Local Program Report to the SCC

Town of Apex

The Town of Apex delegated Local Program (Established 1996) was reviewed December 21, 2010. Currently a staff of three provides 0.75 full-time equivalents to sediment and erosion control. There were approximately 50 active projects that are greater than one acre. The staff has approved 19 projects since last year. The staff conducted 600 inspections since last year. Eight Notices of Violations were issues with two Civil Penalties assessed and one Stop Work Order issued.

Three projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Two of the sites were not in compliance with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act.

A 3.9 acre commercial site was noncompliant. The construction entrance, inlet protection and silt fence were inadequate. Slopes needed groundcover. The shear gate (sliding gate valve) in the basin was open and staff recommended a gravel donut around the opening as an additional measure. There were no visible signs of off-site sedimentation and the outfall was clean.

A 12 acre residential site was noncompliant. The construction entrance and inlet protection were inadequate. Groundcover was needed on bare areas.

The Town is transitioning from the loss of staff. The full time position is vacant due to retirement. Current staff is making great strides to inspect sites and administer the Local Ordinance and the SPCA of 1973. The Town has restructured its program and is laying the foundation for a solid program by establishing priority parameters. Foreclosure and bankrupt sites have been a challenge for the Local Program.

Issues that were noted in the last formal review such as inspection reports (consistency and quality) in the files, sending Letters of Approval and requiring detailed construction sequences seem to be no longer an issue. General documentation was good. The Local Program does a great job of submitting monthly reports.

The Local Program would benefit greatly by filling the full-time position. The addition of a staff position will be extremely beneficial to the Local Program given the current workload and the additional duties of the enforcing of Jordan Lake. The structure is in place that with a full-time position the Local Program will be able to more effectively administer and enforce the Local Ordinance and the SPCA of 1973.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.

Town of Southern Pines

The Town of Southern Pines (Established 1994) Local Program was reviewed December 22, 2010. Currently a staff of four contributes two full-time equivalents to sediment and erosion control. The staff had approximately 10 active projects. The staff conducted 798 inspections. The local program had approved 10 plans and disapproved 14 plans last year. There had been one Notice of Violation issued with no Civil Penalties assessed. No Stop Work Orders were issued. The Town of Southern Pines Local Program issues Notices of Noncompliance to get noncompliant sites into compliance and has the ability to stop all inspections until sites are in compliance.

Three projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. One site was noncompliant with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. A 5.75-acre commercial site was out of compliance. Staff had recently inspected the site, noted it was noncompliant and listed corrective actions for completion.

The Town has been fortunate as it hasn't had any sites to go into foreclosure or bankruptcy. Staff mentioned that the workload was steady. General documentation was good. Plan reviews were detailed. The Town does a great job with keeping copies of their inspection reports in the files and submitting monthly reports.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.