

Study Proposal
Pima County Regional Flood Control District
Stormwater Policy Review
February 2008

OBJECTIVE:

To formulate a policy for the regulation of increased stormwater discharges due to development to minimize adverse impacts to downstream properties. The policy will consider watershed characteristics and incorporate an approach which promotes stormwater harvesting, maintenance of riparian habitat and restoration and maintenance of floodplain functions. Flood control benefits shall be delineated on a project site in a manner which maximizes maintenance over the project life.

To prepare a manual of policy and design standards for distribution to the public.

METHODS:

- A. Literature Review
- B. Summarize costs, benefits and disadvantages of Stormwater Detention from the reviewed papers.
- C. Develop project schedule, with a target conclusion date of January 2009.
- D. Obtain Stormwater Policies from other representative jurisdictions:
 - a. Maricopa County
 - b. State of Arizona (State Standards)
 - c. Albuquerque
 - d. Las Vegas
 - e. Australia
 - f. City of Tucson
 - g. City of New Smyrna Beach, Florida
 - h. Tempe, Arizona
- E. Review related codes and policies from other Pima County departments, including Comprehensive Plan Amendments.
- F. Review Water Harvesting Literature.
- G. Determine modeling needs and prepare modeling proposal.
- H. Perform hydrologic modeling.
- I. Evaluate modeling outcomes. Recommend further modeling, if necessary.
- J. Identify Opportunities for Runoff Mitigation other than traditional detention basins such as riparian habitat water harvesting, habitat and floodplain restoration, multi-use for landscaping and passive recreation, and up-sizing infrastructure where channel capacity is sufficient.
- K. Identify watersheds, basins or zones to which different policies may apply.

- L. Identify acceptable design and policy alternatives, and identify which alternatives are preferred by RFCD.
- M. Develop Detention Design Standards, including acceptable modeling.
- N. Formulate Policy.
- O. Write Manual, Prepare Maps and Databases as necessary.