



City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

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Legislative File No: 2023-0447

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Bill Fritz, P.E., Director, Department of Public Services

**DATE:** September 25, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of Select Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Stormwater Standards

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**REQUEST**

The Department of Public Services requests that the City Council approve the adoption of the following portions of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner (OCWRC) Stormwater Engineering Standards, dated November 22, 2021, into the Rochester Hills Engineering Design Standards Chapter 4, Stormwater Management:

Section 1, Parts A, D, E, F and G  
Section 3  
Appendices A, C, E, F

**BACKGROUND**

Rochester Hills is required to manage stormwater in accordance with its MS4 permit issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). An MS4 permit is a type of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit that is directly related to stormwater control. The Rochester Hills MS4 permit authorizes our public stormwater discharges from point sources discharging to receiving waters (e.g. ditches or storm sewer pipes).

The City of Rochester Hills has been communicating over the past year with EGLE staff on what will be required for our next MS4 permit renewal. Last December, engineering staff presented to City Council with a couple changes to our stormwater standards required by EGLE. However, while our current stormwater management standards are not out of compliance, EGLE staff have continued to question different portions of our standards related to meaning, intent and exception language. They have also stated a desire to have Oakland County communities reviewed under a consistent set of design standards. Lastly, they point out that the OCWRC version has already been accepted by them.

City engineering staff have reviewed the latest version of the OCWRC stormwater design standards and have found that the differences are slight and conclude that we should support adoption of OCWRC design criteria. It is noted that most of the other Oakland County communities have adopted the latest OCWRC version. Adoption by Rochester Hills will make it easier for contractors and design engineers to understand our requirements and simplify future permitting and auditing by EGLE.

The November 22, 2021 OCWRC Stormwater Engineering Design Standards and the Rochester Hills current Chapter 4, Stormwater Management, version are attached for reference. If Council agrees to approve amending the recommended OCWRC Stormwater standard sections, City engineering staff will make the necessary updates and edits to revise the Chapter 4 Stormwater Management section.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The City of Rochester Hills Department of Public Services recommends that the City Council approve amending the current City engineering design stormwater management section to incorporate the following OCWRC sections from their November 22, 2021 adopted stormwater standards:

- Section 1, Parts A, D, E, F and G
- Section 3
- Appendices A, C, E, F

Attachment(s): OCWRC Stormwater Standards.pdf  
 Chapter 4, Stormwater Management.docx

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
City Clerk		

Contract Reviewed by City Attorney  Yes  N/A