

AGENDA
GIG HARBOR CITY STUDY SESSION
Thursday, December 22, 2022 – 3:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

*This meeting may be accessed through Zoom
at <https://zoom.us/j/93216056382> or by calling (253) 215-8782 and entering
Meeting ID 932 1605 6382.*

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

DISCUSSION ITEMS

**1. Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual
Update**

Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm

Documents:

[STAFF MEMO Stormwater Manual.pdf](#)

ADJOURN

*This meeting may also be viewed live in the Executive Conference Room at the Civic Center. All
participants will be engaging in the meeting via Zoom.*



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Dean Zavack, PE, Senior Engineer

DATE: December 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Adoption of Ordinance #___ and 2023 Gig Harbor Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual Update

The City, under the requirements of our current 2019 - 2024 NPDES Phase 2 Stormwater Discharge Permit, is required to adopt a new or Ecology compliant Stormwater Manual for Gig Harbor by March 1, 2023. The City must also create an Ordinance to adopt the new 2023 Manual to replace Ordinance No. 1450, which adopted the current 2016 Stormwater Manual. The new Ordinance provides a date that current approved projects can be used for vesting to the old manual, and which new projects will be required to use the new 2023 Manual.

Our NDPES Permit #WAR045009 requires the City to either: adopt a new Stormwater Manual consistent with the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, or adopt a Phase I program (manual) already approved by Ecology. It has been the City's previous policy to adopt Phase I program manuals due to the excessive amount of resources required to create a brand new manual and go through the review and approval process through the Department of Ecology. In the last NDPES Permit, the City adopted the 2015 Pierce County Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual with edit revisions to make it a 2016 Gig Harbor document.

The City hired 3J Consultants to revise the 2021 Pierce County Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual (2021 PCSMDM). The consultant is tasked to remove all Pierce County Code (PCC) references and ordinances and update the text in the manual to Gig Harbor, including codes and references to codes. This edited manual is currently under the review by Engineering and Public Works.

Summary of following changes from the 2019 PCSMDM (see also attached):

- Eliminate Direct Discharge Exemptions for Flow Control per current GHMC
- Replace referenced PCC to GHMC
- Remove Flow Control Credits for stormwater modeling analysis for tree preservation from the Manual, to not conflict with City Planning preservation, setbacks, and planting requirements
- Update the 2019 PCSMDM Stormwater Standard Details (contained in Volume VI of the 2019 PCSMDM) to comply with our new Gig Harbor Public Works Standard Details

Per the current NDPES Phase II Permit, the permittee (Gig Harbor) may edit or revise an adopted Phase 1 Stormwater Manual if the edits do not make the new manual less stringent than the approved Phase I manual. The proposed revisions to the 2021 PCSMDM do not make any requirements or restrictions less stringent.

The entire six volumes of amended 2023 GHSMDM with tracked changes (1,300 pages) are available for review, please contact me for a link to the documents dzavack@gigharborwa.gov .

November 30, 2022

City of Gig Harbor
Public Works Department
3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Gig Harbor Stormwater Manual Update
ATTN: Jeff Langhelm

The following is a project summary and outline of the work completed by 3J Consulting for the Gig Harbor Stormwater Manual Update.

3J has been hired by the City of Gig Harbor to revise and update the currently adopted 2016 Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual. This is required to satisfy requirements pursuant to the City's Phase II Municipal Stormwater permit issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology which allows owners to discharge from municipal stormwater systems. Previous versions of the City's manual have been published after Phase I permit holders have revised, changed, and adopted the latest Ecology manual. 3J's manual revisions have followed the same blueprint to stay consistent with previous updates and satisfy expectations by the Department of Ecology.

In 2019, Ecology published an updated version of the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington. This was an update from the 2012 publication that was amended in 2014. Since the City of Gig Harbor holds a Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit, it must provide an updated stormwater manual that is acceptable to Ecology. The Phase II permit was effective starting August 1, 2019 and corresponded with the newly published stormwater manual. During past update cycles, the City of Gig Harbor has used Pierce County's Storm Manual as the base for its upgrades. This maintains simplicity for the State, City review staff, and developers who are familiar with a consistent standard. Pierce County, a Phase I permittee, has vetted the 2019 Ecology storm manual against their own previous publication to produce an updated manual. Pierce County's Storm Manual update became effective on July 1, 2021.

3J has been tasked with revising the newly adopted Pierce County Stormwater Management and Site Development manual for use specific to the City of Gig Harbor. Pierce County provided City staff with a copy of the updated manual. These documents were forwarded to 3J and has served as the base for 3J modifications. The manual is made up of six volumes; five of which were previously adopted by the City of Gig Harbor. 3J has performed text edits on each of the volumes that remove reference to Pierce County Code, Pierce County Public Works, and other Pierce County-specific language that would not apply in the City of Gig Harbor. These changes remain largely consistent with previous City updates and serve as the majority of work completed by 3J.

Outside of text edits consistent with past updates, there are a few sections of the manual that were substantially edited.

- City staff has elected to adopt Volume VI (Comprehensive LID Site Designs). This manual was purged from the last update due to limited content and Pierce County-specific application.



Upon further review, City staff determined that this portion of the manual contained information worth adopting that was supported by City municipal code.

- A City-specific ordinance published in December 2020 changed the language for direct discharge in Volume I, Chapter 2.4.7. This section has been updated to remain consistent with the last manual amendment.
- In Volume III, Chapter 3.3 granted Flow Control credits on Tree Planting. After discussion with City staff, it was determined that portions of this section may conflict with design standards published by City Planning. Therefore, the section language was removed entirely and states that it is not currently adopted in the City of Gig Harbor. This is approvable through Ecology as the removal of this section serves as a more stringent standard.

All changes made by Pierce County can be found in the “tracked changes” PDF supplied to City staff. All changes made by 3J to the City’s stormwater manual have been made with “tracked changes” so that City staff can audit and validate those adjustments. Outstanding manual update items include but are not limited to:

- Final document formatting (3J)
- 90 percent redline review (3J and City)
- Standard details (City)
- Form attachments (City)

Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions or need any additional clarification.

Sincerely,

John Gilchrist, PE
Civil Engineer
3J Consulting, Inc.

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