

2020 Flood Control District Technical Policy Revision Summary

This document summarizes the substantive changes to the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (District) Technical Policies listed below. The purpose of the summary is to make it easier for the public and policymakers to review the policy revisions for substantive changes of interest to the audience. Full versions, including underline/strike-out versions of the revised policies can be found at:

<https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=530808>

The policies included in this summary include:

Tech 005	Construction Standards for Fences and Walls within Regulatory Floodplains
Tech 006	Erosion Protection of Fill Pads in Floodway Fringe Areas
Tech 007*	Use of Piers for Site-built Structures within Regulatory Floodplains
Tech 011	Permitting Requirements for Accessory Structures
Tech 014	Erosion Protection of Stem Wall Foundations in Floodway Fringe Areas
Tech 015	Acceptable Methods for Determining Peak Discharges
Tech 018	Model Parameterization for Peak Discharges
Tech 022	Use of Flood Openings, Applicability and Requirements
Tech 024*	Avoidance and Minimization Requirements When a Project Site Contains Regulated Riparian Habitat
Tech 026*	Regulation of Single-Lot Development within Flow Corridors
Tech 033	Criteria for Two-Dimensional Model
Tech 108	Non-Conforming Uses Guidelines
Tech 110*	Use of Certificate of Coverage to reduce IRA mitigation requirements

*New policy. The summary will provide a general overview of the policy.

Summary for Technical Policy 005 - Construction Standards for Fences and Walls within Regulatory Floodplains

Generally, this revision provides more flexibility and more clarity as it has been updated to cover more scenarios, provide a wider range of options to owners/applicants, and address code conflicts with respect to floodways and pool enclosures. It also updates setback distances from property lines based on flood severity.

Technical Policy 006 - Erosion Protection of Fill Pads in Floodway Fringe Areas

Revision provides additional flexibility to owners/developers by adding a new erosion protection option for fill. The new detail is expected to be easier and cheaper to construct when its use is allowed.

Technical Policy 007 - Use of Piers for Site-built Structures within Regulatory Floodplains

This new policy provides additional flexibility for owners/developers by allowing site built structures to be built on piers in certain situations. The policy establishes engineering requirements for site-built structures on piers, when allowed, and reaffirms when the use of piers is prohibited.

Technical Policy 011 - Permitting Requirements for Accessory Structures

Revision clarifies that the District may require an FPUP for structures smaller than 200 square feet when compliance with the Ordinance is an issue. As a general practice, permits will not be required for structures smaller than 200 square feet.

Technical Policy 014 - Erosion Protection of Stem Wall Foundations in Floodway Fringe Areas

Revision provides additional flexibility to owners/developers by adding a new methods of scour protection for stem wall foundations; a concrete cut-off wall (primarily for protecting existing structures) and hardscaping, which could be used to protect new or existing structures.

Technical Policy 015 – Acceptable Methods for Determining Peak Discharges

Revision provides additional flexibility to engineers/developers by relaxing the requirement regarding when certain hydrologic methods should be used as well as by adding new methods for determining peak discharges.

Technical Policy 018 – Model Paramaterization for Peak Discharges

Revision provides clarification and update methodology to determining peak discharges.

Technical Policy 022 - Use of Flood Openings, Applicability and Requirements

Revision changes how flood opening are regulated in order to comply with new FEMA and state guidance. This revision is more restrictive with respect to the use of flood openings for structures or enclosed spaces with a finished floor below the Regulatory Flood Elevation as well as how the area of openings is calculated.

Technical Policy 024 - Avoidance and Minimization Requirements When a Project Site Contains Regulated Riparian Habitat

This new policy has been written to clarify what is necessary to demonstrate that no reasonably practicable alternative exists to proposed impacts to regulated riparian habitat. The purpose of the policy is create a consistent and uniform interpretation of this vague provision of the Ordinance.

Technical Policy 026 - Regulation of Single-Lot Development within Flow Corridors

The delineation of flow corridors has increased in recent years. Flow corridors are continuous flow paths within sheetflow floodplains that are expected to flow more frequently than other areas and be more hazardous than adjacent areas during large floods. This new policy establishes guidance regarding how to regulate these areas to maintain flow conveyance and establishes development practices that are appropriate to the hazards and importance for flood conveyance present within flow corridors.

Technical Policy 033 – Criteria for Two-Dimensional Modeling

Revision provides clarification and updates methodology for performing two dimensional modeling.

Technical Procedure 108 – Non-Conforming Use Guidelines

Revision updates the procedures for how to determine the applicability of the substantial improvement and substantial damage provisions based on guidance from FEMA. This revision will result in a more restrictive application of these criteria for non-conforming uses.

Technical Procedure 110 – Use of Certificate of Coverage to Reduce IRA Mitigation Requirements

New policy to encourage the use of Certificate of Coverage program by identifying relaxation of certain standards for Important Riparian Areas project that participate in the Certificate of Coverage Program.