

City of Sandy Springs  
**Stormwater Policy**

Department of Public Works  
Stormwater Services Division

770-730-5600

Adopted by the Mayor and City Council  
February 20, 2007  
Resolution No. 2007-02-15

## **Goal**

The goal of the stormwater policy is to improve the City's stormwater infrastructure to meet strong community standards. A long-term planning project is required in order to meet this goal. However, limited resources and staff require that such a policy must be established and implemented in phases through a systematic approach.

The first step in this process is to provide a policy to handle requests on a short-term basis. This policy is designed to serve that purpose until another system with additional funding is adopted. This policy will establish the division of responsibility for maintenance and establish categories of projects to prioritize City implementation.

## **City Responsibilities**

There are two types of infrastructure:

- Infrastructure that is City responsibility, and
- Infrastructure that is not City responsibility.

Determination of City responsibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will include, but is not limited to, the following factors:

- Project located in or adjacent to City right-of-way,
- Project located in an easement dedicated to the City or previous governmental entity,
- Project located in drainage easement not specifically dedicated to the City or previous governmental entity,
- Drainage systems as approved on recorded plats, and
- Changes made to drainage systems.

The City Attorney will provide an opinion to determine the City's responsibility on a case-by-case basis.

## **Emergency Maintenance**

The City may conduct emergency maintenance operations within drainage easements in order to protect the common good. Emergency maintenance includes maintenance necessary to remedy a condition which is potentially damaging to life, property, or public roads. Such emergency maintenance, conducted for the common good, shall not be construed as constituting accepting a continuing maintenance obligation by the City, nor prevent the City from seeking reimbursement for expenses from the property owner(s) of the land that generated the condition.

## **Categorizing Project Requests**

There are currently more projects than the City can address at one time. The order of response to these projects will be determined by the category of the request. Requests for projects will be categorized as:

- Category I: Posing an immediate danger or threat to public safety,
- Category II: Rapidly degrading to a dangerous condition, or
- Category III: Maintenance or cosmetic repair.

Projects in Category I will receive priority.

City Public Works staff will review project requests and will perform the initial project categorization. Public Works staff will periodically monitor the conditions at the project location, prior to repair/maintenance, and will modify the categorization when needed.

**Funding Issues (Set Funding Allocated in Budget)**

The Mayor and City Council may allocate funding for stormwater projects during each budget cycle. Projects will be recommended for implementation based on the determination of City responsibility, by Category, and by approved funding level.