

Stakeholder Meeting Comments

Approximately 70 people attended two Volume III Stakeholder meeting on Sept 25, 2008. General comments are summarized below along the following themes: Low Impact Development, Policy Guidance, Technical Guidance, Proprietary BMPs, and Additional Tasks for Urban Drainage:

Low Impact Development –Significant discussion occurred regarding integration of LID into the manual, including both benefits and challenges. LID is viewed as a “tool in the toolbox,” and better implementation of Volume 3’s “Step 1” (volume reduction) was identified as important. Key questions related to LID included:

- Applicability and performance in clay soils.
- Function in other soil types.
- Applicability based on different land uses – ultra urban to suburban.
- Cold weather function.
- Construction management.
- Maintenance.
- Managing/inspecting decentralized structures on private property and easements.
- Lifecycle costs.

Additionally, lack of local examples and guidance on credit and combining with other techniques is seen as a barrier to LID design.

Policy Guidance

- Emphasize planning and communication among land development professionals.
- Focus on pre/post development volume and pollutant load reduction.
- Credits and incentives to encourage runoff volume reduction.
- Need to state that tailoring structures to site is allowed.
- Ideas on additional credits for MDCIA and other techniques (pull together in one location).
- Freeboard – Reduce freeboard requirements for ponds if flat site (due to less surge) or if high MDCIA usage in the tributary area.
- Sediment area – give credits toward 20% additional WQCV for strict maintenance programs or amenities – bike path/trail access near structure.
- 10-yr – allowance to credit portion of WQCV toward meeting minor storm detention requirements if there is significant use of PLDs/distributed controls.
- 100-year – provide WQCV credits in areas where wetlands in riparian areas are expanded, lowering flood fringe.

- On-line versus off-line water quality facilities.

Technical Guidance

- Split flow design to avoid plugging infiltration BMPs.
- Underground structures.
- BMP decision matrix.
- Combining BMPs—treatment train.
- Design spreadsheet to integrate credits, so engineer could choose BMPs based on reductions allowed.
- Scaling BMPs and elements such as micropools to small sites.
- Need guidance on how to make stormwater facilities look and mimic natural systems or native look.
- Aesthetic aspects of BMPs that improve site value.
- More information about “why” a technique or design component is used.
- Performance expectations for various BMPs.
- Environmental health (mosquito) guidance.
- Include or reference Full Spectrum Detention in Vol III.
- Linear project/roadway BMPs.

Specific BMP Design Suggestions:

- Need to clarify that forebay is a flat slab that extends beneath berm/riprap.
- Do NOT put concrete on walls or on slopes around forebay (bathtub) – keep flat with a slight slope and low curb around.
- Micropool design.
- Vertical or non-vertical walls in ponds.
- PLD details: should fabric type be changed back to woven?
- Use of grass buffers and swales should have WQCV credit.
- Consider providing larger credit for pea gravel in bottom of swales.
- Alternatives to concrete trickle channels or no trickle channel should be allowed.
- Current guidelines say a swale needs a 2% slope or a concrete bottom. Need to explain why. Could lesser slopes be acceptable?

Proprietary BMPs – Thoughts ranged from support of adding information on proprietary BMPs because they are being installed, to cautiousness about content and scope of information in Vol III. Some were concerned about having to accept a proprietary BMP if information is included in Vol III.

Additional Tasks for Urban Drainage:

- UDFCD could create construction videos for installation, modeled after IECA videos.
- Significant educational effort is needed because all aspects of land development don't have expertise with LID.