



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645

(734)996-3055

FAX (734)994-2592

TO: Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Rebecca A. Head, Director
Department of Environment and Infrastructure Services

DATE: June 17, 1998

SUBJECT: Establishment of Grading/ Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Waiver Fees and cost schedule for Resource Remediation

Board Action Requested

To authorize the Chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners to approve the fee associated with Grading/Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Program Waivers. To authorize the Chair of the Board to approve the cost contribution associated with a Resource Remediation option. These actions set up funding components regarding sections III, B and VIII, A, of the Grading/ Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Ordinance, that was adopted September 3, 1997.

Background

The Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners adopted the Washtenaw County Grading/Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance on September 3, 1997 (resolution #97-0158). Included in the Ordinance are measures to implement a fee associated with Grading Waivers and to accept cost contributions for Resource Remediation.

Discussion

The standards and enforcement stated in the Ordinance allows for the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program to monitor earth change activities for soil erosion and subsequent sedimentation control throughout the County. Earth change activities, as described in section II, B, of the Ordinance, require either a Grading Permit or Grading Waiver from the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program. Permits for projects requiring a permit, (as defined in section III, A of the Ordinance) have been issued since September of 1997. Waivers have been issued since May 4, 1998 in a trial program, for no fee. Response to this trial program has resulted in issuance of over 70 waivers in ten business days. After evaluation of time and personnel costs by staff and Griffith & Associates, the recommendation is \$15.00 for issuance of future grading waivers as outlined in the Grading/Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance for Washtenaw County.

In addition to Grading Permits, Performance Guarantees are required for major projects, as defined by Section VIII, A, of the Ordinance. Washtenaw County will use monies from Performance Guarantees for remediation in cases when the permit conditions are not met or the project is discontinued, leaving unstabilized soil. The Performance Guarantee is released when the project is completed and permanently stabilized, and has met all permit requirements. In lieu of a Performance Guarantee a major project permittee could, if eligible, contribute to the Resource Remediation Fund. The cost of the contribution will be 5% of the cost of our current performance guarantee as approved by the Board of Commissioners. The contributions to Resource Remediation would not be returned with the completion of the project, but instead held in a Special Revenue Fund to be used by the County to pay for corrective action on sites that are in non-compliance. This will provide funding for remediation on an immediate basis when necessary and will provide for return of this money to this fund. If available, funding from this fund may also allow for program infrastructure improvements.

The implementation of both Grading Waiver Fee & Resource Remediation costs meets Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Guiding Principles: promoting improved customer service, reducing the cost of doing business, mandated services, and root causes.

Impact on Human Resources

No impact on Human Resources will occur.

Impact on Budget

Increased General Fund revenue in the amount of \$10,000 is projected for 1998 of due to the grading waivers fee but this will be offset by expenditures to pay for the costs of infrastructure services involved with review and issuance of grading waivers.

The funds collected under the Resource Remediation option will be placed in a Special Revenue Fund. Expenditures from this fund will be used for soil erosion remediation activities and program infrastructure improvements.

Impact on Indirect Costs

No impact on indirect costs will occur.

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies

No impact on other County Departments or Outside Agencies will occur.

Conformity to County Policies

This resolution conforms to County policies.

Attachments/Appendices

Fee Schedule

Financial Detail

Prepared by: Beverly Barton for Rebecca A. Head

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH GRADING/SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION CONTROL WAIVERS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A RESOURCE REMEDIATION FUND

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 1, 1998

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners has adopted the Grading/Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance on September 3, 1997, in compliance with the authority of the laws of the State of Michigan (Resolution #97-0158); and

WHEREAS, the standards and enforcement stated in the Ordinance allows for the Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Program to monitor earthwork activities for soil erosion and subsequent sedimentation control throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, along with Grading Permits, full implementation of Grading Waivers will assure more complete compliance with the mandated services outlined in the Grading /Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Ordinance for Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Resource Remediation Fund will allow monies to become available to pay for corrective action on sites that are in non-compliance with conditions that result in unstabilized soils, and hazardous conditions; and

WHEREAS, implementation of both Grading Waivers & Resource Remediation meets Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Guiding Principles: promoting improved customer service and reducing the cost of doing business,

mandated services and root causes; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, and the County Administrator's Office and the Ways & Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes fees associated with the implementation of Grading Waivers and Resource Remediation fund as attached hereto and made a part hereof

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby amends the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Fee Schedule for Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control

Grading Waivers and Resource Remediation Cost

Based on discussion with Griffith & Associates costs were as follows:

Grading Waiver Fee \$15.00 each

Resource Remediation Costs: 5% of
current performance guarantee costs
(\$500.00 per acre disturbed or minimum
of \$2,000)

Department of Environment & Infrastructure Services
Building Inspection/Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control
98 – 101 – 620 – 6290

Current Revised

Budget Budget Variance

Revenue:

450 Permits \$1,470,281 \$1,480,281 \$10,000

Expenditure:

800 Other Services & Charges \$ 61,175 \$ 71,175 \$10,000

Department of Environment & Infrastructure Services
Resource Remediation Fund
98 - - 620 – 6290

Current Revised

Budget Budget Variance

Revenue:

668 Other Revenue & Reimbursements \$ 0 \$10,000 \$10,000

Expenditure

800 Other Service & Charges \$ 0 \$10,000 \$10,000

[Return to the BOC Ways and Means June 17, 1998 Agenda](#)