

Legislation Text

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Subject:
Development & Engineering Code Priorities

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BACKGROUND:

The council has requested a review and update to the city's development codes for the past few years. This was highlighted again at the council's retreat earlier this year. In response to that discussion, Community Development and Public Works, working with the City Attorney's Office, have identified a series of prioritized code updates and projects that would require Planning Commission and City Council consideration over the next several months. The study session is an opportunity to confirm with council that prioritized list and the schedule for completing the work.

This effort is seen by staff to be complimentary to the project council is considering in the pursuit of a community vision, updating the city's comprehensive plan and eventually updating the city zoning and subdivision regulations. The project to be discussed at this study session is intended to address the more immediate problems seen with the code, but recognizing the visioning project will likely require a larger realignment with the codes in the future.

Community Development and Public Works are proposing these more immediate code updates to enhance community and business support and enhance organizational performance. These efforts are targeted at improving the existing development code and regulations, developing transportation design standards, defining stormwater requirements, and establishing Level of Service standards (LOS). In a large segment of these areas the city currently may not have standards, have standards that do not comply with state or federal regulations or counter legal compliance with regulations.

The goal of this effort is multifold. First, city standards will seek to be compliant with state and federal regulations; second, standards will be developed in areas that are considered basic performance levels for municipal governance and align Littleton with peer communities in Colorado. The effort will also substantially benefit community members and businesses working with the city by providing consistency in interacting with the city on regulations, provide clear concise decision making for all parties, and providing a platform for enhanced performance by all organizations.

City staff will provide an update on these project initiatives including project scope, timelines, and targeted deliverables.

