22.6 Downstream Capacity and Offsite Flows

Downstream capacity and offsite flows are the most important elements of a successful drainage report/plan. The engineer is expected to research adjacent projects, as-built storm drain construction plans and Drainage Master Plans to correctly identify downstream capacity. See the Valley Drainage Criteria section if the project is in the valley.

The engineer is also expected to perform a site visit, review topography and review adjacent drainage reports/plans to accurately identify offsite flows.

22.6.1 The drainage report/plan shall accurately state allowable downstream capacity. In the case, where the project is a small redevelopment project (less than 0.5 acres) and not in the valley, proposed flows not to exceed historic flows is most likely acceptable. Some small sites may have a history in which proposed flows may have to be less than historic flows.

22.6.2 The drainage report/plan is to show the location and quantify offsite flows. In general, sites are to except offsite flows and convey them safely to an acceptable outfall. A site may not have to accept offsite flows if a previously approved plan shows the outfall adjacent to the site and flows can be safely conveyed to an acceptable outfall.

22.6.3 If the only reasonable outfall for a proposed development is a historic flow path through an adjacent private property, the historic flow characteristics and path must be maintained.