

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Doug Monn, Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: Update of Standard Details and Specifications
DATE: December 20, 2011

Needs: That the City Council authorize staff to bring forth updated Standard Details and Specifications for public works construction for public review.

- Facts:
1. The Standard Details and Specifications, also known as the "Red Book" provides written specifications and detailed drawings to establish standards of tolerance and quality for public works construction. This publication was last updated and adopted by the City Council in March, 1995.
 2. Over the years we have kept records of comments and notices of errors in our details and specifications.
 3. The purpose of updating standard details and specifications is to clarify and improve upon accuracy. The update should not result in more costly building requirements on the development community.
 4. It is the intention to provide all new details and specifications to the private civil engineering and construction community for comment. Comment from the private sector has been a valuable contribution to this effort to date.
 5. The update includes specifications for control of storm water run-off from construction sites in compliance with our Storm Water Management Plan. Additionally, the specifications encourage new development to implement interim design criteria for storm water management referred to as "Low Impact Development". These specifications serve as a place holder for criteria that will be handed down from the Water Board in 2012.

Analysis
and

Conclusion: Purpose and Need

The purpose of re-organizing and updating the standard details and specifications is to stay current with accepted construction practices, improve upon our communication to those making the effort to improve the City's infrastructure, and to provide an accurate source of specifications in one location for all public works construction.

Over the years we have had a number of specification modifications approved by Council, including the pavement management program in 2006. This update will combine all previous adopted revisions into one comprehensive document.

Additionally, we have continuously collected comments from users of the standards and specifications regarding their accuracy and adequacy. Many of the comments have resulted in minor adjustments of details, individually too small for formal adoption, but cumulatively a valuable contribution to a comprehensive update. These details can be found anywhere from concrete work to street signs.

Our Water and Wastewater Division managers have taken the opportunity to re-write their specifications and re-draw their details to match design and testing criteria that they have researched and have had success with through their own professional experience. These new specifications offer clear and straightforward direction supported by technical background.

Specifications for construction site control of storm water runoff have been included to be compliant with the City's Storm Water Management Plan. The City also encourages new development towards "Low Impact Development" design criteria as is practical. This is a precursor to storm water management specifications that will be handed down from the Water Board in 2012.

New Standard Street Sections

The table of contents of the draft specifications refer to street section details referenced by "A". These drawings remain a work in progress and are not included for public review at this time. New standard street sections consistent with the 2011 Circulation Element will be a subject of council review at future meetings.

Policy

Reference: Municipal Code Sections 11.12.020, 14.08.090

Fiscal

Impact: None

Options:

- a. Authorize staff to bring draft 2011 Department of Public Works Standard Details and Specifications to Council for introduction for public review.
- b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

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