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City of Loganville

Public Utilities
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Staff Report Department of Public Utilities

To: Honorable Mayor Baliles and Members of the City Council

Through: Danny Roberts, City Manager

From: Brandon Phillips, Director of Utilities

Date: January 12, 2023

Subject: Amendment to Chapter 113 of the Code of Ordinances – Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the following amendment to the Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Ordinance. EPD recently conducted an audit with the Stormwater Department, and revisions to this ordinance was a requirement to remain in compliance with our permit. Below is a background and specific changes pertaining to this ordinance.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 113 in the Code of Ordinances (current version) is based on the 2010 Model Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance, published by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Adopting the model ordinance as City code required builders and developers in Loganville to follow the erosion and sedimentation control practices outlined in the manual. Also the City gained more control over land disturbance permitting and enforcement activities. These regulations have a direct impact on water quality in the City by reducing pollutants in the streams that pass through the City.

In 2016, the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission updated the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia. The Ordinance that Precision Planning prepared for the City is based on the 2016 Model Ordinance, and adopting this ordinance would keep the City in compliance with State law.

SPECIFIC CHANGES:

Section 113-3(b) Minimum requirements/BMPs

New section adds a provision where the City can adopt more stringent stream buffer requirements than the state minimums.

Section 113-4 Application/permit process

New section includes the requirement to use the most recent technical guidelines and checklists for the preparation of erosion and sedimentation control plans. The Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission updates their checklists frequently so the City would stay in compliance with any changes in the requirements.

Section 113-5 Inspections and Enforcement

New Section 113-5 adds additional criteria for inspection and enforcement of land disturbance activities. This section also requires the City to amend the section within 12 months of any amendments to State law.