

2026 Stormwater Code Update

Governance & Utilities Committee

April 9, 2026

Agenda

- **Background**
 - Purpose of Stormwater Code
 - Who does it apply to?
 - Why are we updating now?
- **Schedule**
- **Code Updates Summary**
- **Outreach & Feedback**
- **Next Steps**





Background – Why and What?

Why do we have a Stormwater Code?

- Protects people, property, and the environment from damage caused by stormwater runoff
- Meets the City's obligation to comply with Department of Ecology's Stormwater Permit

What is in the Stormwater Code?

- Source control for ongoing practices
- Construction site pollution prevention
- Onsite stormwater management, flow control and water quality treatment requirements for development

Background – Who?

Who does the Code apply to?

- Private development and City projects
- Businesses
- Residents

Who administers?

- SDCI (private property development)
- SPU (right-of-way development & other provisions)
- SDOT (construction erosion control enforcement for right-of-way)



Background – Why Now?

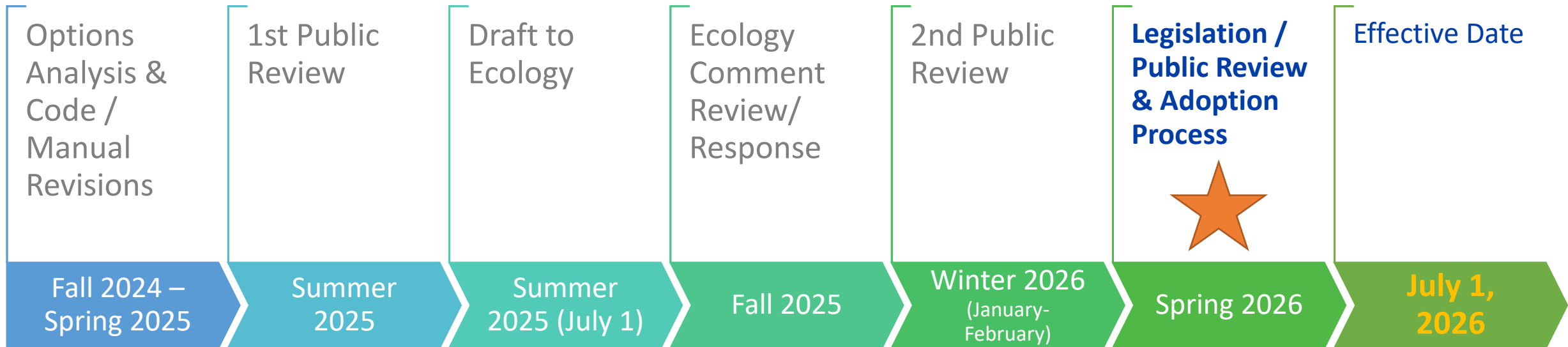
Regulatory Requirement Effective Date -
July 1, 2026

Key Objectives:

- Regulatory compliance with Ecology's Municipal Stormwater Permit
- Policy alignment with current City priorities
- Improved clarity and usability

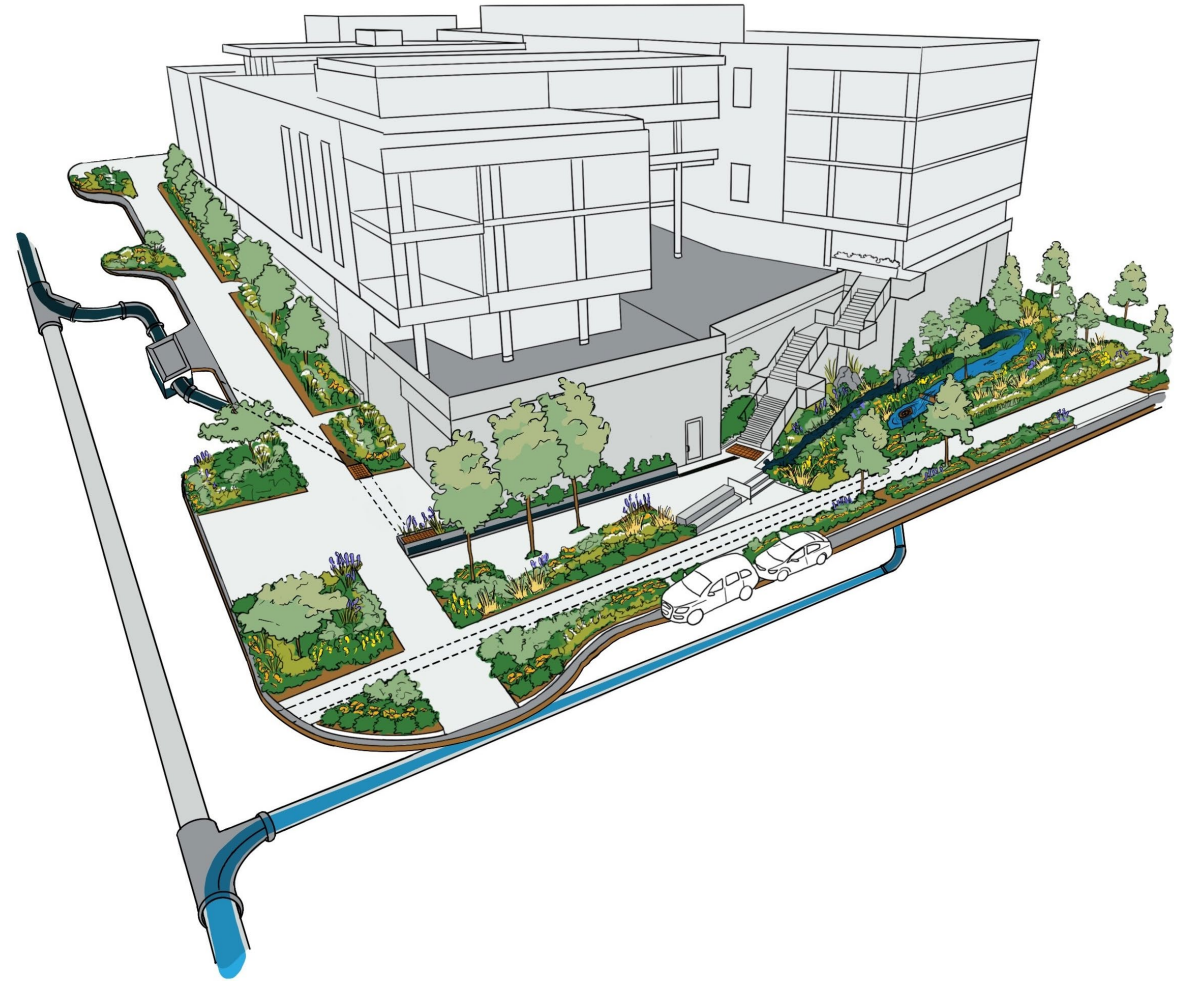


Schedule



Stormwater Code Update - Summary

- Very few new requirements, mostly required by Ecology
- Many technical updates for users of the manual
- Minimal fiscal impacts to the City and capital projects, mostly required by Ecology



Outreach & Feedback

Extensive Public Notification (since October 2024)

- SDCI and SPU listservs announcements
- SDCI Building Connections Newsletters
- 2 public meetings and comment periods
- 4 listening sessions attended by key partners, and development, environmental, and consulting communities
- 1 additional listening session for general public

Over 550 Public Comments Received

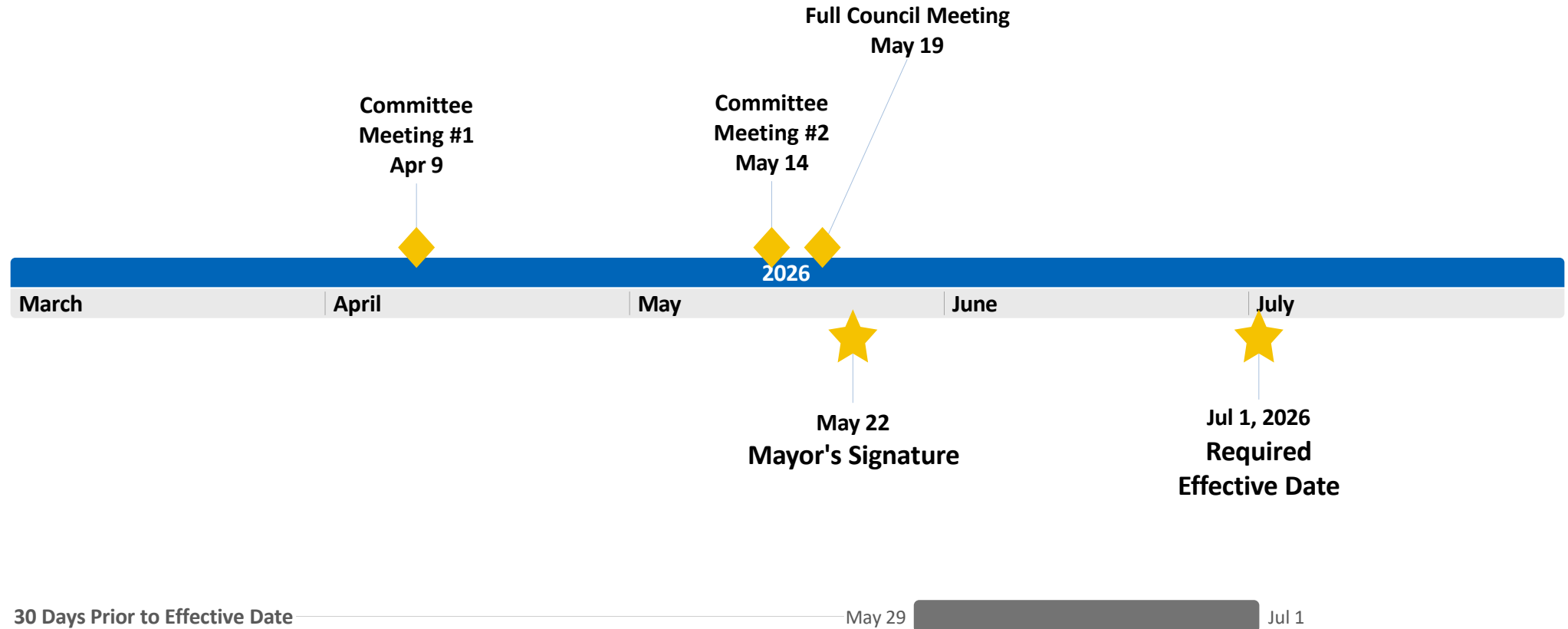
- Many incorporated, the remaining resulted in no changes due to Ecology requirements or policy decisions.
- No significant outstanding concerns.

Comment Takeaways

- Majority are technical in nature
- Strong support for tree preservation, environmental protection, and water quality
- Developer concerns for Ecology's requirements for "like" projects
 - Hosted two meetings with development community to discuss concerns



Legislation Schedule - May Adoption



Questions & Discussion

