

**RULE NOs.: R161-15.14  
& R161-15.15**

**POSTING DATE: October 6, 2015**

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE**

The Director of Watershed Protection Department proposes to adopt the following rules after November 7, 2015.

Comments on the proposed rules are requested from the public. Comments should be submitted to Dana McGehee, 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 1200, Austin Texas, 78704, 974-2634, or via email at [dana.mcgehee@austintexas.gov](mailto:dana.mcgehee@austintexas.gov). To be considered, comments must be submitted before November 7, 2015, the 32nd day after the date this notice is posted. A summary of the written comments received will be included in the notice of rule adoption that must be posted for the rules to become effective.

Affordability impact statements regarding the proposed rules have been obtained and are available for inspection or copying at the address noted in the preceding paragraph.

## **EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED RULE**

A rule proposed in this notice may not become effective before the effective date established by a separate notice of rule adoption. A notice of rule adoption may not be posted before November 7, 2015 (the 32nd day after the date of this notice) or not after January 4, 2016 (the 90th day after the date of this notice).

If a proposed rule is not adopted on or before January 4, 2016 it is automatically withdrawn and cannot be adopted without first posting a new notice of a proposed rule.

## **TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE**

A copy of the complete text of the proposed rules is available for public inspection and copying at the following locations. Copies may be purchased at the locations at a cost of ten cents per page:

Watershed Protection Department, located at 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 1200, Austin, TX, 78704; and

Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, located at 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas.

## **BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED RULES**

**R161-15.14:** Revisions to the Standard Specifications Manual as follows:

### **Item 591S – Riprap for Slope Protection**

- Section 2 – Expanded description for submittal item for rock riprap gradation; added submittal items H through K which apply to vegetated soil-riprap.
- Section 3- Added language in Section A to provide guidance for field verification of rock riprap gradations, including listing steps of the equal interval test method. Added materials descriptions for soils (Section J), seed (Section K), and soil retention blanket (Section L) which apply to the vegetated soil-rock riprap.
- Section 4 – Restructured to move former Sections 5 through 8 into Section 4. Added Section 4.C pertaining to vegetated soil-rock riprap construction.
- Section 6 – Added two bid items and related descriptive language for vegetated soil-rock riprap.

### **Item 604S – Seeding for Erosion Control**

- Revised abbreviations of acre from capitalize (AC) to lowercase (ac). Revised contact information for Pesticide/IPM coordinator. Wording changes to Plant Bed Preparation. Adjusted seed rates for native grasses and forbs to be more comparable to restoration industry standards for recommended seeding rates. Revised seed lists to reflect adjusted application rates, and rearranged lists for greater clarity. Added Milkweed to the seed lists. Revised tolerance of size of bare spots size from 16 s.f. to 10 s.f. to match ECM.

### **Item 609S - Native Seeding and Planting for Restoration**

- Revised abbreviations of acre from capitalize (AC) to lowercase (ac). Wording changes to Plant Bed Preparation. Augmented introduction to Native Seeding and Planting to provide greater clarity. Added graphic to provide illustrative example of rooted plant placement on a hypothetical site. Revised seed lists to match the format used in 604S. Added recommended seeding rate to match that in 604S. Added Milkweed to the seed lists. Provided recommendations for the placement, quantity, and type rooted plants. Added rooted plant size equivalency table. Added pay item for rooted plants. Revised tolerance of size of bare spots size from 16 s.f. to 10 s.f. to match ECM.

### **Item 620S – Filter Fabric**

- Filter Fabric – Amended existing specification to include high flow filter requirements for SCMs.

**Item 658S – Void and Water Flow Mitigation**

- Updated a reference from ECM 1.10.0 to ECM 1.12.0 to reflect new location of cave stability analysis.

**Item 660S – New Biofiltration Medium Requirement**

- Biofiltration Medium – Moved biofiltration medium requirements from the ECM and created a new specification in the Standard Specifications Manual.

**R161-15.15:** Revisions to the Standards Manual as follows:

**New Details**

- **662S-1** – Pipe Gate At Ramp
- **662S-2** – Pond Maintenance Road Cross Section
- **662S-3** – Stormwater Drainage Facility Sign

## **AUTHORITY FOR ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULE**

The authority and procedure for the adoption of a rule to assist in the implementation, administration, or enforcement of a provision of the City Code is established in Chapter 1-2 of the City Code. The authority to regulate water quality is established in Chapter 25-8 of the City Code.

**CERTIFICATION BY CITY ATTORNEY**

By signing this Notice of Proposed Rules R161-15.14 & R161-15.15, the City Attorney certifies the City Attorney has reviewed the rule and finds that adoption of the rule is a valid exercise of the Director’s administrative authority.

**REVIEW AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victoria J. Li, P.E., Director  
Watershed Protection Department

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Morgan  
Acting City Attorney

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This Notice of Proposed Rules was posted on a central bulletin board at City Hall by the City Clerk. Date and time stamp is on the front of the notice.