested pre-development conditions.

Design Manual and Code updates (see two handouts)

- **Process for the updates** – In coordination with our consultant team, we are developing drafts of the updates. The drafts will have been discussed with Technical Advisory Committee, Stakeholder Advisory Committee, Development Engineering Advisory Board and the Clark County Planning Commission for feedback. We will then create a Review Draft for public comment in April. We will present code changes to the Planning Commission on April 3, 2014. Once we have all comments, we will submit Drafts to the Department of Ecology for review and comment (by June 30th, 2014).
- **13.26A – Water Quality** –
 - The standards that the County has had for water quality have been in place for many years.
 - The manual will include existing facilities maintenance requirements. It will not require retrofits of existing facilities to current design standards unless there are functional deficiencies. Book 3 will cover these regulations.
 - Clark County has an inventory of 1,100 business sites. The county will inspect 20% of those facilities every year. They will coordinate with businesses for improvements and corrections. If there is a persistent problem then it could be a code enforcement issue. Many of the businesses are compliant but require additional education to ensure they are following Best Management Practices. Examples will include sites that do not maintain dumpsters (close lids to minimize leaks).
- **40.385 – Stormwater and Erosion Control** –
 - This municipal code has been in place for a number of years.
 - Major updates include moving all technical information out of the code and moving it into the manual.
 - Will this code update mimic how other communities regulate stormwater? There are differences in everyone’s approach to meeting the state requirements. The “Minimum Requirements” for development are in the state’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permits for the county.

- Are there any requirements above and beyond the state's requirements?...our direction is to meet the permit requirements. Cities have different requirements and eastern Washington have different requirements. We are a Phase 1 community.
- **Stormwater Manual –**
 - The Clark County manual is required to be equivalent to the Department of Ecology's 2012 manual.
 - The updated county manual is meant to simplify the manual to create a one-stop book for make it easier for applicants to follow.
 - The Ecology manual has a lot of background information that will not be included (it will be referenced as needed).
 - Low Impact Development is now required to treat stormwater where it falls (try to keep it on the site and treat and allow to infiltrate into the ground).
 - Feasibility requirements are listed in the manual as criteria (developed by the State).
 - The submittal requirements were updated to create more articulate processes while allowing flexibility while meeting certainty of the requirements.
 - Infiltration analysis work has been updated while working with a local team of geotechnical consultants.
 - LID tour booklet is available to help guide users to see examples for Clark County sites.
 - The landscape codes will get updated to remove barriers to implementing LID features.
 - Features can include an educational component such as creating demonstration sites to help educate the public about those features.
- **What is the status of the Clean Water Fees?**
 - It was discussed at the last Clean Water Commission, especially with the school districts who will now be required to pay the fee.
 - The fee is under consideration with the Department. We are required to comply with the regulations.
 - Schools are effective in teaching students in stormwater education through the various programs.
 - One of the challenges in the future will be that with increased development there is going to be a larger number of facilities to be inspected and maintained with the same amount of funds.
- **Updates to the outreach and education as well as the project schedule.** As described in the handouts (through July 2015).

Policy Questions

Facility Fences – There are pros and cons to having fencing around stormwater facilities. Safety and liability issues are the primary concerns for having fences. Currently all county facilities are required to have a fence if there are steep slopes or vertical walls (which is normally the case).

- What are the alternate design solutions – The stormwater facility is site specific and will have different design criteria based on how it has to function (water treatment, detention, infiltration, etc.). Examples include vaults for stormwater maintenance.
- SAC Members would like to have the choice.
- If there is a way to minimize the need for fencing (i.e. graduated slopes). These types of facilities require more land to make them function safely.

- Some sites are large with ugly chain link fencing that are unattractive to the neighbors. SAC members may prefer shallow swales where applicable.
- Make everything aesthetically pleasing while minimizing liability.

Private vs. public ownership of stormwater facilities –

- Could the county contract out the services for compliance for private facilities?
- LID features may be more difficult as homeowners may change or taste may change over time, therefore what are the mechanisms in place to ensure the longevity of the facility.
- At the time of sale, the property should be inspected to ensure compliance and be updated to meet regulations.
- Government regulations should not be a challenge to meet the requirements. Set the expectations to meet compliance.

Next steps:

- The Review Draft will be available soon from our consultant and will be issued to TAC and SAC members.
- Public comment period will be in April for four weeks.
- Staff will present code updates to the [Planning Commission](#) on April 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the Public Service Center.
- Staff will present the code and manual updates to the [Board of County Commissioners](#) in a work session at some point in May 2014 prior to completion of the Draft for Department of Ecology

End of Summary