



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CENTER



DSC Information Notice # 200 October 2, 2013

Topic: Single Family and Duplex Automatic Fire Suppression System Calculations and HRSD Fee Waiver

Background

Single family or duplex dwellings are occasionally required to install fire suppression systems due to fire safety requirements. Meter sizing in these cases is based on required fire flows for the dwelling and not the domestic flow alone.

Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) facility fee applies to all new connections and are due and payable prior to the issuance of a building permit. The HRSD facility fee is based on the size of the City approved water meter.

Discussion

In accordance with the water industry accepted practices to select the appropriately sized meter for a development, the proposed domestic and fire flow demands must be submitted by the consulting engineer. If a single family or duplex development is required to contain a fire suppression system, then the demand generated by the specific system designed for the residence must be submitted to the DSC with the site plan to ensure that the water meter is sized correctly to handle the expected range of flow with adequate pressure for the fire suppression system.

The water meter sizing determined by the fire flow may exceed the required meter sized to provide domestic flow alone. The HRSD facility fee is based on the domestic demand. The larger meter size may increase the development cost for utilities. The City will submit an HRSD fee waiver request on behalf of the utility customer in order to assess the HRSD fee based on the domestic demand only. While this is an additional step in the site plan review process, it is undertaken in order to provide utility customers with the lowest available utility rates.

Effective Date: *Immediately*

For More Information, Please Contact the Department of Public Utilities:

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