



# Adopting the 2026 Stormwater Management Manual

Environmental Services and Planning and Development Services

City Council Meeting

June 2, 2026

Ordinance No. 29107



## Overview

- The City of Tacoma is updating its Stormwater Management Manual (SWMM) and related stormwater code. These updates will take effect on **July 1, 2026**.
- The SWMM provides design guidance for new and redevelopment projects to help meet building permit requirements and reduce pollution from construction activities and business operations in Tacoma.
- Starting on July 1, 2026, new and redevelopment projects will be required to follow the updated SWMM design requirements. The updates align Tacoma's standards with the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) 2024 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.
- Staff provided a presentation on the updated SWMM and received approval from the IPS Committee on May 13, 2026.

# Proposed Manual Revisions



**Additional stormwater treatment requirements** for redevelopment projects, roads, parking areas, light rail projects and fueling stations

**New tree planting and tree protection minimum requirements** to require planting trees where feasible as required by code (Tacoma Municipal Code 13.06.090.B) and prioritize the retention of existing healthy trees.

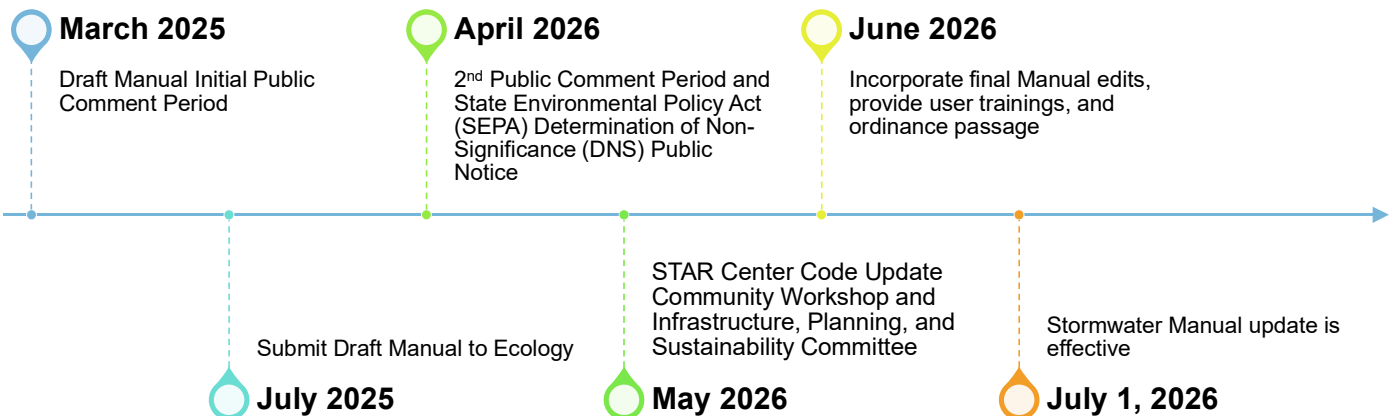
(See Tree Requirements Attachment for additional info)

**Additional approved green stormwater best management practices** including Channelized Flow Dispersion, Infiltration Swales, and Ballasted Sidewalks

**New PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls) pollution control requirements** for building washing and demolition of commercial buildings built between 1950-1980



## Manual Update Timeline





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**Tacoma**