


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

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|  | Number: | 21-470 | Meeting: | November 1, 2021 |
| | Agenda Item: | 51 | Roll Call: | 21-1696 |
| | Submitted by: | Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director | | |

AGENDA HEADING:

Amending Chapter 42 of the Municipal Code relating to stormwater management standards for development and redevelopment for grading permits, site plans, and plat approvals.

SYNOPSIS:

Approving amendments to Chapter 42 of the Municipal Code to add Article XI, sections 42-558, 42-459, 42-560, 42-561, 42-562, 42-563, 42-564, 42-565, and 42-566 relating to stormwater management standards for development and redevelopment for grading permits, site plans, and plat approvals. With these changes, the City will be adopting the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual for the management of stormwater. This ordinance update would replace the stormwater management standards currently included in Chapters 106 and 135. The ordinance is scheduled to go into effect after its passage and publication on February 1, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In February 2018, the Capital Crossroads Local Government Collaborative met with the Mid-Iowa Local Government meeting of Mayors and the topic of stormwater management was selected as a metro-wide issue that needed to be evaluated and improvements needed to be implemented. Specifically, post-construction stormwater management requirements needed to be strengthened to support flood reduction, reduce stream erosion, and increase water quality due to new development. The current City standard follows Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) which was the standard for a majority of the cities in the metro.
- After almost a year of large group meetings with City staff, consulting engineers, and development community representatives, a consensus was formed around adopting the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual as the metro-wide standard for the management of stormwater. This manual provides design guidance on how to design stormwater management facilities to mimic nature and minimize adverse impacts to stormwater quantity and quality. The group also developed a model stormwater ordinance document that provided a template for consistent adoption of new ordinances by the metro cities.

- The City's Public Works staff presented the proposed ordinance changes at the City Council Quarterly Work Session on August 19, 2020. After that meeting, Public Works and Legal Department staff worked to develop the full ordinance update that is being presented today. An update was presented to City Council at the October 4, 2021 Work Session. Once the draft ordinance was completed, it was sent out to development community and the consulting engineering firms that complete the studies and design for new development.
- To date, the model ordinance has been adopted by Clive, Windsor Heights, Waukee, Urbandale, and Johnston. Several other communities are in the process of drafting and adopting their ordinance updates.
- The ordinance is scheduled to go into effect after its passage and publication on February 1, 2022. That will give time for engineers and developers to prepare for the changes and allow for updates to the other ordinance chapters that need to be modified with this ordinance change.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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