

Agenda Item 5f

Outdoor Stormwater and Sediment Management

- **Statement of specific purpose, problem, rationale and benefits:**

We recommend several code changes to reduce stormwater and sediment runoff. The following revisions will help reduce stress on wastewater systems; enhance protections to buildings from stormwater; increase on-site retention and infiltration; and/or reduce sediment runoff:

- Move the voluntary site remediation requirements in Section A5.304.6 to the mandatory section of code and include an option to plant water conserving plants species;
- and
- Revise the existing mandatory section 5.106.10, which addresses grading and paving, to also address stormwater management systems based on International Green Construction Code section 403.1.
 - These systems can include infiltration, evapo-transpiration, rainwater harvest, and runoff reuse.

These changes will address an important priority noted by the California Urban Water Conservation Council.¹

“As cities grow and concrete replaces native vegetation and farmlands, the problems from increased storm water runoff are exacerbated. Storm water runoff from developed areas can increase flooding; carry waste and pollutants from streets, parking lots and lawns into local streams and lakes; adversely affect the quality of the waters of the State, and necessitate costly municipal improvements in storm water treatment infrastructure.

By reducing storm water runoff in the design of urban landscapes, the amount of water that filters into the ground recharging local aquifers is increased; flooding and drainage problems are reduced; and streams and lakes are protected from pollutants carried by urban storm water.”

- **Proposed code language for the 2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle**

LEGEND FOR EXPRESS TERMS

1. New California amendments: All such language appears underlined and in italics.
2. Repealed text: All such language appears in strikeout.

NONRESIDENTIAL MANDATORY MEASURES

SECTION 5.106

SITE DEVELOPMENT

...

¹ The California Urban Water Conservation Council. (2005, December). Recommendation 18 “Water Smart Landscapes for California AB 2717 Landscape Task Force Findings, Recommendations, & Actions.”

5.106.9 Post construction landscape: Developers shall restore areas disrupted during construction with water conserving plant species; or native species; unless otherwise addressed by the California MWELo or a locally adopted WELo.

Note: the MWELo definitions section can be used to determine water conserving plant species in conjunction with the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species published by the University of California Cooperative Extension, 2014.

5.106.10 Grading and paving. Construction plans shall indicate how the site grading or drainage system will manage all surface water flows to keep water from entering buildings and include stormwater management systems that use one or more of the following: infiltration, evapo-transpiration, rainwater harvest and runoff reuse. ...

SECTION 5.304 OUTDOOR WATER USE

...

NONRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTARY MEASURES

Draft Express Terms Nonresidential Voluntary: Outdoor Water Use

~~**A5.304.6 Restoration of areas disturbed by construction.** Restore all landscape areas disturbed during construction by planting with local adaption and/or non-invasive vegetation~~