# Precipitation, Projects and Possibilities

A Superintendents and Construction Managers Overview

> Jim Taylor, PE, CFM City of Thousand Oaks October 16, 2013

# **Brief History**

- Mid- 20<sup>th</sup> Century:
  - "Gather and Go" (flood-control focus)
  - Pave everything, run it into gutters and drains
  - Get it out to the channel



- "Slow It, Spread It, Sink It, Re-think It"
- Vegetate everything
- Minimize (eliminate) scour on channels and streams
- Replicate "pre-development" watershed response





# Yes, It's Complicated

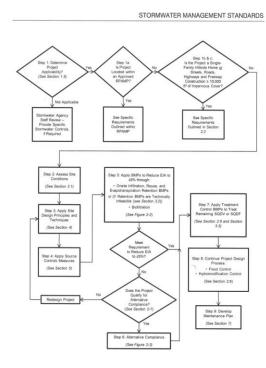


Figure 2-1: Stormwater Management Control Measures Design Decision Flowchart

#### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

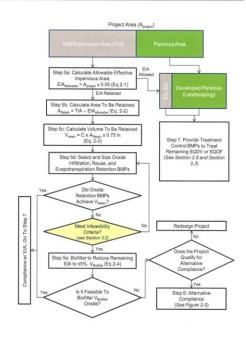


Figure 2-2: Apply BMPs to Reduce EIA to ≤5% Process Flow Chart

## Post-Construction Mitigation

- "We've barely got the Construction-era figured out!"
  - Since 1994
- Low-Impact Design (Development), LID
  - Since July 2002 Tech Manual (Site Design)
- Now, can't end the job now without permanent BMP's (July 2012)
  - Jeremy Grant will discuss later
  - Key: think about maintenance <u>first</u> (Musgrove)







#### Projects Affected (beware Agency CIP's)

- All projects that
  - Have ≥ 1 acre "disturbed" area; and
  - Add 10,000 SF impervious surface area (e.g., solar panel carports)
- Industrial Parks with ≥ 10,000 SF "altered" surface
- Commercial Strip Malls with 10,000 SF impervious surface area
- Retail Gasoline Outlets, Automotive Service Facilities, and Restaurants with 5,000 SF "altered" surface area (certain SIC codes)
- Parking Lots with 5,000 SF or more impervious surface area (25 spaces)
- Road projects with ≥ 10,000 SF impervious surface\*\*
- Adjacent to or Directly discharge to Environmentally Sensitive Area
  - (ESA; defined in Basin Plan); basically soft channels
- Single Family Hillside Homes (simplified "checklist" requirements)

\*\* Special requirements: Use EPA publication

"Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure: Green Streets"

#### Latest Requirements

- Became "Official" October 2011
- 5% Effective Impervious Area (EIA)
  - Retain <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" (~every) storm
  - Evapotranspiration (spread it)
  - Infiltrate (sink-it)
- Infeasibility Criteria (tight soil)
  - Can't spread, can't soak
    - **⇒** Apply **biofiltration**
    - Requires 150% treatment



### Tried Everything, Still Won't Work

- Elusive 5% EIA
  - "Alternative Compliance" for certain projects
    - Redevelopment / Infill
    - "Smart Growth" / Ped & Bike Trails
    - Flood control, drainage, wet-utilities
    - Historical preservation
    - Low-income Housing
  - Otherwise, go back and try again
  - "Alternative" means "Offsite" or "Fee"
    - Fee has been studied and dismissed as infeasible



#### EPA "Green Streets"

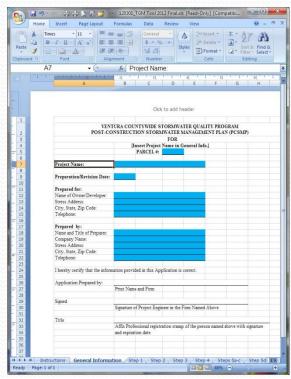
- Re-thinking
- The EPA website (webcast)
  - "Retrofits: Green Streets and Operation & Maintenance"
  - <a href="http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/courseinfo.cfm?program\_id=o&outreach\_id=473&schedule\_id=10">http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/courseinfo.cfm?program\_id=o&outreach\_id=473&schedule\_id=10</a>
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- What's it mean?
  - Less paving
  - More veggies
  - More-frequent maintenance (?)
    - Live vegetation tends to grow



#### The "TGM Tool"

- Available on-line at VCStormwater.org
  - Some agencies have "customized"
    - Integrated into the pre-"deemed-complete" process
- Information-intensive
  - 12-Tab spreadsheet
  - Project data, applicability determination
  - Site-planning considerations, Area calc's
  - Stormwater volume calc's; mitigation BMP's
  - Verify feasibility, alternative compliance
    - or start over!
  - Submittal checklist



# Hydromodification

- Sediment, Scour and the Environment
  - Goal: Channel Restoration
    - The horse is out of the corral in most VC cities
  - Contradiction: No sediment allowed; water-match focus
- Strategy: determine "stable" condition
  - CIP to achieve
- Applicability 
   ⇒ Exemptions:
  - SFR ≤ 10,000 SF impervious surface
  - Maintenance
  - Grandfathered
  - Non "Applicability" areas (Applicability Maps)
  - Engineer-proven "Low Risk"
- Requirement
  - Show no adverse impact (Erosion potential,  $E_p = 1.0$ )
  - Show negligible impact



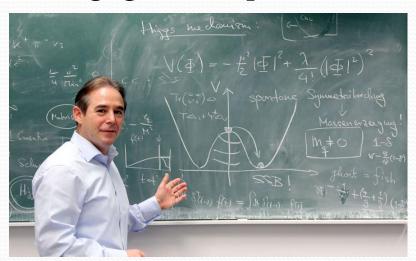
#### Resources

- Ventura County Technical Guidance Manual (TGM) for Stormwater Quality Control Measures
  - See VCStormwater.org\publications
    - TGM
    - Frequently asked questions (FAQ's)
  - Latest TGM "Appendix"
    - The Hydromodification Control Plan (HCP)



# Training

- December 12, 2013 8am 12pm
- City of Thousand Oaks Scherr Forum Theater (City Council Chambers)
- TGM Training: Hydromodification Control Plan
  - E<sub>p</sub> of 1.0 nearly impossible to demonstrate
  - Look toward "negligible" impact



# Questions?

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