



# **DRAINAGE ORDINANCE REVISION AND DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL**

MAY 2024



# AGENDA

## DRAINAGE ORDINANCE REVISION

Chapter 16 revisions include definition update and clean up of inconsistencies

Storm sewer design

## DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL



Chapter 16 - DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL<sup>12</sup>

Footnotes:

--11--

Cross Reference – Public Works Departments, § 2-541 et seq.; buildings and buildings regulations, Ch 12

§ 16-1. - Purpose and scope

It is the intent of this chapter to establish community floodplain management ordinances to protect the general health, safety, and welfare of the public from the hazards and damages of flooding; to provide clean and sanitary channels for stormwater runoff; to prevent pollution of watersheds, streams, and channels; to prevent the encroachment of structures and improvements on channels to protect natural scenic areas; and to provide for the conservation of the natural resources of the area. All subdivisions of land and all developments or improvements of any character which affect runoff, stormwater flow or drainage in any portion of the City of Oklahoma City (City) shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter and the technical details within the Oklahoma City Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM). This chapter is not intended to repeal, abrogate, or impair any existing requirements, obligations, easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where another ordinance conflicts or overlaps this chapter or the DCM, whichever imposes the more stringent restrictions shall prevail.

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CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Oklahoma City Drainage  
Criteria Manual

The City of Oklahoma City

Public Works Department



420 W MAIN ST, SUITE 700, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

# DOCUMENTS

Found at [okc.gov/pw](http://okc.gov/pw)

- Drainage Ordinance ( Chapter 16)
- Drainage Criteria Manual
- Summary of Proposed Revisions

# CURRENT ORDINANCE

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## Revisions :

### Chapter 15A 1981 to 2020

- Drainage and Flood Control Ordinance
- Made part of Oklahoma City Code in 1970

### Chapter 16

- FEMA map amendments periodically with last update in 2020
- Fifteen revisions to the Drainage Ordinance since 1981





# NEED FOR REVISION



1

Address inconsistencies within Chapter 16

2

Revise definitions to be more consistent with FEMA

3

Remove Drainage Design Criteria from Chapter 16 and create Drainage Criteria Manual for design requirements

4

Revise drainage design criteria to address current and future flooding issues

# DRAINAGE ORDINANCE REVISIONS

Changes: on-site detention, fee-in-lieu of detention, multi-frequency outlet structure design and individual lot requirement

## DETENTION

Changes: on-grade storm sewer system 10-year changes to 25-year storm event

## STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

Changes: open drainage channel 50-year changes to 100-year storm event

## DRAINAGE CHANNELS

Changes: definition of private systems, review, approval, inspection, development site

## PUBLIC VS PRIVATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

Changes: storm sewer criteria moved to Drainage Criteria Manual

## DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL

Changes: FEMA certificate requirements

## FLOODPLAIN ACTIVITY PERMIT

# DETENTION UPDATE

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- Requires on-site detention for all new developments
- Removed requirement for Fee-in-Lieu of Detention (FILO)
- Requires multi-frequency outlet structure design for 2-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50- and 100-year storm events
- Waiver can be considered if site:
  - Drains directly to public street or public storm sewer system
  - Drainage discharges directly to creek or river channel
  - All waiver requests must be accompanied with supporting calculations
- Downtown Area Development/Redevelopment
  - Detention Waivers will be considered on a case by case basis

# DRAINAGE CHANNELS UPDATE

- Requires all open drainage channels in a development to be designed to:
  - convey the runoff from the 100-year storm event
  - or-
  - have the land that would be inundated by such an event be contained within an easement or common area



# DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL

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- Storm sewer design removed from Drainage Ordinance and published in Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM)
- DCM presented as reference document to Drainage Ordinance
- Subsequent revisions to the DCM may be approved by Public Works Director/City Engineer without City Council approval.

Revisions will be posted on [okc.gov/pw](https://okc.gov/pw) for a minimum of 60 days before becoming effective

# STORM SEWER SYSTEMS UPDATE

- Revised ordinance requires on-grade Storm Sewer Systems to be designed for the 25-year storm event
- Storm Sewer design criteria in sump locations is not changed

# PUBLIC VS PRIVATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS UPDATE (1 OF 2)

## PUBLIC STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

- Required when the development has Public streets
- Reviewed by Public Works Engineering for approval
- Construction of Public Storm Sewer Systems will be inspected by Public Works Field Services personnel
- Following construction, new infrastructure must be dedicated to the City, and the City will assume future maintenance

# PUBLIC VS PRIVATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS UPDATE (2 OF 2)

## PRIVATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

- Required for developments with Private streets
- Complete Plans & Calculations must be submitted to Public Works Engineering for processing
- Plans & Calculations will be stamped as RECEIVED and processed for the required Work Orders
- Plans & Calculations may receive a cursory review
- Construction of Private Storm Sewer Systems will be inspected by Public Works Field Services personnel

# FLOODPLAIN ACTIVITY PERMIT

- Floodplain Activity Permits will be required for all construction activities within 200 feet of a FEMA mapped floodplain
- FEMA Elevation Certificates will:
  - Not be required for buildings/structures that lie within 200 feet of a FEMA mapped floodplain. Surveyor's Certificate is required
  - Be required when a building/structure is within the limits of the FEMA mapped floodplain



# Community Outreach

- Website Content Updated - May 6, 2024
- Technical Review Newsletter - May 13, 2024
- Public Meeting No. 1 - May 17, 2024
- Email Invitation - May 20, 2024
- Public Meeting No. 2 - May 30, 2024

**Sign up for our newsletter to  
receive the latest updates**



# NEXT STEPS

1

Community Comments-  
June 4, 2024

4

City Council Public Hearing -  
July 30, 2024

2

OKC Comments/Revisions -  
June 18, 2024

5

City Council Approval -  
August 13, 2024

3

Introduction to City Council -  
July 16, 2024

6

Ordinance Effective -  
October 1, 2024

**Plans in review prior to the ordinance effective date will be allowed to use the current ordinance.**



# **DRAINAGE ORDINANCE REVISION AND DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL**

Email [PWDrainage@okc.gov](mailto:PWDrainage@okc.gov) with questions or comments

