



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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GAIL FARBER, Director

October 29, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

35 October 29, 2013

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**REVISION TO THE CURRENT LOW-IMPACT DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE,
CHAPTER 12.84 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to revise the current Low-Impact Development Ordinance (Los Angeles County Code Chapter 12.84) to conform to requirements in the new Los Angeles County Municipal Stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit dated November 8, 2012.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Introduce, waive reading, and place the ordinance on a subsequent agenda for adoption.
3. Approve the ordinance amending Chapter 12.84 of the Los Angeles County Code, related to Low-Impact Development Standards, to revise the low-impact development and hydromodification standards and requirements on certain new development and redevelopment projects, to comply with requirements imposed on the County by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board in the County's stormwater discharge permit under the Federal Clean Water Act.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

In November 2008, the Board adopted Ordinance 2008-0063, adopted Ordinance 2008-0063, which

amended Title 12, Environmental Protection, to include Chapter 12.84, Low-Impact Development (LID) standards. This ordinance was passed in response to the changing water quality and development trends throughout Southern California and prior to any regulatory agency mandating such requirements be placed on new and redevelopment projects.

In November 2012, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) issued an updated stormwater discharge permit to the County of Los Angeles (County). This new permit requires the County to implement certain new LID standards, which were not required by the 2008 LID ordinance. Pursuant to the new stormwater discharge permit, the County must revise its current LID ordinance to incorporate these new development and redevelopment standards.

Approval of this ordinance revision will bring the current LID ordinance into conformance with requirements imposed on certain new development and redevelopment projects in the unincorporated County areas by the RWQCB in the County's stormwater discharge permit under the Federal Clean Water Act.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3) by creating a single comprehensive LID ordinance and increasing the water quality requirements for stormwater and dry-weather runoff from new development and redevelopment projects.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The County reviews and approves plans for new development and redevelopment projects. Part of this plan approval includes review and approval of the LID features and devices proposed for each site. The County's stormwater discharge permit from the RWQCB requires the County to impose specified LID and hydromodification requirements on certain new development and redevelopment projects constructed by private builders and developers.

The current LID ordinance does not conform to the LID and hydromodification requirements specified in the new stormwater discharge permit. If Title 12 is not revised to incorporate these new requirements, the County could be subject to enforcement actions by the RWQCB or lawsuits by third parties.

The enclosed ordinance to revise the current LID ordinance has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed LID ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed LID ordinance is within a class of projects that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15308 of the CEQA guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no negative impact on current County services or projects as a result of revising the current LID ordinance.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter and enclosed ordinances to the Department of Public Works, Land Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail Farber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GAIL FARBER
Director

GF:AEN:plg

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel
Department of Regional Planning
Executive Office