

V. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

Goal #9 - To develop a comprehensive stormwater drainage program including design requirements, unified drainage plans, and protection of natural drainage features and functions.

Level of Service

Objective 9.1 The Land Development Code shall contain requirements for stormwater facility design and Level of Service.

Policy 9.1.1 The level of service for drainage plans and facilities for all new nonresidential development, subdivision or planned development is as follows:

1. For open basins - the retention of the first one-half inch of runoff or a volume of 50 percent more for discharge into OFW (water quality/pollution) and the 25-year, 24-hour storm event (water quantity/flooding); Stormwater discharges from any site shall conform to the water quality standards used by SWFWMD, DEP and the rules and regulations adopted or implemented by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.
2. For closed basins - the retention of the first one-half inch of runoff or a volume of 50 percent more for discharge into OFW (water quality/pollution) and the 100-year, 24-hour storm event (water quantity/flooding). No stormwater runoff shall be allowed to drain directly through any sinkhole or other karst feature. Stormwater discharges from any site shall conform to the water quality standards used by SWFWMD, DEP and the rules and regulations adopted or implemented by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.
3. For all spring and spring run basins – all stormwater discharges from any site shall conform to water quality standards used by SWFWMD, DEP and the rules and regulations adopted or implemented by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.

If and when an interlocal agreement is enacted, the agreement will supersede this policy.

Policy 9.1.2 The County shall ameliorate the future discharge of inadequately treated stormwater runoff into waters and wetlands of the state by requiring the following:

- a. Redevelopment projects shall include water quality treatment to the greatest degree possible to not exceed that required for new development.
- b. All other projects shall ensure that water quality treatment for the first one-half inch of runoff be retained on-site, or in the case of runoff entering any body of water designated an Outstanding Florida Water (OFW), a volume of 50 percent more shall be required. Stormwater discharge shall conform to the standards used by SWFWMD, DEP and the rules and regulations adopted or implemented by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.

- Policy 9.1.3 The County shall coordinate with the SWFWMD and FDEP to create a single permitting procedure for addressing stormwater/drainage requirements of new developments.
- Policy 9.1.4 All stormwater management and drainage systems proposed to be constructed in karst sensitive areas, areas with known sinkholes, and areas with shallow depth to limestone bedrock, shall be evaluated for the presence of sinkholes through appropriate geotechnical testing. All proposed Drainage Retention Areas (DRAs) shall be tested for the presence of cavities and voids beneath them. DRAs and other stormwater storage and treatment facilities, but not conveyance facilities, shall not be located over unfilled voids.
- Policy 9.1.5 If there is an existing or historic sinkhole on the proposed development, or indication that a sinkhole may develop in the future, then a detailed geological/geotechnical investigation shall be required. This investigation must be conducted by a certified geologist or professional engineer experienced in hydrogeology and a report submitted to the County for consideration. The geologic investigation shall be comprehensive enough that recommendations for site planning, engineering design and construction techniques may be made. The County shall approve or deny development proposals based upon the scale of the development and the hazards revealed within the investigation.
- Policy 9.1.6 No stormwater structure or facility, other than stormwater swales, shall be located over or adjacent to an existing sinkhole unless it is determined by a certified geologist or professional engineer experienced in hydrogeology that the area is safe and that there is no subsurface connection that may cause contamination or damage to the groundwater.

- Objective 9.2 Citrus County will establish a program to ensure that drainage facilities meet existing and projected demand throughout the planning period, maximize the use of existing facilities, and discourage urban sprawl by using drainage levels of service and requiring development to retain stormwater on site and connect to existing drainage facilities.
- Policy 9.2.1 All development is required to connect to existing facilities, meet drainage levels of service, and retain stormwater on site.

Natural Features and Drainage

High Recharge

- Objective 9.3 The development of drainage facilities in areas of high recharge shall incorporate pollutant and filter functions into site drainage plans.
- Policy 9.3.1 Basins, swales, and culverts shall be designed to protect groundwater and surface water quality and quantity in all new developments.
- Policy 9.3.2 The Land Development Code shall contain minimum standards for recharge of stormwater in areas of high recharge. Post-development recharge volumes and water quality shall equal or improve historical pre-development conditions as provided by the standards used by the SWFWMD, DEP and the rules and regulations adopted or implemented by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.
- Policy 9.3.3 The County is exempt from pollutant and filtering functions in cases of emergency actions.
- Policy 9.3.4 The County will adopt and require stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) for all stormwater management systems located in all areas of the County.

Natural Drainage

- Objective 9.4 Natural drainage features shall be protected and included in Master Stormwater Drainage Plans.
- Policy 9.4.1 Natural drainage features shall be analyzed in all development plans and measures to protect the natural drainage features will be incorporated into the County Land Development Code.

Policy 9.4.2 A public or private stormwater utility, MSTU or other applicable mechanism shall be adopted by 2007 to provide the financial basis for stormwater master planning and retrofitting projects.

Stormwater Drainage Plans

Objective 9.5 The County shall implement stormwater master plans, emphasizing facility capacity of drainage systems as the basis for a watershed based approach to stormwater management. The County shall utilize the report to Plan Oversight Committee from the Stormwater Level of Service Convention Committee in development of the master plans.

Policy 9.5.1 The County will coordinate and work with the SWFWMD to develop comprehensive watershed master plans through the mechanism of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU will assist with the development and implementation of a variety of flood prevention and control projects, water quality projects, detailed flood plain analysis, and watershed modeling.

Existing Deficiencies and Coordination

Objective 9.6 The County shall correct existing drainage deficiencies identified in the Five-year Drainage Improvements Plan, prevent future discharge of inadequately treated runoff, and implement a program to identify, prioritize, and correct drainage deficiencies.

Policy 9.6.1 The program to identify, prioritize, and correct drainage deficiencies shall be coordinated with the preparation of Master Stormwater Drainage Plans and shall include measures to correct system capacity, pollution loading, and recharge functions of drainage systems.

Policy 9.6.2 The program to implement the correction of existing facilities shall follow the schedule in the Capital Improvements Element.

Policy 9.6.3 Proposed capital improvement projects will be evaluated and ranked according to the following level guidelines:

Level One - whether the project is needed to protect public health and safety, to fulfill the County's legal commitment to provide facilities and services, to preserve or achieve full use of existing facilities, or if permitted capacity has been reached.

Level Two - whether the project increases efficiency of use of existing facilities, prevents or reduces future improvement costs, provides service to developed areas lacking full service, or promotes infill development.

Level Three - where the project represents a logical extension of facilities and services within a designated service area.

Policy 9.6.4

The County will continue a program to coordinate the expansion or extension of drainage facilities with other local governments to meet future needs.