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## CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

**1.1. PURPOSE.** The following engineering standards are established by the Public Works Director for the design and construction of public and private improvements in the City of Steamboat Springs, with the exception of State highways. Streets classified as State highways fall under the jurisdiction of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

The purpose of these standards is to provide a consistent design basis for infrastructure within the City. The standards generally follow the criteria set forth by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation (AASHTO) and CDOT. Modifications were made where technically feasible to include flexibility and encourage context sensitive design. The changes facilitate designs that support the constraints of mountainous terrain, the maintenance and enhancement of natural drainage ways, and the resort nature of the community. These standards were compiled to create the minimum acceptable standards for a safe, consistent, effective, and economical infrastructure. Actual site design may require additional detail or more conservative design parameters to address site-specific issues.

**1.2. AUTHORITY.** These engineering standards have been developed pursuant to Section 20-1 and 20-8 of the Revised City of Steamboat Springs Municipal Code that authorizes the Public Works Director to establish standards. Authority for review and approval required for these standards shall be by the Public Works Director or his staff assigned or designated within these standards.

**1.3. JURISDICTION.** These standards shall apply to all projects in the City of Steamboat Springs except where superseded by other government regulations.

**1.4. AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS.** The Public Works Director may periodically update the standards to reflect current practices.

**1.5. OTHER STANDARDS.** Where no requirement is given, the current edition of the AASHTO or CDOT design standards shall govern unless otherwise approved by the Public Works Director. If the AASHTO or CDOT requirements or this manual do not cover a specific situation, applicable standards must be obtained from the Public Works Director prior to design. In addition to these standards, developers are responsible for following all other applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Where there is a conflict between these standards and other codes or regulations, the more stringent standard shall generally apply unless otherwise approved by the Public Works Director.

**1.6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL.** The Public Works Director will review submittals for general compliance with these standards. An approval by the City does not relieve the owner, contractor, engineer, or designer from responsibility of ensuring that calculations, plans, specifications, and construction are accurate and in

compliance with these standards, accepted engineering practices, or other applicable requirements and regulations.

**1.7. SPECIFICATIONS.** See City Specifications – separate document. In the absence of standard specifications, each project shall submit specifications for review. Where appropriate CDOT specifications should be followed.

**1.8. VARIANCES.** The Public Works Director is authorized to grant variances to the engineering standards. In evaluating variances, the Director will consider the site-specific constraints contributing to the need for the variance, the effect on safety, the constraints to City Right of Way, the public benefit, the availability of other alternatives, the economic feasibility, and the need for mitigation measures. Variances must be requested in writing and at a minimum include plans, text, and supporting documentation as necessary to, at a minimum, identify the following:

- A list of the standards to be varied,
- A summary of the variances proposed to replace the standards,
- Technical sources supporting the variances,
- A description of the unique site-specific constraints contributing to the variance request,
- A summary of alternatives considered and a discussion as to why the standards can not be accommodated,
- A summary of the impacts of the proposed variance to safety, traffic operations, or other applicable considerations, and
- A summary of proposed mitigation measures, if needed.

The Public Works director shall render a written decision to a request for variance. If a variance request is denied, the applicant may appeal the denial per the provisions of the community Development Code Section 26-50.