


# MEMORANDUM *Stafford County Public Services*

**TO:** Steve Crosby  
County Administrator

**FROM:** Ron Billingsley   
Director of Public Services

**DATE:** April 10, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Stormwater Maintenance

Since the beginning of FY2007, the Public Services Stormwater Program staff has responded to over 315 drainage complaints. Over half have already been resolved with the assistance of the Department of Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Stafford County Public Schools, various homeowner associations and VDOT.

Eighty-five of these complaints have been resolved by the Public Services Department. Each project was thoroughly researched and legal advice obtained when applicable.

Sixty-four calls were private property issues that homeowners need to address, including drainage issues outside of storm drainage easement not dedicated for public use. Technical assistance was provided when necessary.

Fifteen were inside of VDOT maintained rights-of-way. VDOT administrative and maintenance staff have been responsive and prompt in resolving these issues.

Forty-two complaints were still under bond and handled by Code/Environmental Inspectors.

The majority of the 109 outstanding cases are from older developments that were built under lower stormwater management standards that do not match today's requirements. The increase in impervious surfaces throughout the County has adversely affected the undersized stormwater conveyance systems.

Following are the estimated costs for cases that are awaiting Board approval:

- Seven engineering studies over \$10,000 each. Construction resolutions over \$10,000 each
- Three construction projects at \$3,000 each
- One project requires construction costs of \$25,000

The remaining 98 projects have special requirements that must be completed before repairs are made. This includes surveying, legal documentation, competitive bids and homeowner/neighbor permission.

Below is a summary of the Stormwater Maintenance Budget:

	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>FY2008</b>
Operating	3,279	124,990	158,851
Capital	29,840	225,000	275,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$33,119</b>	<b>\$349,990</b>	<b>\$433,851</b>

Stormwater Maintenance currently has \$190,410 remaining in the FY2007 Capital Improvement Budget.

A stream bank restoration project is being developed in cooperation with Chris Hornung, Silver Companies, and Williamsburg Environmental Group. Under this revolutionary concept, all developers will pick Corps of Engineers-approved stream bank sites within the County and restore them at cost. In this way, they will fulfill regulatory mitigation permit requirements.

I will be happy to meet with you to answer any questions or provide additional information at your request.

RLB:wam

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF STAFFORD  
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 1st day of November, 2005:

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<u>MEMBERS:</u>	<u>VOTE:</u>
Gary D. Pash, Chairman	Yes
Gary F. Snellings, Vice Chairman	Yes
Jack R. Cavalier	Yes
Peter J. Fields	Yes
Robert C. Gibbons	Yes
Kandy A. Hilliard	Yes
Mark W. Osborn	Yes

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On motion of Mr. Gibbons, seconded by Mr. Snellings, which carried by a vote of 7 to 0, the following was adopted:

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A STORMWATER DRAINAGE  
SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board to establish a Stormwater Drainage System Maintenance and Repair Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2005 that the following Stormwater Drainage System Maintenance and Repair Program be and it hereby is adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this program shall become effective upon funding being identified and provided for said program.

**STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR  
PROGRAM**

The following policy applies when determining whether storm drainage facilities or drainage-ways such as ditches, ravines, streambanks, pipes, and other drainage infrastructure, are eligible for maintenance by County resources:

- It is a regional surface water drainage issue and not caused by ground water;
- It is located in a drainage easement dedicated to public use or to the County; or
- It is in a residential development.

An easement is an encumbrance on private property that has been reserved for a specific use, in this case for the maintenance of drainage facilities.

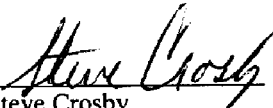
The property owner will be responsible for the removal of any trees, shrubs, fences or other obstacles that would impede the performance of the maintenance work. Property owners are also responsible for routine ground maintenance such as grass mowing and trash or debris removal within the dedicated public easement.

In areas where drainage-ways and/or drainage facilities exist without easements or rights-of-ways the following procedures are provided to resolve problems or complaints:

1. Drainage-ways or drainage facilities located on private property which handle runoff generated only upon the property on which it is located shall not be maintained by the County.
2. Drainage ways or drainage facilities located on private property without easements or rights-of-ways that receive runoff from public streets or alleys or that receive runoff from two or more private properties upstream may be considered for maintenance upon request subject to the granting of an easement and a hold harmless agreement to the County for the project. It must be determined that such maintenance is beneficial to the regional drainage system and the County and not just one private property owner. Only projects involving severe erosion and structural stormwater flooding will be considered.
3. Unless emergency repairs are necessary, no work shall be initiated until easement documents are executed by the property owner(s) and approved by the County.
4. The County may authorize emergency repairs upon receipt of verbal permission to enter upon the property, provided there is sufficient written evidence of the property owner's intent to grant a permanent easement as soon as practicable.
5. Generally, County resources will not be used to make improvements to drainage-ways or drainage facilities under these procedures beyond that which is necessary and essential to make repairs or to remove obstructions to protect public and private property from damage and to provide unobstructed flow.
6. Upon receiving a request from a property owner, the County staff will determine if the request is eligible for County participation. If the proposed project is determined to be eligible, preliminary plans and cost estimates for the project will be completed by County staff and the most appropriate method of addressing the problem will be discussed with the owner.

7. If authorized by the owner, plans and specifications will be completed and the project will be authorized for bids on a lump sum basis. The lowest bid from a responsible qualified bidder will be accepted by the County.
8. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is responsible for the drainage maintenance of VDOT right of ways.

A Copy, teste:

  
Steve Crosby  
County Administrator

SC:AR:myb