



CITY OF HOUSTON

Department of Public Works and
Engineering

Office of City Engineer

Practice for Determining Previous Impervious Cover for Stormwater Detention Requirements

The City of Houston Infrastructure Design Manual requires on-site stormwater detention measures to mitigate the impacts on the existing drainage system due to increased runoff with New Development or Redevelopment. Required detention volume is determined based on the increase in the impervious cover as set forth in 9.05.H and its subsequent subsections.

The following establishes a consistent practice to verify the validity and the quantity of the existing and prior impervious cover for determination of the appropriate increase in impervious cover and ensuing detention requirements on such sites.

Prior impervious cover on the subject site, if removed within the preceding five years, will be considered for calculating required stormwater detention volume using the parameters below.

- A. The five-year look back date shall commence on:
 1. the date of application for the building permit, or
 2. the date of issuance of a Stormwater Availability Letter leading up to the application for the building permit.

- B. Verification of impervious cover within this five year period on any site shall be determined by:
 1. Date of issued demolition permit or,
 2. Sealed drawing stamped, signed, and dated within the five year period by a professional land surveyor from State of Texas depicting impervious cover or,
 3. Dated aerial photo of the site or,
 4. Payment evidence of assessed drainage charge (The most recent impervious cover assessment for the drainage charge is the value that will determine previous impervious cover square footage)

Note: The back payment of drainage fees shall not be used in the determination of previous impervious cover.

- C. This practice shall expire on August 1, 2016. On this date all previous impervious cover determinations will be based solely on paid drainage charges.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. M. [unclear]", with the date "June 23, 2014" written below it.