

<h1>POLICY MANUAL</h1>	Date Adopted: September 8, 1998
Classification: PROGRAMS	Date Last Amended: 04/27/99
Subject: Storm Drainage and Flood Control Master Planning	Approved By:

Background:

Accomplishment of the District’s objects and purposes as set forth in the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District Act of 1955 (Section 73-7 of the California Water Code Appendix) require the development and implementation of a Storm Drainage and Flood Control Master Plan. As storm drainage and flood control planning is directly influenced by land use policy and land use changes, coordination of District Master Planning with local land use entities is a requisite component of such stormwater master and land use planning.

Policy:

It is the policy of the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District that the following principles shall govern the development of its Storm Drainage and Flood Control Master Plan.

1. The preparation of master storm water plans shall be coordinated with the specific land use entitlement entity (City/County).
 - a. Consultation among appropriate agency staff and/or representatives shall occur concerning such master planning activity; and
 - b. Master Plan documents will be provided to the land use entity to facilitate incorporation into land use plans and evaluation of land use proposals.

2. Storm drainage planning shall be done on a watershed basis.
 - a. Natural drainage patterns will be maintained whenever possible.
 - b. Each planned local drainage area will be the smallest geographical area consistent with economy and service constraints.

3. The storm drainage master planning which addresses urban type land uses should be in place when the first development entitlement, which begins the transition to urbanization, occurs.
 - a. Development should not be allowed to create new or exacerbate old drainage or flooding problems.

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- b. Development should not be allowed to export drainage or flooding problems to other properties.
 - c. Development should not be allowed to increase or transfer the cost of the remedy of drainage problems to others.
 - d. Storm drainage planning should not be used to control land use.
 - e. Storm drainage planning for urbanizing areas should consider urban spheres of influence, general plan designations, and actual land use approvals.
4. Storm drainage planning must be sufficiently flexible to serve the variety of land use types which may be designated for a watershed by the land use agency.
- a. Watersheds which are not likely to develop to semi-urban and urban land use types (rural watersheds) should not be the object of urban system planning.
 - b. Rural watershed planning should focus on preserving natural streams, based on rural land use flows; and FEMA flood plain management compliance.
5. Storm drainage planning shall give consideration to overland flows associated with major storm events.
- a. The planning considerations for major storm overland flows shall include depth of flow, elevation of surrounding structures.
 - b. Compliance with FEMA flood plain management requirements shall be coordinated with District Storm Drainage and Flood Control Master Planning.
6. Adoption of the Storm Drainage Master Plan for newly planned local drainage areas shall, when such adoption is to be taken apart from the adoption of the land use plan for such area, be done through noticed public hearing, such notice to include direct mailed notice to all affected properties.