



Storm and Surface Water Utility Mission:

We provide services that protect against flooding, improve water quality, and enhance habitat.

Overarching Utility Policy Questions

- What are the community’s “level of service” expectations for the Utility’s key responsibilities?
- Given limited City resources and various State and federal mandates, how does the Utility best prioritize the work it does (e.g., education, capital facilities, maintenance, applied research)?
- How do we minimize potential conflicts between stormwater regulations and community economic goals?
- What are the community’s preferences for how stormwater rates are structured and calculated? Should the Utility offer stronger financial incentives?
- What should be the role and future of the Utility’s public education and outreach programs? How do we link our work with other community efforts?

Flooding & Infrastructure Management

- How do we best track the condition of our extensive infrastructure and make timely, cost-effective investments?
- What is the best approach for ensuring on-going maintenance of stormwater systems on private property?
- How should we respond to the risks of sea level rise and downtown flooding?
- Should the Utility prioritize separating stormwater from the wastewater pipes in the areas (approximately 122,000 feet of pipe) where they are combined?

Water Quality

- Should the Utility develop a more comprehensive pollutant source control program that works with residents and businesses to eliminate and reduce pollutant-generating activities?
- What are the community’s preferences for how low impact development (LID) will be implemented and maintained in the long-term?
- What is the expected extent of water quality retrofit of our streets that currently do not have stormwater treatment before discharging to a water body?
- How much effort should the Utility put into monitoring our local water quality and improvements to it?

Aquatic Habitat

- What is the Utility’s role in overall natural resource management (e.g. forestry, marine waters, critical areas management, tree canopy, contaminated sediments)?
- How should we adequately fund aquatic habitat work?
- At what level should the habitat stewardship strategy be implemented?
- How do we best coordinate our work with regional and State efforts?