

**CITY OF STEVENSON
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-_____**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE REVISED AND UPDATED CITY OF STEVENSON ENGINEERING STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION, CHAPTERS 1 THROUGH 6; REPEALING AND REPLACING INCONSISTENT PRIOR VERSIONS; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION, TRANSITION, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, The City of Stevenson is a Washington code city organized under the mayor-council plan of government, and the City Council possesses broad authority under RCW 35A.11.020 and RCW 35A.12.190 to regulate municipal affairs, provide utility and public works services, and protect public health, safety, and welfare;

WHEREAS, The City owns, operates, regulates, and maintains public streets, water facilities, wastewater facilities, storm drainage facilities, and other public infrastructure, and reviews public and private improvements that connect to, affect, or may be accepted into City systems;

WHEREAS, The Stevenson Municipal Code requires public improvements and utility work to comply with City standards and regulations, and the City has historically adopted and maintained Engineering Standards for Public Works Construction governing planning, design, construction, inspection, acceptance, and maintenance of public and private improvements;

WHEREAS, The City Engineer and Public Works Department have completed a comprehensive review and update of the Engineering Standards to clarify requirements, address gaps and ambiguities, reflect current engineering and public works practices, promote accessibility and resilient infrastructure, and provide consistent direction to property owners, developers, design professionals, contractors, City staff, and the public;

WHEREAS, The revised Engineering Standards consist of Chapter 1, General Planning, Design, and Approval Requirements; Chapter 2, Land Altering Activities; Chapter 3, Streets; Chapter 4, Storm Drainage; Chapter 5, Water; and Chapter 6, Wastewater;

WHEREAS, The revised Engineering Standards establish minimum requirements intended to protect and promote public health, safety, accessibility, environmental protection, orderly development, reliable utility service, and the long-term integrity and maintainability of City infrastructure;

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.12.140 authorizes a code city to adopt by ordinance and by reference a city code or standard code of technical regulations, provided that a copy is filed with the City Clerk for public examination while under consideration and after adoption;

WHEREAS, A complete copy of the proposed 2026 Engineering Standards has been made available for examination by the public in the office of the City Clerk and through the City's public meeting materials prior to Council action; and;

WHEREAS, After review and consideration, the City Council finds that adoption of the 2026 Engineering Standards is consistent with applicable law and is necessary and appropriate to promote the health, safety, accessibility, welfare, and orderly development of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON,
WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Adoption by Reference.

Pursuant to RCW 35A.12.140, the City of Stevenson hereby adopts by reference the revised and updated City of Stevenson Engineering Standards for Public Works Construction, 2026 Edition, consisting of Chapters 1 through 6 identified in Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference as though fully set forth. The complete text of the adopted Engineering Standards shall be maintained with the original of this Ordinance in the office of the City Clerk.

Section 2. Supersession; Prior Standards; Standard Details.

- A. The 2026 Engineering Standards supersede and replace all prior versions of the corresponding planning and design chapters of the City of Stevenson Engineering Standards for Public Works Construction to the extent of any inconsistency.
- B. City standard details, standard drawings, specifications, policies, and other technical documents that are not expressly included in or replaced by Exhibit A remain in effect unless and until separately amended, replaced, or repealed by authorized City action.
- C. Any ordinance or resolution previously adopting or amending a corresponding provision of the prior Engineering Standards is superseded only to the extent that the prior provision is replaced by the 2026 Engineering Standards. All other portions of such ordinances and resolutions remain in effect.

Section 3. Applicability and Transition.

- A. The 2026 Engineering Standards shall apply to applications, engineering plans, permit submittals, plan revisions, and construction work submitted or initiated on or after the effective date of this Ordinance, except to the extent a different standard is required by applicable law, a final and binding project approval, a development agreement, or a legally vested right.
- B. Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to impair a vested right recognized under Washington law. A project with valid, unexpired approvals may continue under the standards applicable to those approvals unless the applicant elects to use the 2026 Engineering Standards, the project is materially revised, or application of a current requirement is necessary to comply with controlling law or an immediate public health or safety requirement.
- C. The City Engineer may require reasonable coordination, transition measures, or updated details where necessary to integrate previously approved work with City systems and infrastructure constructed under the 2026 Engineering Standards.

Section 4. Administration; Interpretations; Limited Technical Corrections.

- A. The City Engineer, Public Works Director, and their authorized designees are authorized and directed to administer, interpret, and implement the 2026 Engineering Standards in connection with development review, engineering review, permitting, construction inspection, utility coordination, project acceptance, and City public works activities.
- B. Project-specific modifications may be considered and decided in accordance with the modification process stated in the 2026 Engineering Standards and other applicable City law. No modification shall waive a requirement imposed by federal or state law or the Stevenson Municipal Code.

C. The City Engineer may approve and publish nonsubstantive technical corrections, including correction of typographical errors, internal cross-references, formatting, drafting inconsistencies, and updated references to successor editions of technical publications when the update does not materially change a regulatory requirement. Any substantive policy change, new material requirement, or comprehensive revision shall be presented to the City Council for adoption by ordinance or other legally authorized action.

Section 5. Rules of Construction and Conflicts.

The 2026 Engineering Standards shall be construed to give effect to applicable federal and state law and the Stevenson Municipal Code. Notwithstanding any contrary statement within the Engineering Standards, controlling federal or state law, the Stevenson Municipal Code, and duly adopted City ordinances prevail over an inconsistent provision of the Engineering Standards. Project-specific permits, final land use decisions, development agreements, and conditions of approval govern to the extent authorized by law. Where two applicable technical requirements do not directly conflict, the more protective or stringent requirement may be applied when reasonably necessary to protect public health, safety, accessibility, the environment, or City infrastructure.

Section 6. Filing and Public Availability.

At least one complete copy of the 2026 Engineering Standards shall remain filed in the office of the City Clerk for public use and examination as required by RCW 35A.12.140. City staff are authorized to publish the Engineering Standards on the City's website, distribute them electronically, and make them available for public inspection and use. Administrative formatting, pagination, bookmarks, hyperlinks, and document-accessibility features may be added without further Council action, provided the substantive requirements are not changed.

Section 7. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or application of this Ordinance or the 2026 Engineering Standards is held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect to the extent capable of being given effect.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall be published in the City's official newspaper as required by law and shall take effect five (5) days after the date of publication.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Stevenson, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16th day of July, 2026.

CITY OF STEVENSON

ATTEST:

Jenny Taylor, Mayor

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert C. Muth, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A
CITY OF STEVENSON ENGINEERING STANDARDS
FOR PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION
2026 EDITION

The Engineering Standards approved/adopted by this action consist of the following chapters, each dated or issued as part of the City's 2026 comprehensive update, and are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein:

Chapter	Title
Chapter 1	General Planning, Design, and Approval Requirements
Chapter 2	Land Altering Activities
Chapter 3	Streets
Chapter 4	Storm Drainage
Chapter 5	Water
Chapter 6	Wastewater

Clerk's Note: The full text of the six chapters shall be maintained with the original adopting action and made available for public inspection at City Hall and through the City's public records and website systems, as applicable.