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# **Design and Construction Standards**

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# DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

## INTRODUCTION

### I. Introduction

The *Design and Construction Standards* have been developed for use by contractors, developers, engineers and reviewers to provide conformity to the design and review of public water and wastewater utility improvements that are to be owned and maintained by the City of Norfolk.

All utility infrastructure development (water, gravity sanitary sewer, force main, pump stations, various appurtenances) shall adhere to the *Design and Construction Standards*, including any Special Provisions or Amendments.

These *Design and Construction Standards* replace and supersede all preceding versions of the *Standard Design Criteria Manual*. This document is intended to be used in conjunction with all applicable and current laws, regulations, codes, specifications and standards identified herein. In the event that a provision of these *Design and Construction Standards* differs from a federal or state requirement, the more restrictive obligation shall apply.

Because it is difficult to generalize engineering design matters without endangering the final product, engineers and developers should use the *Design and Construction Standards* as a guidance document. These standards are not intended to replace sound engineering judgment. Users should consider the applicability of the contents of this document to the specific situation and adjust based on the characteristics and requirements of the situation.

The sections of these standards identify routine or standard design assumptions and practices used and accepted by the Department of Utilities. This document is a compilation of widely accepted design practices and standards presently in use throughout the professional engineering and water and wastewater communities.

### II. Revisions

- i. The City of Norfolk and its Department of Utilities strive for continuous improvement. Comments or suggestions for the improvement of these *Design and Construction Standards* are welcomed and may be sent to the Engineering Manager of the City of Norfolk Department of Utilities.
- ii. These *Design and Construction Standards* may be modified and updated periodically. Approved amendments will be posted on the City of Norfolk's website.

### III. Interpretation and Variance

- i. The Engineering Manager of the City of Norfolk Department of Utilities has the authority to make binding and controlling interpretations of sections or differences between sections of this Manual.
- ii. To obtain a variance from these *Design and Construction Standards* where appropriate and justifiable to an individual situation, a written variance request must be submitted to the Engineering Manager of the City of Norfolk Department of Utilities with complete documentation and justifiable support. Each request and its potential impacts will be considered on an individual case-by-case basis.

- iii. The Engineering Manager of the City of Norfolk Department of Utilities has the authority to approve or deny a variance request. Approval of a variance for one situation does not insure approval for another situation.

**Cherryl F. Barnett, P.E., Engineering Manager**  
**City of Norfolk Department of Utilities**  
**401 Monticello Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23510**