

An aerial, slightly faded photograph of a modern school building. The building is a large, multi-story structure with a flat roof and numerous windows. In front of the building is a playground with various equipment, including a slide and climbing structures. To the right of the playground is a paved area, possibly a parking lot or a drop-off/pick-up zone, with some trees and a small American flag. The background shows more trees and a clear sky.

# Unified Stormwater Rule: Lessons Learned

Overview for School Construction Authority

Timothy Lavin, Nicole Clarke, & Justin Seeney

August 19, 2022

# Agenda

- Introduction & Experience
- Unified Stormwater Rule (USWR) Overview
- USWR Considerations for Active SCA Projects & Future Projects
- Summary & Next Steps



An aerial, slightly angled view of a large, modern, multi-story building with a flat roof and numerous windows. In front of the building is a fenced-in playground area with various equipment. The building is surrounded by greenery, including trees and grass. A road with a crosswalk and a yellow school bus is visible on the left side. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a dark overlay.

# Introductions & Experience

# Introductions



Nicole Clarke

- 10+ years as site/civil engineer in NYC and surrounding region
- Project Manager/Designer for 30+ SCA CIP and Capacity Projects



Justin Seeney

- 12+ Years developing Stormwater management plans and designing GI
- Led development of 40+ SWPPPs



Timothy Lavin

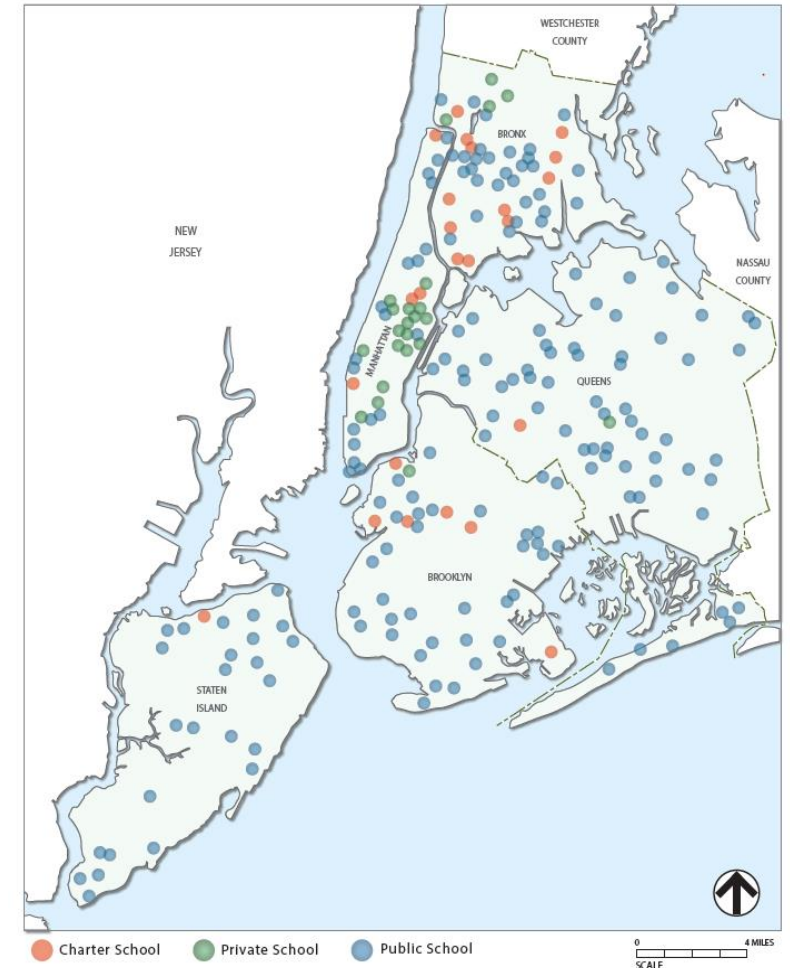
- Technical lead for AKRF on-call contract with the SCA
- Participated in 150+ SCA design projects

# SCA & AKRF

- 100+ public schools throughout NYC
- AKRF's Services for the SCA:
  - Architecture & Engineering- Robert Caravella, PE
  - Geotechnical Engineering- Gary Marcus, PE, D.GE, F.ASCE
  - Site Assessment and Remediation- Rebecca Kinal
  - Environmental Planning- Keri Cibelli
  - Acoustics- Matthew Manis



K-12 SCHOOL EXPERIENCE





# AKRF & USWR

Over 35 sites of varying types developed or in-development under USWR purview



Educational: PS 121R




Institutional: Row NY



Infrastructure: Amboy Road



Recreational: Astoria Park

An aerial, slightly angled view of a large, modern, multi-story building with a flat roof and numerous windows. In front of the building is a fenced-in playground area with various equipment. The building is surrounded by greenery, including trees and grass. A road with a crosswalk and a yellow school bus is visible on the left side of the image. The overall scene is presented in a dark, muted color palette.

# Unified Stormwater Rule (USWR) Overview



# USWR Legislative Overview

- **September 28, 2020 – New York City Council Passes Local Law 91:**
  - *“To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, the New York city plumbing code and the New York city building code in relation to city-wide stormwater management controls”*
- **February 15, 2022 – NYCDEP proposes amendments to the “Rules of the City of New York” to enforce LL91:**
  - *Amended Chapter 19.1 & Chapter 31*



# USWR Core Themes

- Inclusion of Stormwater Management Practices (SMPs) for Water Quality Treatment → Green Infrastructure





# USWR Core Themes

- Erosion and Sediment Control Measures and Inspections





# USWR Core Themes

- SWPPPs & DEP Stormwater Construction Permit



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Fill Out the Form

Acknowledgment

Payment

Application Status/  
Amendment

Facility Documents

Construction Permit  
Initiate and Pull

Temporary Shutdown

NOT/Maintenance Permit

6. Construction Permit

The owner developer will identify the Qualified Inspector and Contractor and upload a copy of the maintenance easement. The contractor may then request the permit.

Permit Initiation

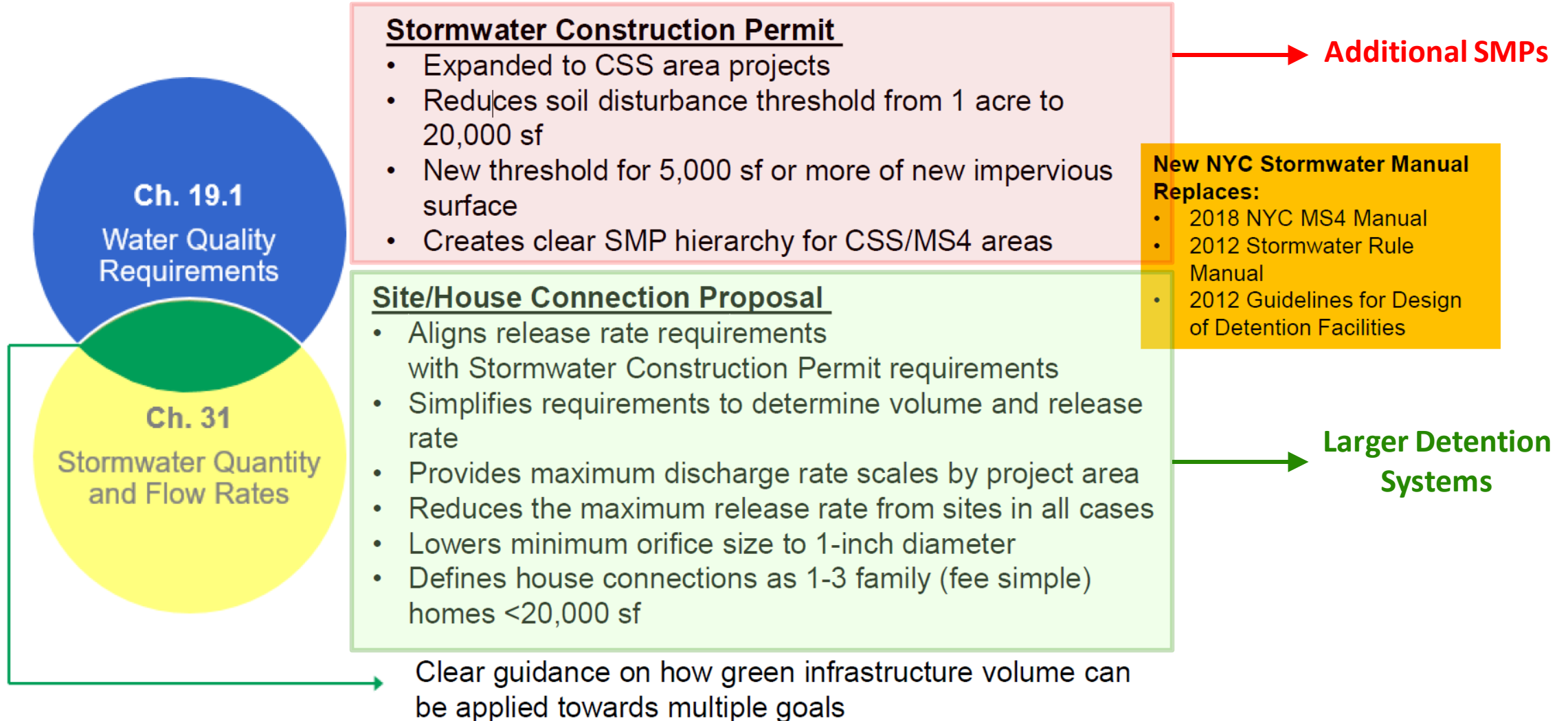
Request ID	Application	Request ID (Application)	Site Name	Acknowledgement Status ↑	Status	Created On
PI-0000086	S302521	0000273	PS 253 TCU Removal and Building Addition		Draft	8/18/2021 10:25 AM

Request a Permit

New Construction Permit Pulling Request

Request ID ↓	Application	Request ID (Application)	Site Name	Status	Issue Date	Expiration Date	Actions
There are no records to display.							

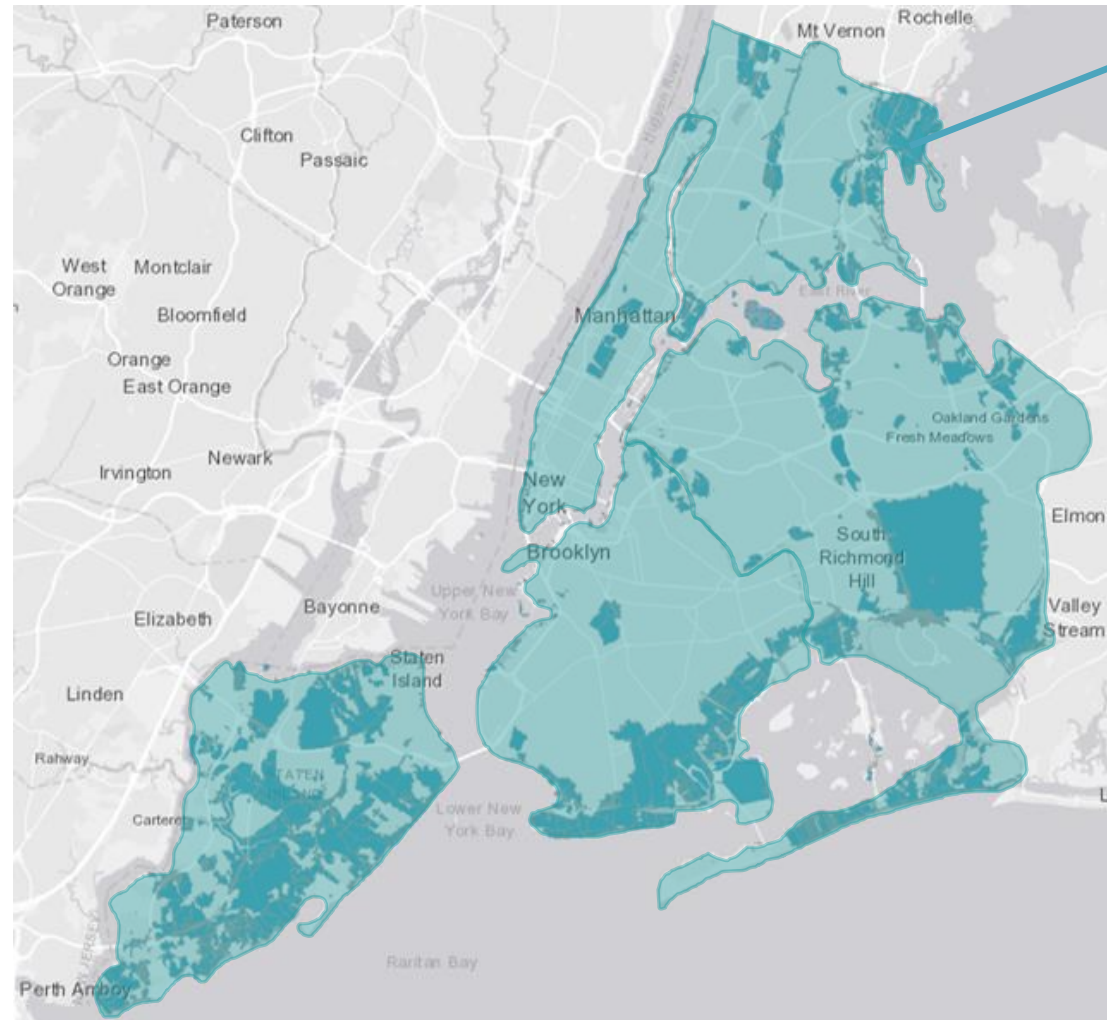
# USWR Key Changes





# USWR Key Changes

Regulates both Separate (MS4) and Combined Sewersheds



**MS4 Areas  
+ Combined Sewer Areas**

Source: DEP MS4 Area Map (Online)

# USWR Key Changes

- Reduces disturbances threshold from 1 Acre to 20,000 square feet
- Establishes 5,000 square foot impervious area increase threshold





# USWR Key Changes

- Establishes hierarchy for selection of SMPs

Figure 4.2. SMP hierarchy for CSS areas.

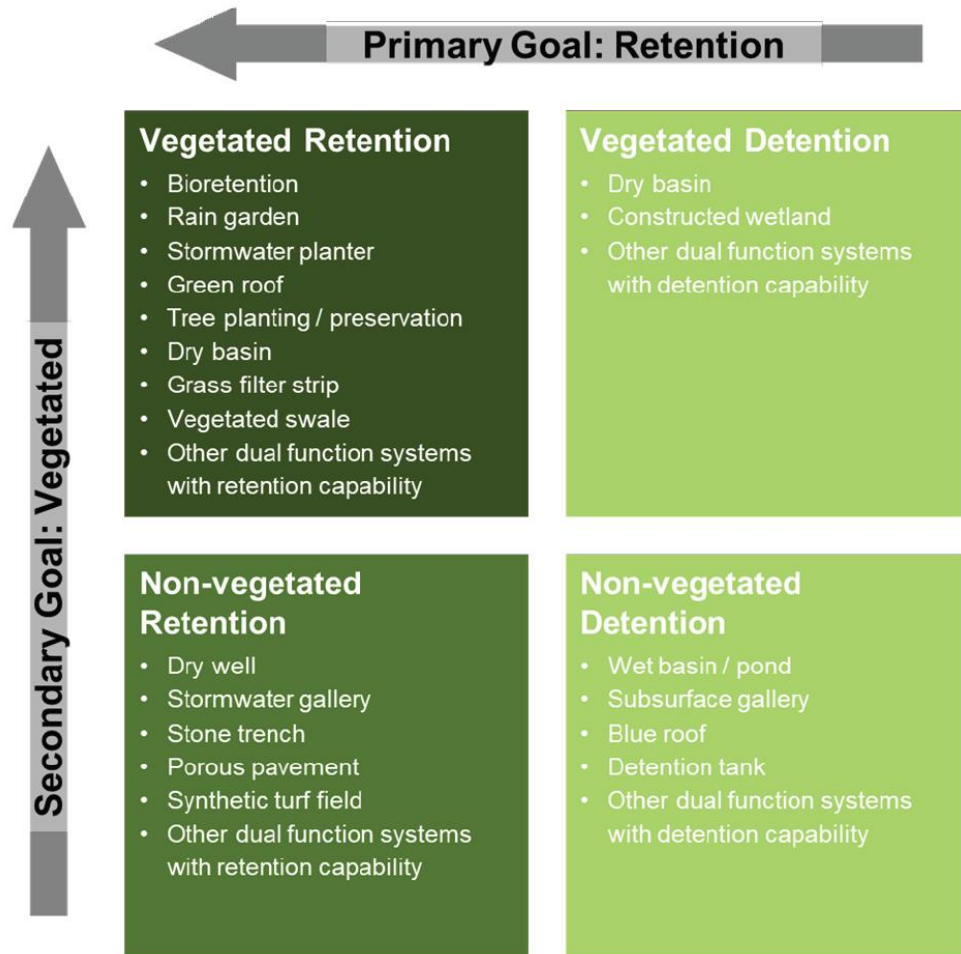
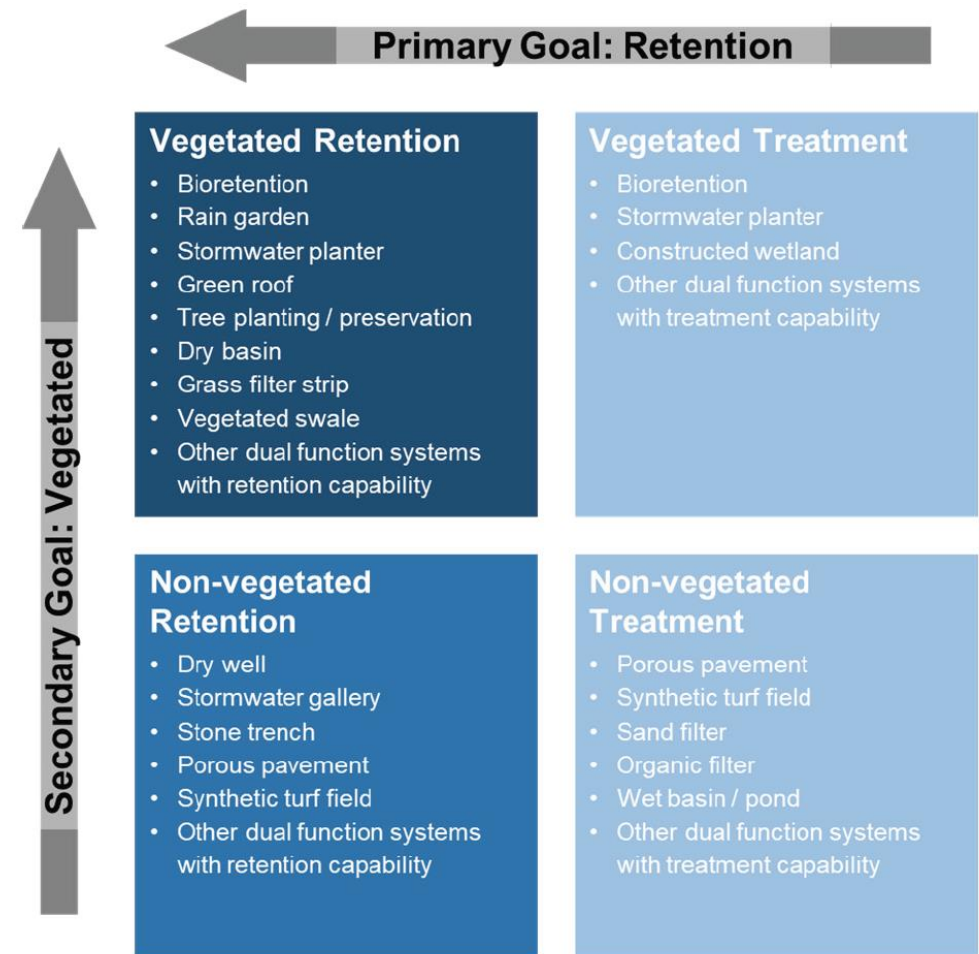
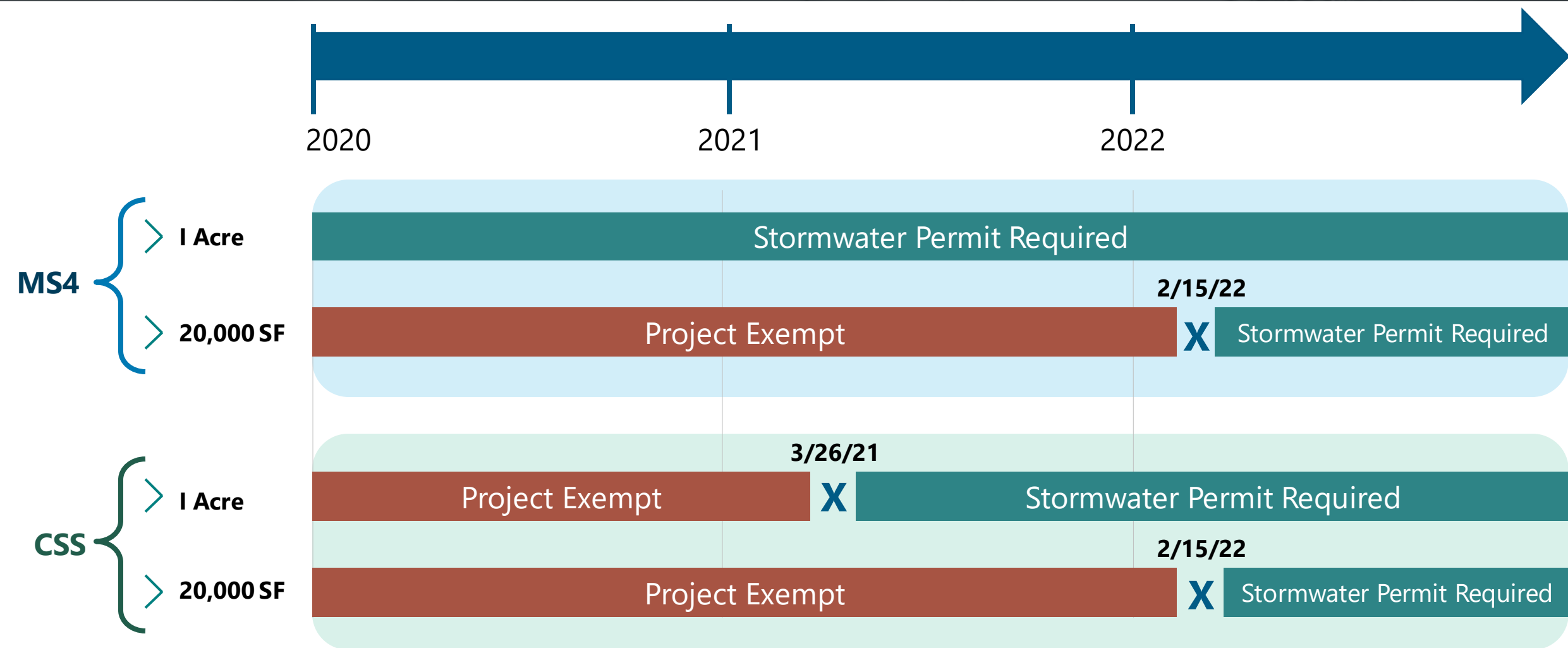


Figure 4.3. SMP hierarchy for MS4 areas.



# Time Frame



**X:** Submission date to DOB/BCC for Construction Document Approval



An aerial, semi-transparent view of a school building complex. The building is a large, multi-story structure with many windows. In front of the building is a fenced-in playground with various equipment. To the left of the playground is a grassy area with some trees. To the right is a paved area with a crosswalk and a few people walking. The background shows more trees and a road with a yellow school bus.

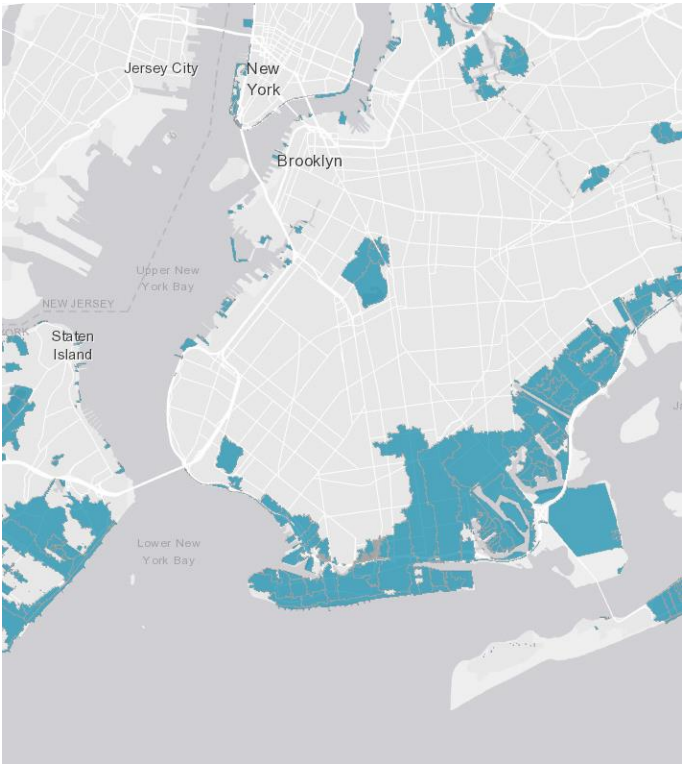
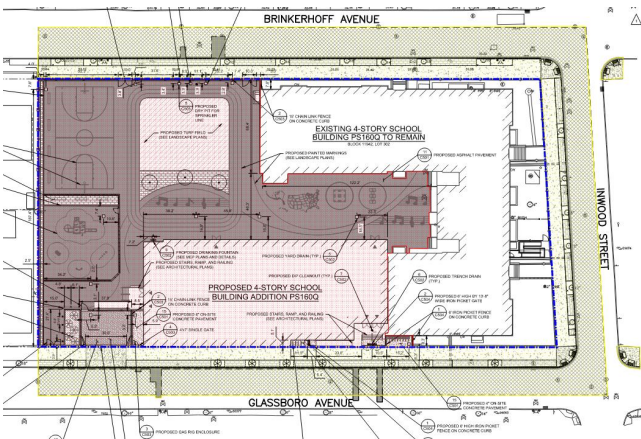
# **USWR Considerations for Active & Future SCA Projects**

# Inventorying Active Projects

Total Area of Disturbance?

CSS or MS4?

Date Applied for Construction  
Document approval to  
DOB/BCC?



**NYC Buildings** PW1: Plan / Work Application  
Must be typewritten

1 **Location Information** Required for all applications.

House No(s)	Street Name	Block	Lot	BIN	C.B. No.
Work on Floor(s)		Apt. / Condo No(s)			

2 **Applicant Information** Required for all applications. Fax, mobile telephone and e-mail address are optional information.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
Business Name	Business Telephone	
Business Address	Business Fax	
City	State	Zip
E-Mail	Mobile Telephone	
License Number		

Choose one: ☐ P.E. ☐ R.A. ☐ Sign Hanger ☐ R.L.A. ☐ Other:

3 **Filing Representative** Complete only if different from applicant specified in section 2. Fax, mobile phone, and e-mail are optional info.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
Business Name	Business Telephone	
Business Address	Business Fax	
City	State	Zip
E-Mail	Mobile Telephone	
Registration Number		

4 **Filing Status** Required for all applications. Choose one and provide specified associated information.

<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Filing 5, 7, 11, 12A, 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to Approval Actions 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement 24-26
Choose one only:	<input type="checkbox"/> Amend Existing Filing 4A	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal 26
<input type="checkbox"/> Standard Plan Examination or Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Subsequent Filing 6-7, 8A (Alt-2 only), 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Specified in 4A and 6
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Certification PC1, POC1	<input type="checkbox"/> Post Approval Amendment (PAA) 4A, 6, 24-25	<input type="checkbox"/> Entire Job
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Certification of Objections A/1	Will PAA affect filing fees? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	4A Indicate existing document number affected by filing.
<input type="checkbox"/> New (Superseding) Applicant 4A, 25-26		

5 **Job/Project Types** Choose one and provide specified associated information.

<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration Type 1 or Alteration Type 1 required to meet New Building requirements (28-101.4.5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration Type 2 5A, 6A-D, 8A-B, 9-10, 13C-E, 14, 20, 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Demolition 6B, 8D, 9A & 9C-D, 9K, 9M, 13D-E, 14, 21A, 22
<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration Type 3 5A, 6B-F, 8C, 9-10, 13C-E, 20, PW1A, PD1	<input type="checkbox"/> New Building 6A-E, 8F, 9A, 9C-K, 9M, 10, 12 & 13A-E, 14, 18-20, PW1A, PD1	<input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision 9A, 9D, 12A-B
<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration Type 1, OT: "No Work" 8C, 8F, 9-10 & 12, 13C-F, 14, 18-19, 22, PW1A, PD1	<input type="checkbox"/> Sign 5A, 6B-D, 9A, 9D, 22-23	<input type="checkbox"/> Condominium <input type="checkbox"/> Improved 17 SA Directive 14 acceptance requested? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

6 **Work Types** Select all that apply but no more than allowed by job and filing type. "OT" required on all NB and Alteration 1 initial applications.

6A <input type="checkbox"/> BL - Boiler PW1/C	<input type="checkbox"/> FS - Fuel Storage PW1/C	<input type="checkbox"/> PL - Plumbing PW1/B	6E <input type="checkbox"/> CC - Curb Cut 18
<input type="checkbox"/> FA - Fire Alarm	<input type="checkbox"/> FP - Fire Suppression	<input type="checkbox"/> SD - Standpipe PW1/B	<input type="checkbox"/> OT/LAN - Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> FB - Fuel Burning PW1/C	<input type="checkbox"/> MH - Mechanical	<input type="checkbox"/> SP - Sprinkler PW1/B	6F <input type="checkbox"/> OT/ANT - Antenna
6B <input type="checkbox"/> EQ - Construction Equipment 15	6C <input type="checkbox"/> OT/GC - General Construction	6D <input type="checkbox"/> OT - Other, describe:	<input type="checkbox"/> OT/BPP - Builders Pavement Plan 8D
			<input type="checkbox"/> OT/FPP - Fire Protection Plan
			<input type="checkbox"/> OT/MAR - Marquee 8E, 26B



**BRINKERHOFF AVENUE**

**EXISTING 4-STORY SCHOOL BUILDING PS160Q TO REMAIN**  
BLOCK 11842, LOT 302

**PROPOSED 4-STORY SCHOOL BUILDING ADDITION PS160Q**

**INWOOD STREET**

**GLASSBORO AVENUE**

Annotations include:  
 - PROPOSED DRY PIT FOR SPRINKLER LINE  
 - PROPOSED TURF FIELD (SEE LANDSCAPE PLANS)  
 - PROPOSED CHAIN LINK FENCE ON CONCRETE CURB  
 - PROPOSED PAINTED MARKINGS (SEE LANDSCAPE PLANS)  
 - PROPOSED ASPHALT PAVEMENT  
 - PROPOSED DRINKING FOUNTAIN (SEE MEP PLANS AND DETAILS)  
 - PROPOSED STAIRS, RAMP, AND RAILING (SEE ARCHITECTURAL PLANS)  
 - PROPOSED YARD DRAIN (TYP.)  
 - PROPOSED DIP CLEANOUT (TYP.)  
 - PROPOSED TRENCH DRAIN (TYP.)  
 - PROPOSED 6" HIGH BY 12" WIDE IRON PICKET GATE  
 - PROPOSED 4" ON-SITE CONCRETE PAVEMENT  
 - PROPOSED 4X7 SINGLE GATE  
 - PROPOSED STAIRS, RAMP, AND RAILING (SEE ARCHITECTURAL PLANS)  
 - PROPOSED 6" HIGH IRON PICKET FENCE ON CONCRETE CURB  
 - PROPOSED 4" ON-SITE CONCRETE PAVEMENT  
 - PROPOSED GAS RIG ENCLOSURE

**AREA OF ON-SITE DISTURBANCE:  
42,300 SF**

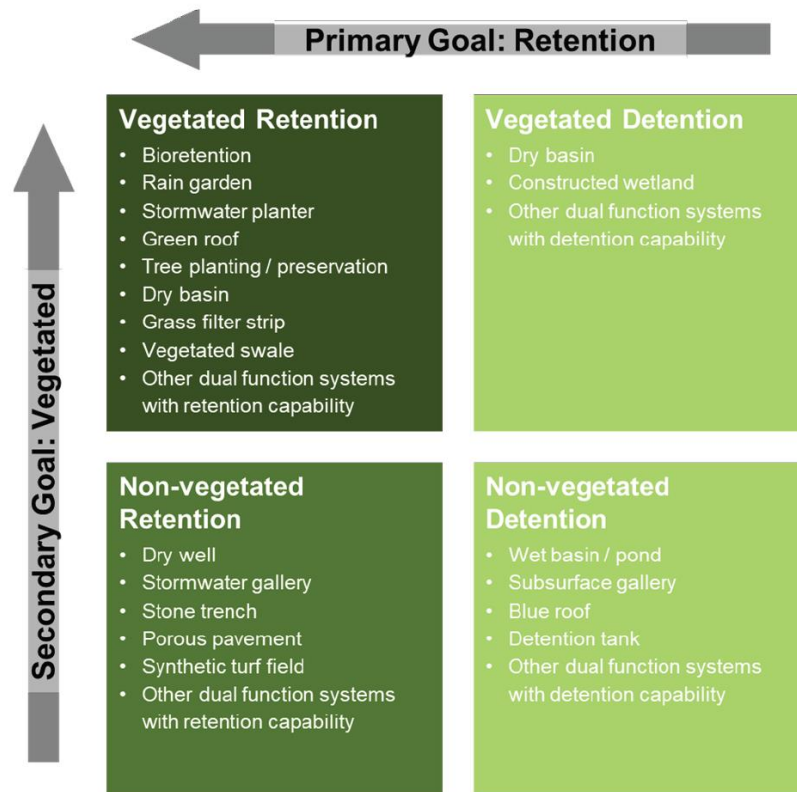
**AREA OF RIGHT-OF-WAY DISTURBANCE:  
36,500 SF**



# Pre-Development

- Consider including infiltration tests in initial due diligence investigations (Geotech & Environmental Borings)

Figure 4.2. SMP hierarchy for CSS areas.





# Design: SMP Siting

- Consider SMP siting & feasibility assessment early in design process

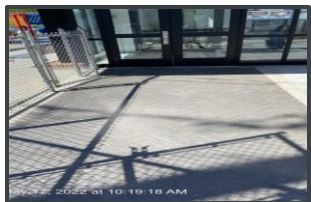
**SMP HIERARCHY CHECKLIST - CSS AREAS**

Percent of SMP volume applied<sup>a</sup>

Site constraints that limit SMP feasibility<sup>b</sup>

Tier <sup>c</sup>	Function Type <sup>d</sup>	Practice Type <sup>e</sup>	WQv	RRv	Vv	Soil	Subsurface	Hotspot	Surfaces	Space
Tier 1	Infiltration (Vegetated)	Bioretention	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
		Rain garden	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
		Stormwater planter	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
		Tree planting / preservation	SC	SC	0					
		Dry basin	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
		Grass filter strip	SC	SC	0	×	×	×	×	×
		Vegetated swale	SC	SC	0	×	×	×	×	×
	Evapotranspiration <sup>f</sup>	Rain garden	100	100	0		×		×	×
		Stormwater planter	100	100	0				×	
		Tree planting / preservation	SC	SC	0					
		Green roof	100	100	0					
Tier 2	Infiltration (Non-vegetated)	Dry well	100	100	50	×	×	×		×
		Stormwater gallery	100	100	50	×	×	×		×
		Stone trench	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
		Porous pavement	100	100	50	×	×	×		×
		Synthetic turf field	100	100	50	×	×	×	×	×
Anytime / Optional	Reuse	Rain tank	100	100	SC					
		Cistern	100	100	SC					
Tier 3	Detention <sup>g,h,i</sup>	Dry basin	100	0	100		×		×	×
		Constructed wetland	100	0	100		×		×	×
		Wet basin / pond	100	0	100		×		×	×
		Stormwater gallery	100	0	100		×			×
		Blue roof	100	0	100					
		Detention tank	100	0	100					

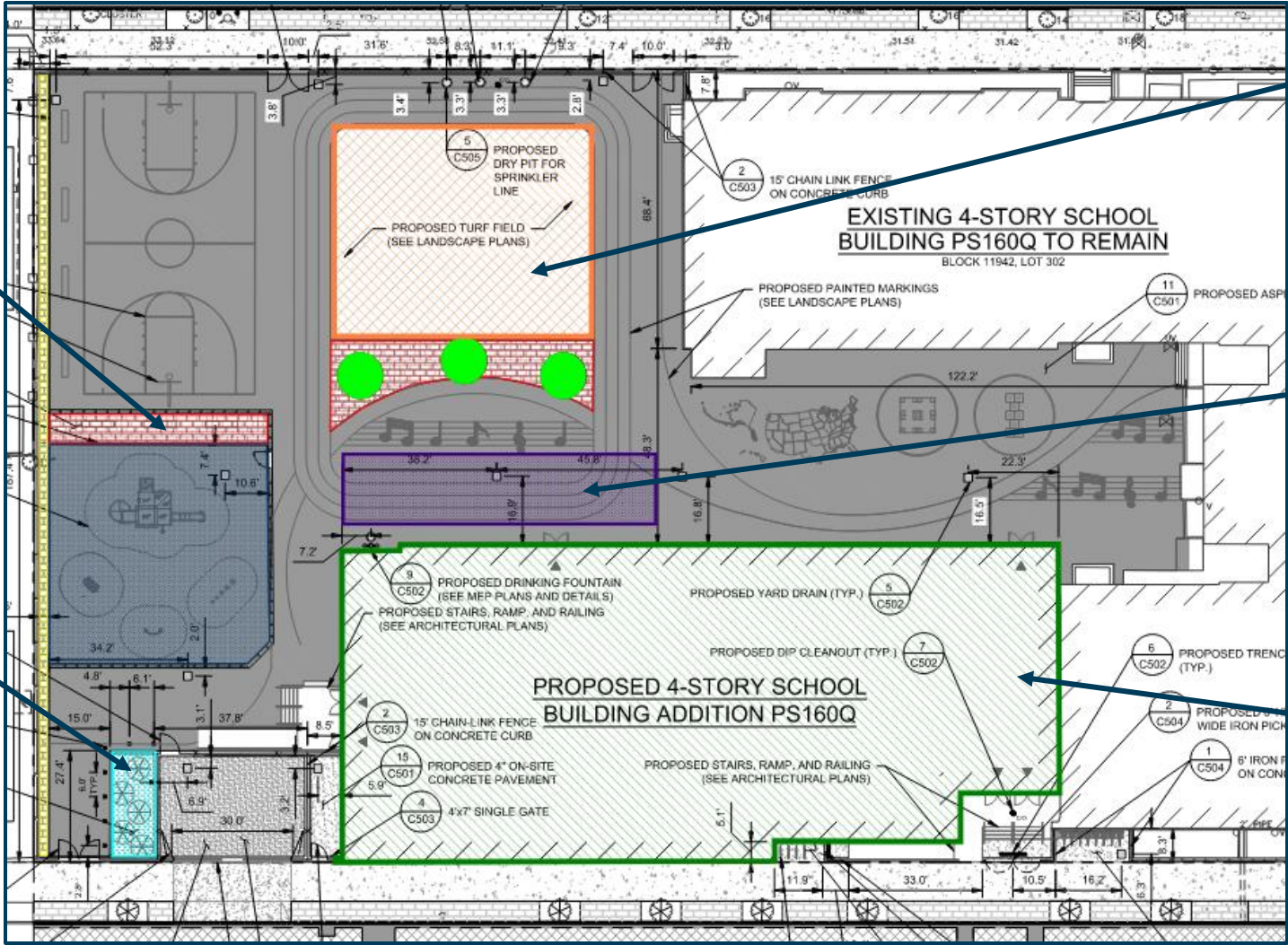
# Design: SMP Siting Case Study – PS 160Q



Pavers or Porous Pavement



Bioretention/ Rain Garden/  
Stormwater Planter



Synthetic Turf



Detention/ Retention  
Systems



Green Roof



# Design: Detention Systems

- New regulations result in larger detention volumes and larger detention systems
- Increased cost and space demands



# Permitting

- **Cost:** Increased permitting fees → \$5,000+
- **Time:** DEP SWPPP Review → 3 – 4 months per application
- **Complexity:** Site Connection Proposal → DEP BWSO  
Stormwater Construction Permit → DEP BEPA  
(Operate on Parallel Tracks)



# Construction Inspections

- Trained Contractor → Contractor → Daily
- Qualified Inspector → Engineer → Weekly
- Enforcement → DEP → Periodic



## AE Bulletin No. AE22-08

Design and Construction Innovation Management

**To:** A&E Staff and Design Consultants

**Through:** Stan Dahir  
Chief Design and Construction Innovation Officer  
Design and Construction Innovation Management

**From:** George Roussey  
Senior Director, Technical Standards & Support  
Design and Construction Innovation Management

**Date:** August 8, 2022

**Subject:** **Qualified Inspector for Projects with a SWPPP**

Inspection duties for the verification of the implementation of all control measures outlined in an approved SWPPP application by NYS DEC and/or NYCDEP must be carried out by a Qualified Inspector. As per an agreement between CM and A&E, the Qualified Inspector is to be a member of the site-civil firm that prepared the SWPPP application to insure that all requirements arising from an approved SWPPP are met. The frequency of these on-site inspections will vary over the duration and the types of construction activities; but they will, at first, be required on a weekly or bi-weekly basis at the on-set of work related to the SWPPP. The reports of such inspections must be kept at the site and retained for auditing by those approving agencies and the dates of such inspections available for entering into DEP's portal.

# Contractor Responsibilities

- Erosion & Sediment Control Maintenance
- Procedure for obtaining permits with NYC DEP
- S01010 Specification

## 1.22 MS4 REQUIREMENTS

- A. This project is in the MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) area. The Contractor must comply with the relevant requirements of Chapter 7 of the NYCDEP Stormwater Management Program Plan (addresses Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping [PPGH] operations) and, if applicable, Storm Water Control Measures and Sedimentation and Erosion Control for projects with land disturbance. Reference material can be found on both the NYCSCA and NYCDEP websites. The Contractor is to provide certification prior to beginning the work that it has read and will follow the applicable MS4 Permit requirements for the project (to prevent discharges to the storm system or to waterways of deleterious materials) and after construction provide a Certification of Deliverables that it has followed the requirements.
- B. Contractor Certification Prior to Permit

### General Certification

PROJECT \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

The Contractor certifies that throughout the term of the Contract referenced above, the Contractor shall perform all Services/Work in compliance with all applicable requirements of the NYC MS4 Permit. A copy of the permit is available at [spdes-ms4-permit.pdf](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/ms4/spdes-ms4-permit.pdf). (<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/ms4/spdes-ms4-permit.pdf>).

The Contractor further shall ensure that a separate certification ("Certification of Deliverable") is provided at completion of the work that lists the Contract Deliverable identified by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") as requiring such certification, including, but not limited to, the following:

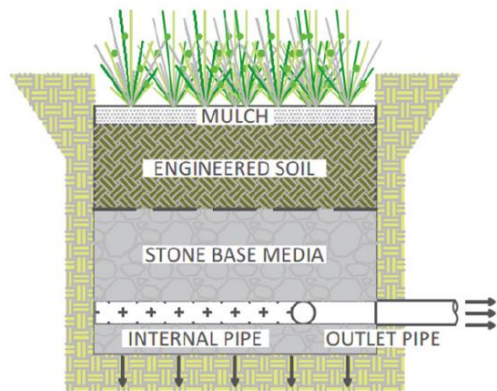


# Post Construction

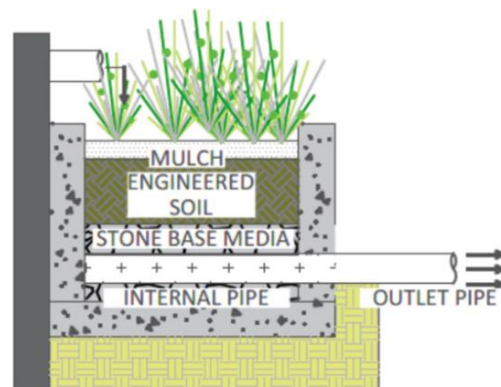
- DEP Stormwater Maintenance Permit is needed to close Stormwater Construction Permit
- On-going maintenances responsibilities, costs and permit compliance reporting to be assumed by DOE
- Legal agreements and Easements necessary

# Future Planning: Developing Standards

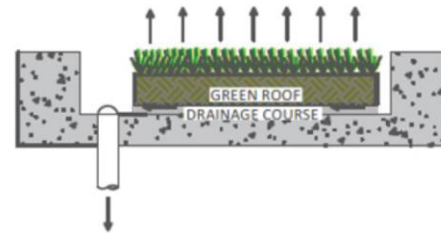
- Consider blending DEP requirements with SCA standards to provide designers a menu of SMPs to choose from
- Can help to mitigate consultant cost increase associated with USWR compliance



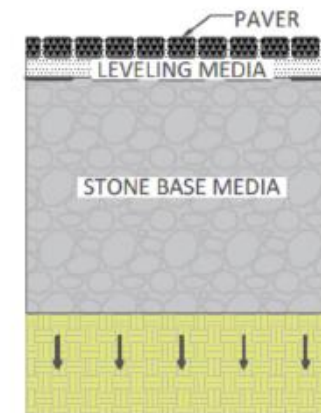
**Bioretention**



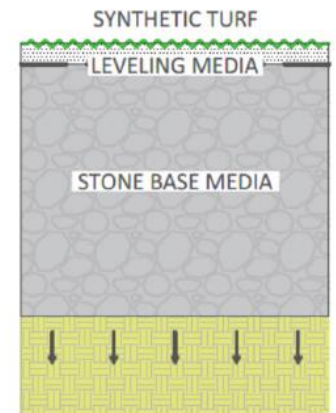
**Stormwater Planter**



**Green Roof**



**Porous Pavement**



**Synthetic Turf Field**



An aerial, semi-transparent view of a school building complex. The building is a large, multi-story structure with many windows. In front of the building is a fenced-in playground with various equipment. To the left of the playground is a grassy area with some trees. To the right is a street with a crosswalk and a few cars. The background shows more trees and a hillside.

# Summary & Next Steps

# Summary: Project Questions to Ask

- What is total earth disturbance associated with a project? (*Include both on and off-site areas*)
- What is the net increase in the impervious area?
- For active projects, has the DOB/BCC construction document approval application been submitted? If so, when? Before or After 2/15/22?
- Combined or Separate sewer?
- Do soils support infiltration?



# Next Steps: Contact

**AKRF can provide support on questions as they arise:**

Nicole Clarke, Technical Director

[nclarke@akrf.com](mailto:nclarke@akrf.com)

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Justin Seeney, Vice President

[jseeney@akrf.com](mailto:jseeney@akrf.com)

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Timothy Lavin, Senior Technical Director

[tlavin@akrf.com](mailto:tlavin@akrf.com)



Questions?