



Agenda Item Summary

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Agenda Date: [Publish Date]

Agenda Item Name:

Stormwater Code Evaluation Update

Presenter:

Stacie Greco, Water Resources Program Manager, 352-264-6829

Description:

Staff update on October 1, 2024 Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Motion to evaluate Stormwater Code

Recommended Action:

Hear staff's presentation

Prior Board Motions:

During the October 1, 2024, Regular BOCC Meeting, the BOCC passed a 14-point motion that included the following: 1) Bring back recommendations to strengthen our stormwater quality code regulations and procedures immediately. 2) Bring back recommendations to eliminate the current self-certification process...and look at improving these regulations prior to preliminary approval. 3) Bring back recommendations...which may include formal interlocal agreements that improve collaboration with state and municipalities.

Fiscal Note:

N/A

Strategic Guide:

Environment

Background:

On October 23rd, 2018, the BOCC approved a Stormwater Treatment Code as Article III of the County Water Quality Code. The purpose of the Stormwater Treatment Code is to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus discharges to the County's surface waters and groundwater during rainfall events. Nitrogen and phosphorus are vital nutrients for plant growth, but excessive amounts can cause water quality issues in our springs, rivers, lakes, and groundwater. The State is currently updating three Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs) within Alachua County which include requirements for Alachua County to reduce nutrient loading. Staff will provide an update on such later this summer.

During the October 1, 2024 Regular BOCC meeting, staff presented concerns with planned development within the City of Alachua in the Mill Creek Sink watershed. This discussion highlighted

some issues with the implementation of the Stormwater Treatment Code and staff were directed to evaluate the effectiveness of the Code.

This presentation will outline next steps and staff's efforts to date which include a thorough review of the Nature Conservancy's statewide review of stormwater codes and multiple meetings with interested parties. Staff held several internal meetings with multiple departments involved with development review, met with local experts, and held a special meeting with representatives from the building community.