



RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

This Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP) Participation Handbook provides an overview of the requirements for RSMP participation and Application Packages.

Use the Contents on [page 2](#) to navigate the Handbook.

Participation in RSMP does **not** exempt a development from meeting all other applicable sections of the City of Austin's Code and Criteria.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

RSMP is an alternative means of compliance with the City of Austin's detention requirements for stormwater quantity management. The Watershed Protection Department receives funds through the program and uses them for planning, designing, and constructing drainage infrastructure improvements to reduce the risk of flooding in Austin.

RSMP participation may be an option for a development where applicants demonstrate that impacts to neighboring properties are equal to or better without providing onsite detention than with detention.

RSMP application types include those based on **Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM) Section 1.2.2.G, DCM Section 8, and Prior RSMP Participation**. The DCM 1.2.2.G and DCM 8 RSMP application types are for sites without an executed RSMP Agreement for the proposed impervious cover. A site with Prior RSMP Participation must have an executed RSMP Agreement.

Approved developments may either **make a payment or construct approved onsite or offsite public drainage infrastructure improvements** instead of providing onsite detention. The RSMP Team assesses participation feasibility for each site at an initial RSMP Feasibility Meeting.

The Watershed Protection Department (WPD) collects and allocates RSMP funds to projects that reduce flood risk in the same watershed where funds were collected. WPD uses a watershed-wide approach to analyze potential flooding problems and identify appropriate mitigation measures.

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BACKGROUND

The City of Austin experienced a massive flood during the Memorial Day weekend of 1981. We lost 13 lives in the City, and many homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed.

Austin has since implemented many projects and regulatory changes to reduce flood risks across the City. The development detention requirements and the Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP) are among these measures.

The City established the RSMP as an alternative to the stormwater detention requirement for qualifying developments. The RSMP originally collected payments from developments in lieu of onsite stormwater detention to build large regional flood control facilities. The Watershed Protection Department (WPD) currently uses RSMP funds to support various types of flood risk reduction strategies, including:

- Designing, permitting, and constructing drainage infrastructure projects such as regional pond facilities, storm drain improvements, culvert upgrades, and channel modifications
- Property buyouts
- Watershed strategic plans
- Land and easement acquisitions

WPD manages the RSMP, and the RSMP Team reviews applications for RSMP participation in association with the Development Services Department (DSD) as part of the development application review process. Some RSMP participation applications require drainage analyses and engineering modeling to justify RSMP participation based on the location and nature of the site and the RSMP Team's assessment of the project.

Participation is available for site plan and subdivision development application types in specific watersheds within the City of Austin and its Limited Purpose and Extraterritorial Jurisdictions (ETJs). Visit the [RSMP website](#) to see a complete list of participating watersheds and their RSMP status. A site's location in a participating watershed does not guarantee that participation for that site is feasible. The location of the site within the watershed is also an important factor. Sites located within the upper portions of watersheds are typically not eligible.

The RSMP Team is available to answer questions about RSMP participation feasibility, applications, and approvals. Reach out to the RSMP Team through the RSMP Inbox at RSMP@austintexas.gov.

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PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW

Development activity within the City of Austin must not result in additional adverse flooding or erosive impact on other properties (Land Development Code (LDC) 25-7-61). The most common way applicants meet this goal is collecting increased stormwater runoff in an onsite detention pond.

In some instances, RSMP participation may be an alternative means of compliance to providing onsite detention. Qualifying developments may apply for RSMP participation through three participation types: DCM 1.2.2.G, DCM 8, or a Prior RSMP Agreement.

Upon approval, each participation type requires a cover sheet or plat note describing the details of RSMP participation for that project. The RSMP Team will provide the note language during the formal review process.

DCM 1.2.2.G participation allows applicants to adhere to **simplified RSMP participation requirements** for smaller sites. Small developments that meet the size requirement specified in DCM 1.2.2.G.1, comply with the site's impervious cover limits, and discharge increased runoff as described in the DCM may qualify for RSMP participation through DCM 1.2.2.G. [See the DCM 1.2.2.G language for more details.](#)

DCM 8 participation allows applicants who prove, based on engineering analysis and modeling, that no adverse flooding impacts will occur due to increased flows from the proposed site conditions to participate in RSMP. [See the DCM 8 language for more details.](#)

Prior RSMP Participation may apply to redevelopments on the same site through an existing RSMP Agreement since RSMP Agreements are bound to the land.

The RSMP Team assesses each RSMP application claiming Prior RSMP Participation on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the past RSMP Agreement applies to the new development application.

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PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The RSMP participation process consists of three basic steps:

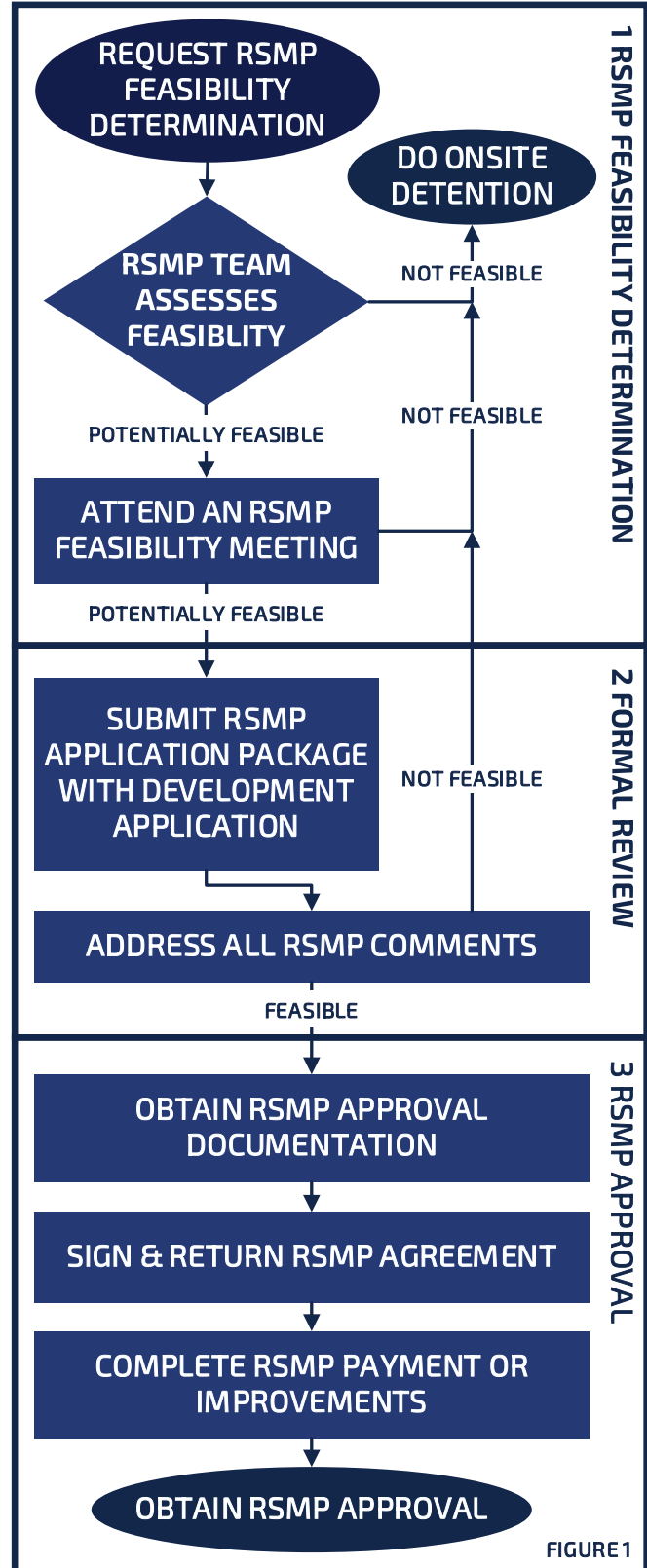
- 1 Feasibility Determination
- 2 Formal RSMP Application Package Review
- 3 RSMP Approval or Conditional Approval

1 RSMP Feasibility Determination

RSMP Feasibility Determination Request

RSMP participation must be feasible for projects pursuing participation. The RSMP Team assesses potential RSMP participation feasibility based on applicant-submitted information before the development application Completeness Check and formal reviews. The information the RSMP Team considers includes:

- Watershed participation (visit the [RSMP website](#) to see a complete list of participating watersheds);
- Site location within its watershed, site location within a smaller tributary watershed, and total contributing drainage area;
- Local flooding concerns;
- Storm drainage system infrastructure condition and capacity;
- Regional detention facilities nearby;
- DCM 1.2.2.G, DCM 8, and Prior RSMP Participation eligibility; and
- Other relevant site-specific characteristics.



RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONTINUED

1 RSMP Feasibility Determination CONTINUED

RSMP Feasibility Determination Request

Use the RSMP Feasibility Viewer or submit the RSMP Feasibility Determination Form (available on the [RSMP website](#)) to the RSMP Team at RSMP@austintexas.gov to learn about a project's potential participation feasibility and schedule a Feasibility Meeting with the RSMP Team. Use the [RSMP Feasibility Viewer](#) to identify a project's watershed and preliminarily determine its RSMP participation feasibility. The RSMP Team will provide finalized RSMP participation feasibility determinations.

Common limitations to RSMP participation feasibility include location in a flood-prone area, inadequate receiving system conveyance or capacity, and increased flows to neighboring properties in proposed conditions.

The RSMP Team may require drainage analyses to justify RSMP participation. If the analyses show that not providing onsite detention will result in additional adverse flooding impact on other properties, the RSMP Team will deny RSMP participation and recommend that the applicant work with their assigned drainage reviewer to provide onsite detention for the project. RSMP participation by Improvements may be an option if the project proposes offsite drainage improvements that mitigate adverse flooding impacts and provide a significant public benefit.

A determination that a development project is potentially feasible for RSMP participation does not require or guarantee participation. Onsite detention to mitigate flow increases per Code and Criteria is always an option.

Note: Switching between RSMP participation and onsite detention during formal review may delay the development application review or require a new submittal. The DSD Drainage Reviewer will review for onsite detention. Applicants should pursue either onsite detention or RSMP participation for the project.

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONTINUED

1 RSMP Feasibility Determination CONTINUED

RSMP Feasibility Meeting

Once a preliminary feasibility determination through the Feasibility Viewer or RSMP Team is complete, the RSMP Team will schedule a formal Feasibility Meeting for the project.

Note: A development that proposes RSMP participation cannot proceed through the Completeness Check process without completing a Feasibility Meeting

The purpose of the RSMP Feasibility Meeting is for the applicant and RSMP Team to reach a shared understanding of:

- 1 The requirements for the development to apply for RSMP participation
- 2 The process an applicant must complete for the project to participate in RSMP
- 3 Which RSMP participation type is ideal for the project

The main two RSMP participation types are:

- **Payment** - Payment in lieu of onsite detention
- **Improvements** - Construction of drainage infrastructure improvements that provide significant public benefits in lieu of onsite detention

A project's site conditions may limit participation. The Participation Types section on [page 10](#) provides more information about RSMP participation types.

Feasibility Meeting discussions regarding participation options and the potential scope of drainage system improvements are theoretical and do not guarantee RSMP participation approval for a project. Drainage improvements associated with RSMP participation are not finalized until the RSMP Team completes a full review and accepts the design.

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PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONTINUED

2 Formal RSMP Application Package Review

RSMP Application Package

The RSMP Team reviews the RSMP Application Package (RSMP Application Form and Supporting Documentation) submitted to DSD Intake for site plan or subdivision review. The RSMP Team does not review RSMP Application Packages out of cycle with formal review. Any application materials submitted for RSMP review must be submitted through DSD Intake to be formally approved.

RSMP Completeness Check & Formal Review

Submit a complete RSMP Application Package to Completeness Check and Formal Review through DSD Intake. The RSMP Team will comment on the RSMP Application Package and overall development application based on the project's proposed development plans, RSMP application, and RSMP participation types. You can find the RSMP Application Form on the [RSMP website](#) and a more detailed RSMP Application Package materials list on [page 12](#).

For **all development application types, RSMP application types, and RSMP participation types**, the RSMP Team considers:

- RSMP Application Form
- DCM compliance
- Potential adverse flooding impacts to neighboring properties, receiving drainage systems, and downstream tributaries and creeks
- Maximum impervious cover allowance
- Drainage area maps
- Grading plans
- Drainage easements for intervening drainage systems in place
- Engineering reports and summaries
- Property appraisal information
- SMART Housing terms
- Other relevant information

For **DCM 8 RSMP applications**, we also consider:

- Engineering modeling files, drainage analyses, and No Adverse Impact Analyses

For **Prior RSMP Participation applications**, we also consider:

- Previously-approved RS case number(s), RSMP Approval or Conditional Approval Letter(s), and Executed RSMP Agreements

For **RSMP Participation by Improvements applications**, we also consider whether the proposed improvements provide a significant public benefit.

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONTINUED

3 RSMP Approval or Conditional Approval

After the RSMP Team determines that the applicant has cleared all relevant comments, the RSMP Team will send an email and digital signature request to the applicant team. The email and digital signature request will contain Approval Documentation (or Conditional Approval Documentation) and instructions for executing the formal RSMP Agreement and completing the RSMP Payment through the Austin Build + Connect (AB+C) Portal or PDC Cashier. Learn more about the RSMP Payment on [page 10](#).

RSMP Approval & Conditional Approval Documentation

The RSMP Team will issue RSMP Approval or Conditional Approval Documentation based on the project's RSMP participation type.

For **RSMP participation by payment**, we issue the following:

- Unsigned RSMP Agreement
- RSMP Approval Letter
- RSMP Payment Calculation

For **RSMP participation by improvements** (or hybrid participation by payment & improvements), we issue the following:

- Unsigned RSMP Agreement
- RSMP Conditional Approval Letter
- RSMP Payment Calculation

Note: RSMP Conditional Approval is finalized when the subdivision or site plan infrastructure inspectors issue a Final Acceptance. If the RSMP Improvements are incomplete, so is RSMP participation for the project.

For **RSMP participation per a Prior RSMP Agreement**, we issue the following:

- O-Type RSMP Approval Letter

Subdivision Applications

If a project pursues RSMP participation during a preliminary plan review, the RSMP Team may issue an RSMP Conditional Approval before reviewing for and issuing a final RSMP Approval during the plat application review stage.

For more information, refer to the [Development Services Department \(DSD\) subdivision application process website](#).

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

PARTICIPATION TYPES

Payment, Improvements, and Prior Case Participation

RSMP Participation by Payment

Developments that the RSMP Team determines to be feasible for program participation may participate by RSMP Payment to the RSMP account(s) specific to the watershed(s) containing the site. Sites in multiple watersheds will make proportional payments to each relevant RSMP watershed account.

The RSMP Payment Calculation adds a Construction Cost Component based on the project's land use and current construction costs and a Land Cost Component based on the site's current appraised land value.

Applicants may estimate a project's RSMP Payment amount using the RSMP Payment Calculator on the [RSMP website](#). The RSMP Team updates the RSMP Payment Calculator annually in October to reflect changes to the Engineering News-Record Construction Cost Index.

RSMP participation by payment per DCM 8 requires drainage analysis demonstrating no adverse flooding impact on other properties. Generally, a project in the lower third of its watershed or on or near the main creek within the watershed and with adequate intervening drainage system capacity may be feasible for RSMP participation per DCM 8. RSMP participation per DCM 1.2.2.G requires satisfying the requirements in DCM 1.2.2.G.1-4.

Note: In 2019, the RSMP Team conducted a [Payment Structure Update](#) to ensure RSMP Payments are comparable to the cost of building an onsite detention pond

Discounts & Deductions

The Smart Housing Discount applies to projects providing Smart Housing for at least 10% of the proposed units for at least 40 years. Providing 10% Smart units for at least 40 years yields a 10% RSMP Payment discount, 20% Smart units for at least 40 years yields a 20% RSMP Payment discount, and so on up to 50%. Provide a Smart Housing Certification Letter during formal review so the RSMP Team can factor that information into the RSMP Payment Calculation.

Floodplain, water quality, and conservation easement areas may be deducted from the RSMP Payment Calculation's Land Cost Component. Provide easement documentation for any undevelopable areas during formal review so the RSMP Team can include that information in the RSMP Payment Calculation.

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

PARTICIPATION TYPES CONTINUED

Payment, Improvements, and Prior Case Participation CONTINUED

RSMP Participation by Improvements

Developments determined to be feasible for RSMP participation may be able to construct approved drainage infrastructure improvements instead of completing the RSMP Payment. RSMP participation by improvements will require model review and additional submittal requirements during formal review. Before RSMP conditional approval, the proposed improvements must:

- Meet the City's drainage criteria
- Provide a significant public benefit beyond the proposed site condition requirements
- Be approved by the RSMP Team

Significant public benefits include reducing local flooding and improving storm drainage system capacity. For example, proposed plans to increase storm drain infrastructure or construct new drainage system elements that provide capacity for the fully developed condition of the system's entire contributing drainage area may be considered a significant public benefit.

Note: If the cost of the proposed improvements does not exceed the RSMP Payment amount, the RSMP Team will also require the difference as an RSMP Payment

The RSMP Team requires single-family subdivisions participating in RSMP by Improvements to post fiscal for the same amount as the signed and sealed engineering cost estimate for the Improvements.

At the end of formal review for projects participating through RSMP Improvements, the RSMP Team will issue RSMP Conditional Approval Documentation. Once the RSMP Team receives the signed RSMP Agreement is returned, and any applicable RSMP Payment is complete, the Team will approve the development application review but maintain the RSMP case folder as pending. The RSMP Team will approve the RSMP case folder and release fiscal (if applicable) when the site plan or subdivision infrastructure inspector accepts the constructed RSMP Improvements.

RSMP Participation with a Prior RSMP Agreement

Proposed redevelopments may claim RSMP participation based on a prior RSMP Agreement for that site since RSMP Agreements are bound to the land rather than a specific project. The RSMP Team will review the previous RSMP Agreement alongside the proposed development application to confirm that the new project meets the conditions of the original RSMP Agreement.

If the proposed development complies with the previous RSMP Agreement, the RSMP Team will issue a special Approval Letter to document the connection between the current and previous projects. The RSMP Team may require an additional RSMP Payment and Agreement or onsite detention for a project that does not comply with the conditions of the original RSMP Agreement.

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RSMP APPLICATION PACKAGE REQUIREMENTS

Submit the complete RSMP Application Package (with the RSMP Application Form and Supporting Documentation) electronically via formal submittal to the Development Services Department (DSD) Intake. The RSMP Team reviews RSMP Application Packages as part of the formal development review process for subdivisions and site plans.

RSMP Application Form

Use the RSMP Application Form on the [RSMP website](#) to provide the RSMP Team with the required information to evaluate the participation request accurately.

Plat & Cover Sheet Notes

All subdivision and site plan applications approved for RSMP participation must include a plat or cover sheet note that denotes information about that development's RSMP participation type and associated identifying RS number. The RSMP Team will provide language for plat and cover notes during the formal development review process.

Example Cover Sheet Note for RSMP Participation by Payment: Participation in the Regional Stormwater Management Program by payment was granted for this site plan on ____ (date on the RSMP Approval Letter), by the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department, Office of the Director. The RSMP Case number for this project is _____. Refer to the RSMP Approval Letter and Agreement for participation conditions.

Example Plat Note for RSMP Participation by Improvements: Participation in the Regional Stormwater Management Program by the construction of drainage improvements as described in the Conditional Approval Letter and as depicted in Exhibit A of the formal RSMP Agreement was granted for this subdivision on ____ (date on the RSMP Conditional Approval Letter), by the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department, Office of The Director. The RSMP case number for this project is _____. Refer to the RSMP Conditional Approval Letter and Agreement for participation conditions.

The RS number is an RSMP-specific case number related to the development application case in the City of Austin permit review software. The RS number and related case information is accessible to applicants via the AB+C Portal. The RSMP Team will issue the RS number during formal review.

Supporting Documentation

Each RSMP Application Package must contain all relevant RSMP Supporting Documentation. Specific requirements vary based on the project's RSMP application type, development application type, and project-specific characteristics. See the RSMP Application Form on the [RSMP website](#) for a checklist containing Supporting Documentation for each RSMP application and participation type.

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

RSMP APPLICATION PACKAGE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Modeling, Drainage Analyses, and No Adverse Impact Analyses for RSMP Participation per Drainage Criteria Manual Section 8

Drainage analysis requirements vary depending on the location of a project site relative to the major creek or tributary in a watershed. The ideal drainage analysis results will show that a proposed project without detention under fully developed conditions will not cause adverse flooding impacts.

Modeling & Analysis Overview

HEC-HMS should be used to simulate the fully developed watershed, existing site conditions, and proposed site conditions with and without detention. It is helpful for a site adjacent to or near a creek, where the timing of the main creek's flows relative to the site's flows will determine the feasibility of RSMP participation.

Ideal Results: The downstream conditions are the same or better without detention

HEC-RAS should be used to demonstrate the impact of flow changes from existing to proposed conditions where a natural or engineered channel conveys the flows to a larger receiving creek.

Ideal Results: There is either no increase in water surface elevation or dedicated drainage easements contain the increase in water surface elevation

Note: HEC-RAS modeling is usually combined with HEC-HMS modeling to determine the flows considered in the HEC-RAS scenarios. Rational Method flow determinations may be adequate for small sites per the Drainage Criteria Manual

StormCAD analyzes a site's flows that contribute to a storm drainage system. It shows whether the site's proposed flows increase the hydraulic grade line (HGL) within the drainage system (assuming bolted manholes or that the system contains all the flows).

If the receiving system's HGL is above the right-of-way (ROW) gutter line, the applicant should analyze the flow separately in the ROW to ensure the ROW contains the excess flows:

- Use simple HEC-RAS to model the ROW or
- Perform normal depth calculations using Excel, FlowMaster, or another similar software.

Ideal Results for Systems with Capacity: The HGLs comply with Code and Criteria

Ideal Results for Systems with Partial Capacity: The flow increases do not cause an adverse flooding impact and the HGL increases do not cause an otherwise compliant storm drainage system to become non-compliant with Code and Criteria

Ideal Results for Systems without Capacity: The flow increases do not cause an adverse flooding impact

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RSMP APPLICATION PACKAGE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Modeling, Drainage Analyses, and No Adverse Impact Analyses for RSMP Participation per Drainage Criteria Manual Section 8 CONTINUED

The section below contains some common scenarios and how the RSMP Team expects applicants to approach each situation. Please direct questions about specific drainage analysis requirements to the RSMP Team at RSMP@austintexas.gov.

For RSMP Participation by Payment

Scenario 1: The site discharges to a major creek and is not near the watershed's headwaters

- Evaluate the impact of flows from the site to the receiving creek
- Under fully developed watershed conditions, consider the 2-, 10-, 25-, and 100-year events for the site in the following situations:
 - Existing conditions
 - Proposed conditions with a conceptual detention pond
 - Proposed conditions without a conceptual detention pond
- **Ideal Results:**
 - Flows based on proposed conditions without detention are lower than proposed conditions with detention
 - There is no significant increase in the receiving creek's peak flow
 - Significant flows are greater than or equal to 1% of the receiving creek's flow

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

RSMP APPLICATION PACKAGE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Modeling, Drainage Analyses, and No Adverse Impact Analyses for RSMP Participation per Drainage Criteria Manual Section 8 CONTINUED

For RSMP Participation by Payment CONTINUED

Scenario 2: The site discharges to a street, storm drain system, or small open channel system

- Evaluate the capacity of the downstream drainage system for flows based on the site's proposed conditions to, at a minimum, where the drainage area is 100 times the site area (and occasionally farther downstream to evaluate the impacts on the receiving creek)
- In fully developed contributing drainage area conditions and with the site's proposed conditions, consider the 2-, 10-, 25-, and 100-year events for the site in each of the relevant following situations:
 - **In any scenario**, flow increases must not cause overtopping of downstream crossings or cause additional overtopping of already overtopped crossings
 - **Discharging to a street**: Include the street gutter spread or channel calculations
 - **Ideal Results**: The right-of-way (ROW) contains the 100-year flows
 - **Note**: Great Streets or other street programs may significantly impact a ROW's capacity
 - **Discharging to a storm drain system**: Analyze the storm drain capacity
 - **Ideal Results**: The 25-year hydraulic grade line (HGL) remains a minimum of six (6) inches below the theoretical gutter flow line of the inlets, and the ROW and drainage easements contain the 100-year flows
 - **Note**: The City may have models to help begin this analysis; check [FloodPro](#) or email FloodPro_Stormdrain@austintexas.gov
 - **Discharging to an open channel**: Analyze the channel capacity
 - **Ideal Results**: The channel banks and drainage easements contain the 100-year flows (in some instances, the channel banks containing the 100-year flows may be sufficient)
 - **Note**: If the channel flow increases, the applicant may need to obtain additional easement to participate in the RSMP

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

RSMP APPLICATION PACKAGE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Modeling, Drainage Analyses, and No Adverse Impact Analyses for RSMP Participation per Drainage Criteria Manual Section 8 CONTINUED

For RSMP Participation by Improvements

RSMP Improvements often include offsite storm drain, open channel, or detention infrastructure improvements approved by the RSMP Team for RSMP participation.

- Under fully developed contributing drainage area conditions and with the site's proposed conditions and infrastructure, consider the 2-, 10-, 25-, and 100-year events to ensure the improvements:
 - Meet the City of Austin's drainage criteria;
 - Provide a significant public benefit (in addition to what Code and Criteria require to discharge flows from the project site's proposed conditions); and
 - Do not cause any adverse flooding impacts downstream.

Note: The RSMP Team requires a signed and sealed engineering cost estimate and plan and profile sheets for the improvements for approval

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SPECIAL REVIEW COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS

Sites Draining to or Across City of Austin Parks and Recreation Land (PARD)

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) must accept increased flows or proposed improvements before RSMP approval in the following cases:

- The site discharges via overland flow across City of Austin parkland to discharge into a stream or drainage system or
- The site proposes to install or upgrade a stormwater drainage pipe located within City of Austin parkland, which would discharge flows by connecting to an existing stormwater drainage system.

Note: Impacts to or improvements required on City of Austin parkland will require a Chapter 26 process with Parks Board and Council hearings

Sites Draining or Connecting to Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Drainage Systems

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) must accept increased flows or proposed improvements before RSMP approval in the following cases:

- The site discharges drainage onto or across TxDOT right of way (ROW) where there is no existing drainage system, or
- The site proposes installing or upgrading a stormwater drainage pipe that drains or connects to a TxDOT system.

Note: The RSMP Team requires a letter of approval from the TxDOT District Engineer before approving a project for RSMP participation

Sites in Limited Purpose, Extraterritorial Jurisdictions (ETJ), or Other Jurisdictions

Sites applying for City of Austin RSMP participation in the Austin Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) or another jurisdiction require coordination and approval by the site's jurisdiction before RSMP approval.

Sites in another jurisdiction must drain to the City of Austin jurisdiction to participate in RSMP.

Sites in watersheds that drain out of Austin's jurisdiction require approval from the municipality or county downstream before RSMP approval.

For RSMP participation in Travis County Limited Purpose or Extraterritorial Jurisdictions (ETJ), please acquire a Travis County Detention Waiver before RSMP approval or conditional approval. RSMP participation is not an option for subdivisions in the Travis County ETJ.

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

GLOSSARY

Atlas 14 – The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration study which is the basis of the rainfall criteria in the current City of Austin Drainage Criteria Manual (learn more on the [Watershed Protection Department's Flood Risk and Atlas 14 website](#))

ATXFloods – A [web-based map tool](#) that displays flooded road closures in the Austin area

Austin Build + Connect Portal (AB+C Portal) – An online portal that allows users to apply for some permits, schedule inspections, pay fees, upload project attachments, complete RSMP Payments, and more (see the [DSD website](#) for more information)

Development Application Case Number (C8, C8J, GP, SP) – Individual identification numbers the Development Services Department (DSD) assigns to subdivisions (C8/C8J), general permits (GP), site plans (SP), and other development application types

Development Application Type – The type of development application the proposed project applies for, usually a site plan, subdivision preliminary plan, subdivision final plat, or subdivision construction plan

Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM) – City of Austin drainage guidance and requirements (see more in the [Drainage Criteria Manual](#))

Feasibility Determination – The RSMP Team's assessment of a project's RSMP participation feasibility based on site and project details the applicant provides on an RSMP Feasibility Determination Request Form available on the [program website](#) (the [RSMP Feasibility Viewer](#) may offer a preliminary feasibility determination, and the RSMP Team will provide the final feasibility determination)

Find My Drainage Charge – A [web-based map tool](#) that determines a property's monthly Drainage Charge

FloodPro – A [web-based map tool](#) that displays floodplains across the City of Austin and provides access to floodplain and stormdrain models where available

Prior RSMP Participation/Agreement/Approval – Existing RSMP Agreements may apply to redevelopments on the same site that comply with the Agreement's terms

Property Profile – A [web-based map tool](#) that shows individual property characteristics such as property boundaries, topographic contours, known environmental features, and public storm drain infrastructure

Proposed Development Type – The type of development an application proposes to permit, usually single-family residential, multi-family residential, mixed-use, or commercial

RSMP PARTICIPATION HANDBOOK

GLOSSARY CONTINUED

RSMP Application Package – RSMP Application Form (available on the [RSMP website](#)) and all requested Supporting Documentation submitted to DSD Intake for development review completeness check and formal review

RSMP Application Type – The basis for RSMP applications per DCM 1.2.2.G, DCM 8, or a Prior RSMP Agreement

RSMP Approval Documentation – The RSMP Team issues RSMP Approval Documentation describing the requirements for formal development application approval and the RSMP Payment (see [page 10](#) for more details)

RSMP Conditional Approval Documentation – The RSMP Team issues RSMP Conditional Approval Documentation describing the requirements for formal development application approval for RSMP Improvements (see [page 11](#) for more details)

RSMP Drainage Analysis – Drainage calculations, modeling, and evaluation of offsite and onsite flows that the RSMP Team requires for many RSMP participants per DCM 8

RSMP Improvements – RSMP-approved storm drainage infrastructure improvements that provide a significant public benefit

RSMP Inbox – The RSMP Team’s primary communication method; the RSMP Team monitors the Inbox each business day

RSMP Participation Type – The basis for RSMP participation by either RSMP Payment, RSMP Improvements, or compliance with a Prior RSMP Agreement

RSMP Payment – A combination of a Land Cost Component and a Construction Cost Component that reflects the estimated cost of constructing an onsite detention pond for the proposed project (see the RSMP Payment Calculator spreadsheet on the [RSMP website](#) for more information)

Significant Public Benefit – A characteristic of proposed drainage system improvements the RSMP Team determines on a case-by-case basis to ensure proposed conditions improve offsite flow conveyance or otherwise help the overall drainage system

Watershed – A land area that drains to a particular body of water like a creek, lake, or river

Watershed Protection Department (WPD) – City of Austin Department with a mission to protect our community’s lives, property, and environment by reducing the impact of flooding, erosion, and water pollution (learn more at the [WPD website](#))