

Low Impact Development Code Changes

Seattle Department of Planning and Development
Seattle Department of Transportation



City Council – SPUN Committee
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What is Low Impact Development?

- Stormwater and land use management strategies that mimic natural hydrology
- **Examples:** reduced impervious surface, bioretention, rain gardens, preservation of native vegetation



Why are we proposing this legislation?

- New requirement of the City's municipal stormwater permit, issued by the Department of Ecology
- City departments required to review development-related codes and rules to encourage LID



DPD - Changes to the Land Use Code

Proposed changes add flexibility and remove barriers in order to encourage LID

1. Modify existing language to *remove* barriers to doing LID
2. Allow LID to count for various public benefits

The amendments...

- **...do not** require applicant to do LID
- **...do not** prohibit anything allowed currently



SDOT - Changes to the Street & Sidewalk Use Code

Add review considerations to minimize:

- impervious surface
- loss of vegetation
- stormwater runoff

Clarify protections and requirements for:

- green stormwater infrastructure
- pervious paving
- vegetation and street trees
- use of heavy equipment



Questions?

DPD

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Visit our project website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/codesrules/changestocode/lowimpactdevelopment>

