



APPENDIX B

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I. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of the provisions of these regulations in addition to those terms defined in the Ordinance, unless specifically stated otherwise:

Acceptable Fill Material – Inert material no more than 24” in length consisting of soil, rock, concrete without rebar, and/or brick rubble.

Accessory Structure – Shall represent a subordinate structure to the principal structure on a building site and, for the purpose of this regulation, its use must be limited to:

- The parking of no more than 2 vehicles; or
- A shed for limited storage, 120 square feet or smaller and less than \$3,500 in value.

Act – The statutes authorizing the National Flood Insurance Program that are incorporated in 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128.

Addition (to an existing building) – Any walled and roofed expansion to the perimeter of a building in which the addition is connected by a common load-bearing wall other than a fire wall. Any walled and roofed addition which is connected by a fire wall or is separated by independent perimeter load-bearing walls is considered to be new construction.

Appeal – A request for a review of an adverse decision of the director.

Applicant – The developer of a property or the owner of a property being developed who is financially responsible for the project and shall sign and submit the grading permit application package.

Area of Shallow Flooding – A designated AO or AH zone on a community’s Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average depth of 1 to 3 feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

Area of Special Flood-related Erosion Hazard – The land which is most likely to be subject to severe flood-related erosion losses. The area may be designated as Zone E on the Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM). After the detailed evaluation of the special flood-related erosion hazard area in preparation for publication of the FIRM, Zone E may be further refined.

Area of Special Flood Hazard – see Special Flood Hazard Area

Base Flood – The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.



Base Flood Elevation (BFE) – The computed elevation to which floodwater is anticipated to rise during the base flood. BFEs are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and on the flood profiles.

Basement – That portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

Breakaway Wall – A wall that is not part of the structural support of the building and is intended through its design and construction to collapse under specific lateral loading forces, without causing damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

Blue Line Streams – Streams that are represented on the United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey 1:24,000 quadrangle maps.

Buffer – A vegetated area, including trees, shrubs and herbaceous vegetation, which exists or is established to protect community water. Alteration of this natural area is strictly limited.

Building – Any structure built for support, shelter, or enclosure for any occupancy or storage. For floodplain management purposes (see also Structure).

Building Permit – Permit required under the Metropolitan Code of Laws for the construction, alteration, expansion or renovation of a structure.

Certification – Written verification received by the Director of MWS from a registered engineer that all work performed on a site was done in compliance with any approvals or permits previously granted.

Channel – A natural or artificial watercourse of perceptible extent, with definite bed and banks to confine and conduct continuously or periodically flowing water. Channel flow is that water which is flowing within the limits of the defined channel.

Codes – Metropolitan Department of Codes Administration.

Common Plan of Development – A contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct land disturbing activities may be taking place at different times, on different schedules, but under one proposed plan.

Community Waters – Any and all rivers, streams, creeks, branches, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, springs, wetlands, and other bodies of surface or subsurface water, natural or artificial, lying within or forming a part of the boundaries of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, except those bodies of water confined to and retained within the limits of private property in single ownership which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters.

Contaminant – Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter.



Critical Area – A site subject to erosion or sedimentation as a result of cutting, filling, grading, or other disturbance of the soil; a site difficult to stabilize due to exposed subsoil, steep slope, extent of exposure, and other conditions.

Cut – Portion of land surface or area from which earth has been removed or will be removed by excavation; the depth below original ground surface to the excavated surface.

D50 – Average particle size.

Department – The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County's Department of Water and Sewerage Services.

Designated Use – Those water uses identified in state water quality standards that must be achieved and maintained as required under the Clean Water Act.

Detention – The temporary delay of storm runoff prior to discharge into receiving waters.

Developer – Any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, or trust involved in commencing proceedings to effect development of land for himself or others.

Development – Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to, buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, or permanent storage of equipment or materials.

Director – The Director of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County's Department of Water and Sewerage Services, or his designee.

Discharge – Any substance disposed, deposited, spilled, poured, injected, seeped, dumped, leaked, or placed by any means, intentionally or unintentionally, into community waters, the waters of the state, or any area draining directly or indirectly into the municipal stormwater system of the metropolitan government.

Drainage Basin – A part of the surface of the earth that is occupied by and provides surface water runoff into a stormwater management system, which consists of a surface stream or a body of impounded surface water together with all tributary surface streams and bodies of impounded surface water.

Drainage Easement – An easement required for the installation of storm water sewers or surface drainage channels, or the preservation or maintenance of a natural stream or watercourse.

Drainage Well – A bored, drilled, driven, dug, or naturally occurring shaft or hole with a depth greater than the largest surface dimension; used to drain surface fluid, primarily storm runoff, into a subsurface formation (see also Sinkhole).

Dry Floodproofing – means any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures, which reduce or eliminate flood damages to real estate or improved



real estate property, water and sanitary facilities, structures, and their contents. Structures shall be floodproofed with a minimum of 12 inches above the base flood elevation (more is recommended). Dry floodproofing of a pre-FIRM residential structure that has not been substantially damaged or improved is allowed. Dry floodproofing of a post-FIRM residential building is not allowed.

Easement – Authorization by a property owner creating the right for the use by another, for a specified purpose, and only the specified purpose, of any designated part of his property.

Elevated Building – A non-basement building built to have the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area elevated above the ground level by means of solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of floodwater, pilings, columns, piers, or shear walls adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a base flood event.

Emergency Flood Insurance Program or Emergency Program – The Program as implemented on an emergency basis in accordance with section 1336 of the National Flood Insurance Act (42 U.S.C. 4056). It is intended as a program to provide a first layer amount of insurance on all insurable structures before the effective date of the initial FIRM.

Erosion – The disintegration or wearing away of the earth's surface by the action of wind and water.

Excavation – see Cut

Exception – A waiver from the provisions of these regulations that relieves an applicant from the requirements of a rule, regulation, order or other determination made or issued pursuant to these regulations.

Existing Grade – The slope or elevation of existing ground surface prior to cutting or filling.

Existing Construction – Any structure for which the "start of construction" commenced before the effective date of these regulations.

Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision – A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of these regulations.

Existing Structures – see Existing Construction

Expansion to an Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision – The preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).



Fill – Portion of land surface or area to which soil, rock, or other materials have been or will be added; height above original ground surface after the material has been or will be added (see also Acceptable Fill Material).

Finished Grade – The final slope or elevation of the ground surface, after cutting or filling.

Flood or Flooding – Water from a river, stream, watercourse, lake, or other body of standing water that temporarily overflows and inundates adjacent lands, and which may affect other lands and activities through increased surface water levels and/or increased groundwater level.

Flood Elevation Determination – A determination by the Floodplain Administrator of the water surface elevations of the base flood, that is, the flood level that has a one percent or greater chance of occurrence in any given year.

Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) – An official map of a community, issued by FEMA, where the boundaries of areas of special flood hazard have been designated as Zone A.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) – An official map for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee, on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to Nashville and Davidson County.

Flood Insurance Study – The official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The report contains elevations of the base flood, floodway widths, flood velocities, and flood profiles.

Flood Protection Elevation – At least four feet above the base flood elevation for residential construction and at least one foot above the base flood elevation for non-residential construction.

Flood Protection System – Those physical structural works for which funds have been authorized, appropriated, and expended and which have been constructed specifically to modify flooding in order to reduce the extent of the area within a community subject to a "special flood hazard" and the extent of the depths of associated flooding. Such a system typically includes hurricane tidal barriers, dams, reservoirs, levees or dikes. These specialized flood modifying works are those constructed in conformance with sound engineering standards.

Floodplain or Floodprone Area – The relatively flat or lowland area adjoining a river, stream, watercourse, lake, or other body of standing water which has been or may be covered temporarily by floodwater. For purposes of this manual, the floodplain is defined as the one percent annual chance floodplain.

Floodplain Management – The operation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage, including but not limited to emergency preparedness plans, flood control works and floodplain management regulations.



Floodplain Management Regulations – Zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, building codes, health regulations, special purpose ordinances (such as a floodplain ordinance, grading ordinance and erosion control ordinance) and other applications of police power. The term describes such state or local regulations, in any combination thereof, which provide standards for the purpose of flood damage prevention and reduction.

Floodproofing – Any combination of structural and non-structural provisions, changes, or adjustments to properties and structures subject to flooding primarily for the reduction or elimination of flood damages to properties, water and sanitary facilities, structures, and contents of buildings in a flood hazard area.

Flood-related Erosion – The collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding.

Flood-related Erosion Area or Flood-related Erosion Prone Area – A land area adjoining the shore of a lake or other body of water, which due to the composition of the shoreline or bank and high-water levels or wind-driven currents, is likely to suffer flood-related erosion damage

Flood-related Erosion Area Management – The operation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood-related erosion damage, including but not limited to emergency preparedness plans, flood-related erosion control works, and floodplain management regulations.

Floodway – That portion of the stream channel and adjacent floodplain required for the passage or conveyance of a one percent annual chance flood discharge. The floodway boundaries are placed to limit encroachment in the floodplain so that a one percent annual chance flood discharge can be conveyed through the floodplain without materially increasing (less than one foot) the water surface elevation at any point and without producing hazardous velocities or conditions. This is the area of significant depths and velocities and due consideration should be given to effects of fill, loss of cross-sectional flow area, and resulting increased water surface elevations.

Floodway Fringe – That portion of the floodplain lying outside the floodway. This is the area of the floodplain that may be developed or encroached upon as long as the water surface elevation of the one percent annual chance flood is not increased. Compensating storage is required when fill is placed in this area.

Floor – The top surface of an enclosed area in a building (including basement), i.e., top of slab in concrete slab construction or top of wood flooring in wood frame construction. The term does not include the floor of a garage used solely for parking vehicles.



Freeboard – A factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of floodplain management. "Freeboard" tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.

Functionally Dependent Facility – A facility that cannot be used for its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in proximity to water, such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, or ship repair. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacture, sales, or service facilities.

Grading – Any operation or occurrence by which the existing site elevations are changed; or where any ground cover, natural, or manmade, is removed; or any watercourse or body of water, either natural or manmade, is relocated on any site, thereby creating an unprotected area. This includes stripping, cutting, filling, stockpiling, or any combination thereof, and shall apply to the land in its cut or filled condition.

Grading Permit – A permit issued to authorize excavation or fill to be performed under the provisions of these regulations.

Green Infrastructure – An approach to wet weather management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly, which incorporates management approaches and technologies that infiltrate, evapotranspire, capture and reuse stormwater to maintain or restore natural hydrologies. Green infrastructure practices include, but are not limited to open space, rain gardens, porous pavements, green roofs, infiltration planters, trees and tree boxes, swales, and curb extensions.

Green Street – A public right-of-way that utilizes green infrastructure to manage wet weather flows and enhance water quality.

Highest Adjacent Grade – The highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

Historic Structure Designation – Any structure that is: listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historical district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; or listed individually on a state or local inventory of historic places which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

Human Occupancy – Any portion of any enclosed structure wherein humans principally live or sleep, such as mobile homes, permanent residential activities, semi-transient residential activities, health care community facilities, nursing home community facilities, orphanages, family care facilities, group care facilities, or transient habitation.



Impervious Area – The portion of a parcel of property that is covered by any material, including without limitation roofs, streets, sidewalks and parking lots paved with asphalt, concrete, compacted sand, compacted gravel or clay, that substantially reduces or prevents the infiltration of storm water. Impervious area shall not include natural undisturbed surface rock.

Impervious Surface – A term applied to any ground or structural surface that water cannot penetrate or through which water penetrates with great difficulty, including but not limited to paved concrete or asphalt areas, graveled areas with limited infiltration, and roofs.

Infill (Regulated Residential) – The creation of eight hundred to fifteen thousand square feet of additional net impervious area (IA) for a residential dwelling(s) through new development, redevelopment, or rehabilitation in existing neighborhoods.

Levee – A man-made structure, usually an earthen embankment, designed and constructed in accordance with sound engineering practices to contain, control, or divert the flow of water so as to provide protection from temporary flooding.

Levee System – A flood protection system which consists of a levee, or levees, and associated structures, such as closure and drainage devices, which are constructed and operated in accordance with sound engineering practices.

Lot – A tract, plot or portion of a subdivision parcel of land intended as a unit for the purpose, whether immediate or future, for transfer of ownership or for building development.

Lowest Floor – The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage and in an area other than the basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such an enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of these regulations.

Manufactured Home – A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. The term also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and similar transportable structures placed on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer and intended to be improved property.

Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision – A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

Map – The Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) or the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by FEMA for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee

Mean Sea Level – For purposes of the National Flood Insurance Program, the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929, the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988, or



other datum, to which base flood elevations shown on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map are referenced.

Major Stormwater Management System – Drainage system that carries the runoff from a 100-year frequency storm. Although damage may occur, runoff will be carried by the major system whether or not it has been planned and designed, and whether or not improvements are situated wisely in respect to it. The major system usually includes features such as streets, and major stormwater management channels. Storm sewer systems may reduce the flow in many parts of the major system by storing and transporting water underground. Good planning and designing of a major system should eliminate major damage and loss of life from storms having a one percent chance of occurring in any given year.

Minor Stormwater Management System – System that is frequently used for collecting, transporting, and disposing of snowmelt, miscellaneous minor flows, and storm runoff up to the capacity of the system. The capacity should be equal to the maximum rate of runoff to be expected from the initial design storm, which has statistical frequency of occurrence of once in ten years or as specified by the Stormwater Management Committee. The minor system is sometimes termed the "convenience system," "initial system," or the "storm sewer system", and may include features ranging from curbs and gutters to storm sewer pipes and open drainageways.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) of the Metropolitan Government – A conveyance, or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, and storm drains) designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater; provided, however, that sanitary and combined sewers are not included in the definition of the municipal separate storm sewer system.

National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) – As corrected in 1929, a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the floodplain.

Natural Ground Surface – The ground surface in its original state before any grading, excavating, or filling.

New Construction – Structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of these regulations.

New Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision – A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of these regulations.

Non-Residential Property – A parcel of property that is not a residential property as defined in this Appendix.



North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) – As corrected in 1988, a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the floodplain.

One Hundred-Year Flood – see Base Flood

Permittee – Any person, firm, or any other legal entity to whom a grading or building permit is issued in accordance with these regulations.

Person – Includes any individual or group of individuals, corporation, partnership, association, or any other entity, including State and local governments and agencies.

Planning Commission – Metropolitan Planning Commission.

Public System – Storm water and flood control devices, structures, conveyances, facilities or systems, including natural watercourses, streams, creeks and rivers used wholly or partly to convey or control storm water or flood water within the jurisdictional boundaries of the metropolitan government. The public system shall include, without limitation, natural conveyances (a) for which the metropolitan government has assumed maintenance responsibility; (b) to which the metropolitan government has made improvements; (c) which have or may pose a threat to public property because of flooding; or (d) for which the metropolitan government is accountable under federal or state regulations governing protection of water quality.

PUD – Planned unit development as defined in the Metro Zoning Ordinance.

Qualified Control Structure – A device, structure, or practice meeting design standards and approved by the department that substantially limits the discharge and / or discharge rate of storm water from a parcel of property into or through any public system or that substantially improves the purity of storm water so discharged.

Reasonably Safe from Flooding – Base flood waters will not inundate the land or damage structures to be removed from the Special Flood Hazard Area and that any subsurface waters related to the base flood will not damage existing or proposed structures.

Recreational Vehicle – A vehicle which is: built on a single chassis; 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.



Recurrence Interval – The average number of years between floods of a certain size is the recurrence interval or return period. The probability for each recurrence interval to be equaled or exceeded in any given year is provided below:

Recurrence Interval (Years)	Annual Exceedance Probability
2	50%
5	20%
10	10%
25	4%
50	2%
100	1% (see <u>Base Flood</u>)
200	0.5%
500	0.2%

Redevelopment – Development improvements that have a value less than 50% of the current assessed value and/or increases the floor area by less than 25%. Demolition and reconstruction is considered development and not redevelopment. Note: this is different than significant redevelopment.

Regional Facilities – Stormwater quantity or quality structural facilities that serve multiple lots. Instream regional facilities are not permitted in Metro community waters.

Registered Engineer – An engineer duly registered or otherwise authorized by the State of Tennessee to practice in the field of civil engineering.

Registered Architect – An architect duly registered or otherwise authorized by the State of Tennessee to practice in the field of building architecture.

Registered Landscape Architect – A landscape architect duly registered or otherwise authorized by the State of Tennessee to practice in the field of landscape architecture.

Registered Land Surveyor – A land surveyor duly registered or otherwise authorized by the State of Tennessee to practice in the field of land surveying.

Registered Grading – Any grading performed with the approval of and in accordance with criteria established by the MDPW.

Regulatory Floodway – The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.

Residential Property – Any property whose primary use, as shown on the use and occupancy permit issued by the Department of Codes Administration, is residential single-family or residential two-family.



Retention – The prevention of storm runoff from direct discharge into receiving waters. Examples include systems which discharge through percolation, exfiltration, filtered bleed-down and evaporation processes.

Riverine – Relating to, formed by, or resembling a river (including tributaries), stream, brook, etc.

Sediment – Solid material, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, or gravity as a product of erosion.

Significant Redevelopment – Development improvements that have a value greater than 50% of the current assessed value, increases the floor area by 25% or more, increases in the impervious surface area by 25% or more, redirects the flow of storm water, or modifies the storm sewer system. Interior development improvements and maintenance activities may be excluded, unless due to a change in ownership or use of the property. These exclusions do not apply to structures located within the SFHA. Demolition and reconstruction are considered development and not redevelopment. Note: this is different than redevelopment.

Sinkhole – A sinkhole is a natural depression with no surface outflow of water that occurs naturally in a Karst area. Sinkholes are indicated by first closed contour on 2-ft. contour interval maps or as designated by TDEC. The rim of the sinkhole is defined as the one-percent-annual-chance flood elevation assuming no drawdown.

Site – All contiguous land and bodies of water in one ownership, graded or proposed for grading or development as a unit, although not necessarily at one time.

Slope – Degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal, usually expressed in percent or ratio.

Soil – All unconsolidated mineral and organic material of any origin that overlies bedrock and that can be readily excavated.

Soil Engineer – A professional engineer who is qualified by education and experience to practice applied soil mechanics and foundation engineering.

Special Flood Hazard Area – The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A on the FHBM. After detailed ratemaking has been completed in preparation for publication of the FIRM, Zone A usually is refined into Zones A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE or A99.

Start of Construction – Includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of slabs or footings, installation of piles, construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation or the placement of a



manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds, not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

State Coordinating Agency – Under the National Flood Insurance Program, it is the agency of the state government, or other office designated by the Governor of the state or by state statute that assists in the implementation of the National Flood Insurance Program in that state. In Tennessee, the state coordinating agency is the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

Steep Slope – A natural or created slope of steeper than one foot vertical to three feet horizontal. Designers of sites with steep slopes must pay attention to stormwater management BMPs depicted in the approved Grading Permit Plan to route runoff nonerosively around or over a steep slope. In addition, site managers should focus on erosion prevention on the slope(s) and stabilize the slope(s) as soon as practicable to prevent slope failure and/or sediment discharges from the project.

Stormwater – Stormwater run-off, snow melt run-off, surface run-off, street wash waters related to street cleaning and maintenance, infiltration other than infiltration contaminated by seepage from sanitary sewers or other discharges and drainage.

Stripping – Any activity that removes or significantly disturbs the vegetative surface cover, including clearing and grubbing operations.

Structure – Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires a more or less permanent location on or in the ground. Such construction includes but is not limited to objects such as buildings, towers, smokestacks, overhead transmission lines, carports, and walls. Structure shall not include fences. For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. “Structure” for insurance coverage purposes means a walled and roofed building other than a gas or liquid storage tank that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a manufactured home on a permanent foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises.

Structure, Permanent – A structure that is built of such materials and in such a way that it would commonly be expected to last and remain useful for a substantial period of time.

Structure, Temporary – A structure that is built of such materials and in such a way that it would commonly be expected to have a relatively short useful life or is built for a purpose that would commonly be expected to be relatively short-term.



Substantial Damage – Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damage condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred. Substantial damage also means flood related damage sustained by a structure on two or more separate occasions during a 10-year period for which the cost of repairs at the time of each such flood event, on the average, equals or exceeds 25 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred. The market value of the structure should be the value of the structure prior to the damage occurring. See also Substantial Improvement.

Substantial Improvement – Any combination of reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, alteration or other improvement of a structure, taking place during a 10-year period, in which the cumulative cost equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the market value of the structure before the "start of construction" of the initial improvement. Any subsequent improvement project costs shall be added to the initial costs for the initial improvement project. At the end of a 10-year period from the initial improvement project, an updated valuation for the structure can be used for the next time period. This term includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage", regardless of the actual repair work performed. The market value of the structure should be (1) the assessed value of the structure, per the Assessor of Property for Davidson County, prior to the start of the initial improvement; (2) the appraised value of the structure, per an independent professional appraiser, prior to the start of the initial improvement; or (2) in the case of substantial damage, the value of the structure prior to the damage occurring.

The term does not, however, include either:

- (1) Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living condition; or
- (2) Any alteration of a "historic structure", provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "historic structure".

For the purposes of this definition, "Substantial Improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure."

Substantially Improved Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision – When the repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvement of the streets, utilities and pads equals or exceeds 50 percent of the value of the streets, utilities and pads before the repair, reconstruction or improvements commenced.

Sufficient Capacity – Sufficient capacity in this context is functionally defined as the ability for a stormwater closed pipe system to operate in a free flow (non-pressurized) condition or an open ditch to flow with 6-inches of freeboard for the 10-year storm event. Major systems, as defined in Chapter 6.1.2, will require additional analysis of the 100-year storm event. All stormwater systems shall be able to hydraulically operate in a manner so as to not adversely affect public health and safety.



Temporary Protection – Short-term stabilization of erosive or sediment-producing areas.

Top of Bank – The uppermost limit of the active channel of a stream containing normal flows, usually marked by a break in slope.

Type A Soils – Cohesive soils with an unconfined compressive strength of 1.5 tons per square foot (tsf) (144 Kilopascal [kPa]) or greater. Examples of Type A cohesive soils are often: clay, silty clay, sandy clay, clay loam and, in some cases, silty clay loam and sandy clay loam. (No soil is Type A if it is fissured, is subject to vibration of any type, has previously been disturbed, is part of a sloped, layered system where the layers dip into the excavation on a slope of 4 horizontal to 1 vertical [4H:1V] or greater, or has seeping water.)

Type B Soils – Cohesive soils with an unconfined compressive strength greater than 0.5 tsf (48 kPa) but less than 1.5 tsf (144 kPa). Examples of other Type B soils are: angular gravel; silt; silt loam; previously disturbed soils unless otherwise classified as Type C; soils that meet the unconfined compressive strength or cementation requirements of Type A soils but are fissured or subject to vibration; dry unstable rock; and layered systems sloping into the trench at a slope less than 4H:1V (only if the material would be classified as a Type B soil).

Type C Soils – Cohesive soils with an unconfined compressive strength of 0.5 tsf (48 kPa) or less. Other Type C soils include granular soils such as gravel, sand and loamy sand, submerged soil, soil from which water is freely seeping, and submerged rock that is not stable. Also included in this classification is material in a sloped, layered system where the layers dip into the excavation or have a slope of four horizontal to one vertical (4H:1V) or greater.

Unnumbered Zone A – see Zone A

User – The owner of record of a non-exempt residential or non-residential property or the person or entity in possession if other than the owner.

Variance – A grant of relief from the requirements of these regulations which permits construction in a manner otherwise prohibited by these regulations where specific enforcement would result in unnecessary hardship.

Vegetative Protection – Stabilization of erosive or sediment producing areas by covering the soil with any of the following materials: permanent seeding for long-term vegetative cover, short-term seeding for temporary vegetative cover, sodding, producing areas covered with a turf of perennial sod-forming grass, tree planting, or other planting.

Violation – The failure of a development to be fully compliant with Metro’s stormwater management regulations. For floodplain management purposes: the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with Metro’s floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in these regulations is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

Water Budget – A chronological accounting of water volume changes (including infiltration, exfiltration, evaporation, diversion, inflow, and outflows) to and from a point of storage such as an aquifer, retention pond, or other natural or man-made water system.



Watercourse – A channel, natural depression, slough, gulch, stream, creek, pond, reservoir, or lake in which storm runoff and floodwater flows either regularly or infrequently. This includes major drainageways for carrying urban storm runoff.

Waters of the State – As defined by TDEC, waters of the State are any and all water, public or private, on or beneath the surface of the ground, which is contained within, flows through or borders on Tennessee or any portion thereof except those bodies of water confined to and retained within the limits of private property in single ownership which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters.

Water Surface Elevation – The height, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929, the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988, (or other datum, where specified) of floods of various magnitudes and frequencies in the floodplains of riverine areas.

Waters of the State – Any and all water, public or private, on or beneath the surface of the ground, which are contained within, flow through or border upon Tennessee or any portion thereof except those bodies of water confined to and retained within the limits of private property in single ownership which do not combine to effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters.

Wet Floodproofing – means a method of construction which allows water to enter a structure in such a way that will minimize damage to the structure and its contents. Wet floodproofing is appropriate for functionally dependent use and uses that facilitate open space use by variance only, structures utilized for parking or limited storage, or when all other techniques are not technically feasible. Wet floodproofing shall not be utilized as a method to satisfy the requirements of this ordinance for bringing substantially damaged or improved structures into compliance. Wet floodproofing is not allowed in lieu of complying with the lowest floor elevation requirements for new residential buildings.

Wet Weather Conveyance – Man-made or natural watercourses, including natural watercourses that have been modified by channelization, that flow only in direct response to precipitation runoff in their immediate locality and whose channels are above the groundwater table and which do not support fish or aquatic life and are not suitable for drinking water supplies.

Wetland – Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency or duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typical to life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include, but are not limited to, swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Zone A – No base flood elevations determined.

Zone AE – Base flood elevations determined.

Zone AO – Flood depths of one to three feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.



II. ACRONYMS

303(d) – State’s List of Water Quality-Limited Segments Still Requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads

ARAP – Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit

BFE – Base Flood Elevation

BMP – Best Management Practice

cfs – cubic feet per second

CGP – Construction General Permit

CLOMR – Conditional Letter of Map Revision

CMP – Corrugated Metal Pipe

CRS – Community Rating System

CSS – Combined Sewer System

CWA – Clean Water Act

DA – Department of the Army

DCIA – Directly Connected Impervious Area

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

EPSC – Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency

FFE – Finished Floor Elevation

FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map

FHBM – Flood Hazard Boundary Map

GIS – Geographic Information System

IA – Impervious Area

ICC-ES - International Code Council Evaluation Service

LID – Low Impact Development

M.C.L. – Metropolitan Code of Laws

MDPW – Metropolitan Department of Public Works

MEP – Maximum Extent Practical

Metro - Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

MPW – Metropolitan Department of Public Works

MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

MWS – Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services

NAD83 - North American Datum 1983

NAVD - North American Vertical Datum

NFIP – National Flood Insurance Program

NGVD – National Geodetic Vertical Datum

NJCAT - New Jersey Center for Environmental Technology

NOC – Notice of Coverage

NOV – Notice of Violation

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRCS – Natural Resource Conservation Service

OSHA – Occupational Health and Safety Agency

PTP – Permanent Treatment Practice



PUD – Planned Unit Development
RCP – Reinforced Concrete Pipe
SCM – Stormwater Control Measure
SFHA – Special Flood Hazard Area
SOP – Standard Operating Procedure
SP – Specific Plan
SR2C – Stormwater Regulations Review Committee
SSC – Suspended Sediment Concentration
SWCD - Davidson County Soil and Water Conservation District
SWGR – Stormwater Grading Permit
SWMC – Stormwater Management Committee
SWMM – Stormwater Management Manual
SWSF – Stormwater Single Family Permit
SWO – Stop Work Order
TARP - Technology Acceptance Reciprocity Partnership
T.C.A. – Tennessee Code Annotated
TDEC – Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
TEMA – Tennessee Emergency Management Agency
TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
tsf – tons per square foot
TSS – Total Suspended Solids
O&M – Operation and Maintenance
U & O – Use and Occupancy
UIC – Underground Injection Control
USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USGS – United States Geological Survey
WQA – Water Quality Act