



September 16, 2022

Olympia City Council  
PO Box 1967  
Olympia, WA 98507- 1967

Dear Mayor Selby and Councilmembers:

**SUBJECT: UAC Support for the Adoption of the 2022 Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual**

This letter provides the City of Olympia, Utility Advisory Committee's (UAC) recommendation to adopt the 2022 Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual (DDECM).

The DDECM sets standards and provides guidance on the measures necessary to control the quantity and quality of stormwater produced by new development and re-development within the City of Olympia. The DDECM underwent a significant revision in 2016. Few changes, beyond those related to reformatting of information, are proposed for the 2022 revision.

The UAC received briefings in April and June 2022 on the work being done by a Storm and Surface Water Utility staff team to review and update the DDECM. The team consists of staff responsible for reviewing private development proposals against DDECM requirements, inspecting public and private stormwater infrastructure, maintaining the City's stormwater infrastructure and oversight of the 2019-2024 Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit implementation and compliance requirements.

Because the DDECM is a lengthy, technical document and few changes are proposed, staff briefings to the UAC on the 2022 DDECM focused on the process the team was taking to update the DDECM and the categories of changes that are proposed rather than the contents of the DDECM itself.

To assist with review of the draft 2022 DDECM, Storm and Surface Water Utility staff created a detailed report of proposed changes. The categories of proposed changes include:

- Changes made to be consistent with the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SMMWW). Such revisions include usability enhancements the Department of Ecology implemented in the 2019 SMMWW and significant changes contained in Appendix 10 of the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits.
- Other changes made to the DDECM during the 2022 DDECM update.
- Items that remain unique to Olympia.

The draft 2022 DDECM was made available to the UAC and other stakeholders on August 8, 2022. Stakeholder outreach included an E-Newsletter and direct messaging to private development stormwater design engineers. Comments were received on the draft 2022 DDECM and the *Summary of Changes* document during the public comment period. To address these comments, Storm and Surface Water Utility staff has prepared a *Public Comment and Response* document which now includes proposed changes to the Draft.

Recommendation to City Council

We recommend that you support the adoption of the draft 2022 DDECM, including the proposed changes to address public comments received. City staff will bring this item to the City Council for a public hearing and formal adoption following completion of State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) review. Using the 2019 SMMWW as the DDECM's new format, as proposed, rather than continuing with Olympia's unique formatting, is expected to assist private development stormwater design engineers since the format is consistent with other jurisdictions. Additionally, the 2022 DDECM is equivalent to the 2019 SMMWW as required by the City's 2019-2024 Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.

We would like to thank City staff for the work to complete the Draft and for the excellent presentation materials provided to the UAC. Thank you again for this opportunity to provide our comments and support. Please contact me ([dbloom@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:dbloom@ci.olympia.wa.us)) or Vice Chair Kristin Lamson ([klamson@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:klamson@ci.olympia.wa.us)) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Bloom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dennis" and last name "Bloom" clearly distinguishable.

**DENNIS BLOOM**

Chair, Utility Advisory Committee

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ec. UAC Members