



July xx, 2021

POLICY MEMORANDUM 07-2021

TO: All Consultants, Developers, Regulatory Agencies and Others

THRU: Steven E. Darcey, CPESC
Executive Director

FROM: John B. Tarr, P.E.
Chief Engineer/Program Manager

SUBJECT: Use of Legacy and Current Rainfall Datasets for Design and Analyses

Policy Statement

Hydrologic and hydraulic systems shall be designed and/or analyzed utilizing the most current datasets, or as required for a specific event/occasion. The selection of dataset for use in all situations shall be governed by whichever provides the higher overall climatic resiliency. This policy is supplemental to the District's policy memorandum on *Rainfall Distributions for Design Based on NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall Depths*.

Background

Hydrologic and hydraulic systems – sediment basins, stormwater management facilities (ponds and applicable environmental site design (ESD) practices), culverts and others – are designed utilizing the rainfall intensities and distribution datasets in effect at design. However, applicable datasets are routinely updated to reflect changes in climate patterns and characteristics. Future analyses of existing systems, and/or retrofits thereto, may thus encounter differing governing criteria/datasets between initial designs and those in effect when an analysis is undertaken. Both criteria shall be evaluated in these situations and compared. The governing criteria/dataset shall be whichever provides the higher/highest overall climatic resiliency and duly annotated.

Where this Policy Applies

This policy shall apply to all hydrologic and hydraulic systems – proposed or being re-evaluated – for which an approval from the District is required. This policy requirement is effective immediately and retroactive to all projects currently in review.

Policy Memorandum 07-2021
July xx, 2021
Page 2

Additional Information

Please contact the District at 301.574.5162 EXT. 3 should you have questions or require additional information relating to this policy.