

Q1. Is "Level 3 Flow Control" the same as the 2010 water volume onsite retention standard (the one Council member Treen attempted to reenact)?

No, because the terms "Level 3 Flow Control" and "volume onsite retention standard" derive from two separate KCSWDM Core Requirements and serve different purposes. "Level 3 Flow Control" (Core Requirement 3) describes the required level of Flow Control based upon the drainage basin in which the proposed development is located and the size and intensity of the development. "Level 3 Flow Control" is the required level of flow control in the Flood Problem Flow Control Area 3. Conversely, Levels 1 or 2 Flow Control would apply to the same development when located in the Basic or Conservation drainage basins, respectively. Flow Control generally refers to the rate at which stormwater leaves a site and the length of time that stormwater leaves the site, for various sizes of storm events.

Conversely, "water volume onsite retention standard" is a Low Impact Development (LID) Best Management Practice (BMP) imposed under Core Requirement #9 (LID) and addresses how much stormwater will be allowed to leave the site versus retained onsite. LID BMPs are techniques are employed to reduce runoff. Examples of LID BMPs for managing stormwater include rain gardens and permeable pavement

Q2. If not, then where in STCA's application is the water volume standard referenced?

It appears that the applicant attempted to address Core Requirement #9 beginning in section 2.1.9 "Core Requirement #9: Flow Control BMPs." It appears that the applicant attempted to address flow control in "Core Requirement #3 in section 2.1.3 Core Requirement #3: Flow Control."

Q3. Does staff still believe that increasing the volume of water draining into creeks can cause problems? If not, why has the city changed its mind?

It is my belief that compliance with the federal requirement for the City's NPDES permit requires that the City of Sammamish adopt (which it has) and implement (which does) a Surface Water Design Manual that is technically equivalent to the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) Surface Water Design Manual. DOE has determined that the King County Surface Water Design Manual is technically equivalent to the DOE manual. The KCSWDM is considered the "gold standard" and best available science for protecting our lakes, rivers, and fish-bearing streams.