



Surfacewater Groundwater Protections

Stormwater Update Workshop

Vancouver City Council ▪ Jan. 26, 2009



Stormwater Ordinance

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- Workshop Outline
 - County Stormwater Ordinance Status
 - Related Legislative Update
 - City Stormwater Ordinance Revisions
 - Recap of Timing for Revisions
 - Stormwater Management Regions
 - Possible Impacts and Examples
 - Status of City Draft Ordinance
 - Council Discussion & Next Steps



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- County Stormwater Ordinance Status
 - On Jan. 13, 2009, Clark County Board of Commissioners adopted a lesser standard than required by the Department of Ecology.
 - County revised stormwater ordinance is effective 90 days from its adoption.



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- 2009 Washington State Legislature:
 - No legislation introduced to date regarding change in Ecology stormwater requirements, including flow control standards or manual.
 - February 25: Last day to read in committee reports in legislative house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.



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- Stormwater Ordinance Revisions and Timing
 - Changes are required to meet the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit for Western Washington, issued by the state Department of Ecology in early 2007.
 - An August 2009 adoption deadline is mandatory for state and federal compliance of Phase II permits.
 - Earlier adoption is in accord with the settlement agreement, approved by the Council in May 2006, with Clark County Natural Resources Council (CCNRC) and Rosemere Neighborhood Association (RNA).



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- Three Sections of Vancouver Municipal Code:
 - **VMC 14.24 – Erosion Prevention**
 - Minor changes, primarily to codify current policy.
 - **VMC 14.25 – Stormwater Control**
 - Major changes, including reference to 2005 Western Washington Stormwater Manual and flow control.
 - **VMC 14.26 – Water Resources Protection**
 - Minor changes, primarily for enforcement measures already used in erosion prevention and to provide guidance on discharges to meet permit requirements.



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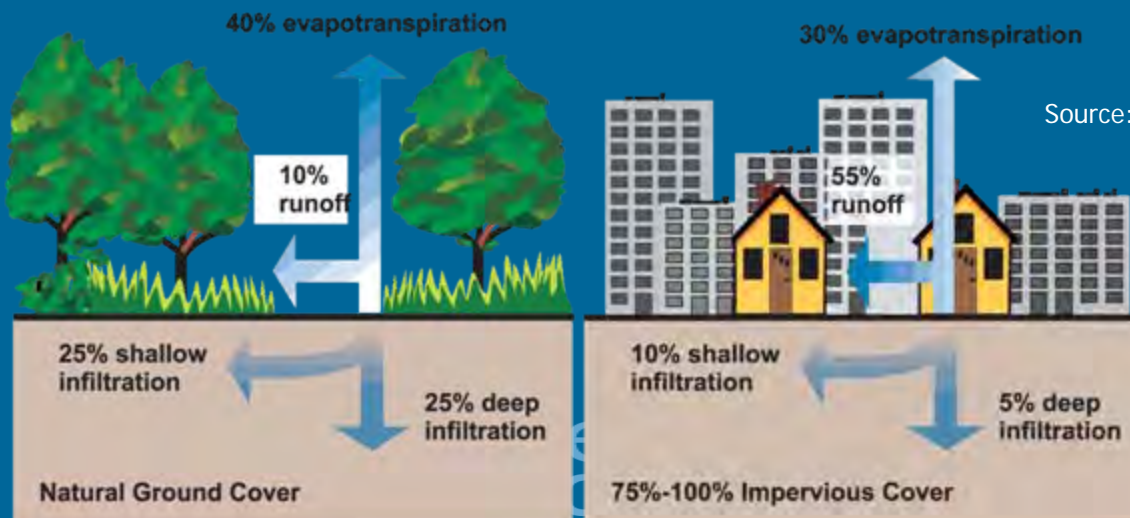
- City has already adopted and is using large portions of the 2005 Western Washington manual.
- Low impact development elements have already been used for many City projects.
- Proposed ordinance will allow for automatic updates that result from potential legislative changes.
- Flow control is the primary issue of controversy and concern, though within the City there are: 1) many areas with soils suitable for infiltration and 2) a large area that qualifies for the large water bodies exemption.



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- What Flow Control Is:
 - Pre-development natural conditions allow rain to soak into the ground, reducing stormwater runoff quantity.
 - Post-development surfaces – roofs, pavement, etc. – cause more runoff, resulting in potential impacts.





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- What Flow Control Means in the Ecology Manual:
 - Ecology manual treats developed/developing areas as if natural and unaltered, dating back to time of pre-European settlement.
 - Manual requires peak flows be controlled to levels that would have occurred naturally back then.

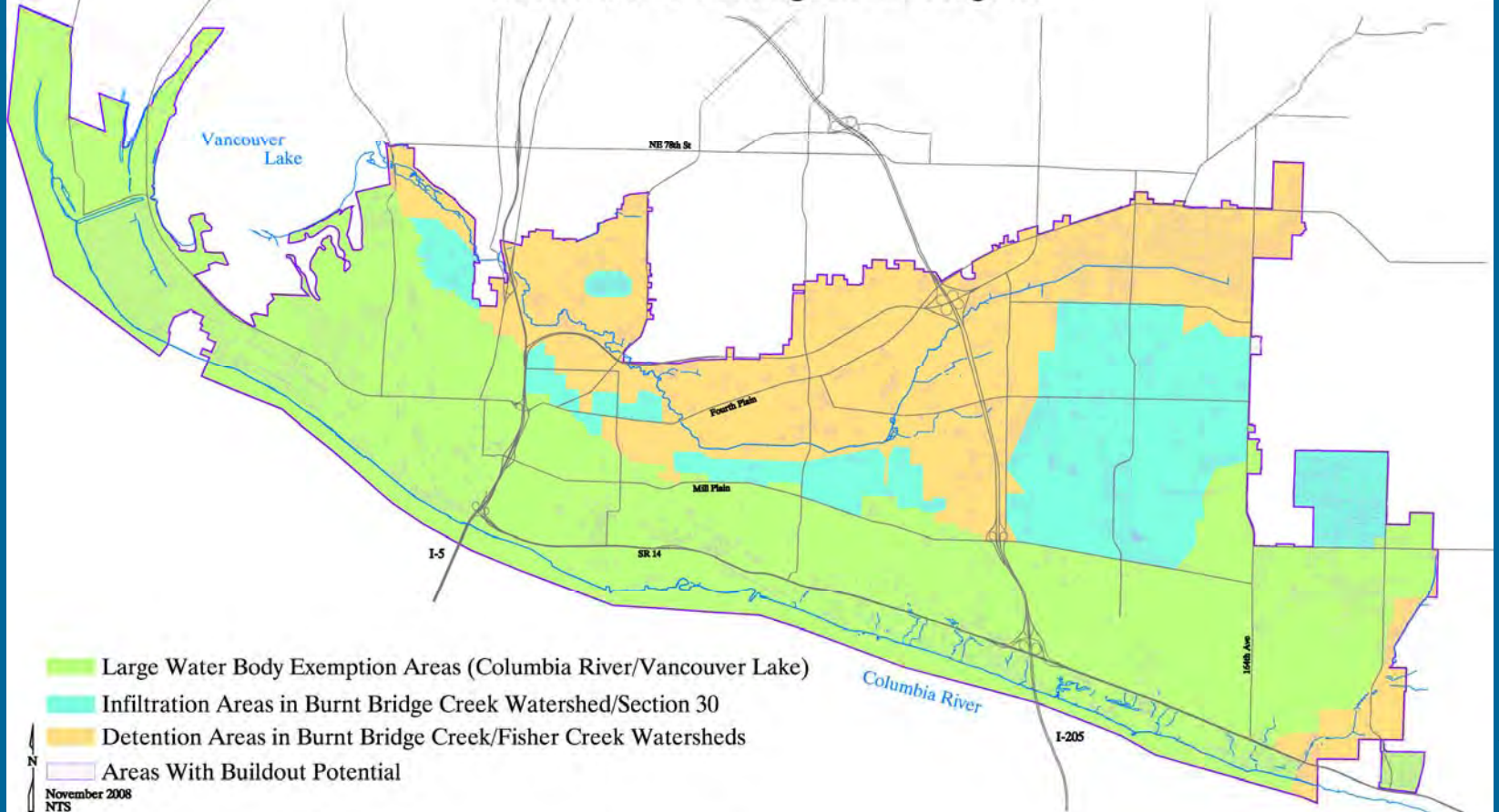




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City of Vancouver Stormwater Management Regions





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- Rearview Mirror Look at Possible Impacts:
 - **Of 71 development projects completed in 2008:**
 - **58 infiltrated - treated and absorb into ground**
 - **4 treated and flow to the Columbia River**
 - **9 treated and flow to Burnt Bridge Creek:**
 - 3 used regional facilities
 - 3 used low impact development methods
 - Remaining 3 (phases of same subdivision) didn't take advantage of either low impact development methods or regional facilities



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- Examples of Options for Meeting Added Detention and Release Requirements:
 - Low impact development methods such as permeable pavement, rain gardens, etc.
 - Larger ponds and underground detention
 - Regional facilities
 - Basin plans
 - Exception/Variance



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- Examples of Existing Low Impact Development:
 - Rain gardens at the WA Crime Lab, Highland Park Apartments, Firstenburg Community Center and the Northeast 127th Avenue Business Park
 - Permeable pavement/Permeable pavers at Winco on Northeast Andresen, Firstenburg Community Center, Northeast 127th Avenue Business Park, Grand Central, City of Vancouver East Precinct, Vancouver Toyota and The Angelo Building



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- Impact on an Existing Home or Business?
 - No changes, no impact expected.
- Impact on Future Construction of New or Remodeling of an Existing Home or Business?
 - Depends on size, type and location of the project. Typically, city standards relating to erosion control and stormwater management on a single residential lot remain largely the same under proposed stormwater ordinance revisions as exist now.

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- Status of City Draft Stormwater Ordinance
 - Goal: Revised version of proposed ordinance to be posted to the City's Web site by the end of the week.
 - Comments received to date



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- Council Discussion & Questions
- Next Steps