

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS; AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 154 OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY CODE RELATED TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF A PINELLAS COUNTY STORMWATER MANUAL TO PROVIDE PROGRESSIVE MECHANISMS TO MEET THESE STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida has, in Chapter 125 – County Government Florida Statutes, conferred upon counties the authority to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of Pinellas County to adopt and implement progressive standards and mechanisms to address stormwater quantity/quality standards; and

WHEREAS, a Pinellas County Stormwater Manual has been drafted to incorporate these requirements; and

WHEREAS, adoption of these standards will provide for increased means and methods of stormwater control and treatment; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to have the Pinellas County Stormwater Manual adopted and referenced in the Pinellas County Code; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to remove conflicting stormwater control regulations from Chapter 154 of the Pinellas County Code;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, Florida:

Section 1. Findings.

Pinellas County is an urbanized community; it is a peninsula located within the Tampa/St Petersburg Metropolitan area. The County is surrounded by the sea with several lakes, streams, and wetlands scattered across its landscape. Pinellas experiences a defined rainy season and is prone to tropical storms and hurricanes. Given its location, Pinellas will also experience impacts from climate change and potential sea level rise.

Pinellas County is almost entirely built-out. Most future development will occur as redevelopment, adaptive reuse, and/or retrofits. In recognizing these facts and conditions, the manual was created to promote an advanced stormwater management approach that is integrated with a revised land development code that incorporates a variety of “low impact development” options to address stormwater quantity/quality standards as redevelopment occurs.

The manual was created to provide a comprehensive and systematic approach to project stormwater design. Stormwater management, including water quantity and quality, should be approached in a holistic manner considering the setting, natural hydrology, existing conditions, project type, and community character. Stormwater management needs to be focused and integrated into the projects’ core design using a variety of methods for addressing stormwater in a redeveloping community.

The manual shall be used in conjunction with the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code. The standards, herein, align with the State of Florida Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) and the administrative standards established by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). The County, through its codes and policies, will allow design flexibility while establishing quantity/quality goals to ensure a sustainable future.

Section 2. Purpose and Intent.

The Pinellas County Stormwater Management Manual (Manual) is intended to be used primarily by professionals engaged in planning, designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining stormwater management systems in conjunction with development projects in Pinellas County for the purpose of meeting the water quantity and water quality requirements of the County’s Land Development Codes. Potential users include but are not limited to stormwater design engineers, stormwater utility staff, natural resource managers, planning officials and administrators, building officials, architects, landscape architects, site design specialists, and landscape operations and maintenance professionals.

Section 3.

Chapter 154, Site Development and Platting is hereby amended to read as provided for in “Exhibit A”

Section 4.

The Pinellas County Stormwater Manual is hereby adopted as provided for in “Exhibit B”.

Section 5. Severability

If any Section, paragraph, clause, sentence, or provision of the Ordinance shall be adjudged by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgement shall affect, impair, invalidate, or nullify the remainder of this Ordinance, but the effect therefore shall be confined to the

section, paragraph, clause, sentence, or provision immediately involved in the controversy in which such judgement or decree shall be rendered.

Section 6. Inclusion in Code.

The provisions of Exhibit A of this Ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Pinellas County Code, as an amendment thereto, and shall be appropriately renumbered to conform to the uniform numbering system of the Pinellas County Code.

Section 7. Filing of Ordinance: Effective Date

Pursuant to Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, a certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within 10 (ten) days after enactment by the Board of County Commissioners. This Ordinance shall become effective On April 1, 2017.