

**BOROUGH OF PALMYRA**  
**ORDINANCE 2024-3**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PALMYRA REQUIRING THE  
RETROFITTING OF EXISTING PRIVATE STORM DRAIN INLETS**

Be it Ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey as follow:

**A new Chapter 236A shall be added to the Code of the Borough of Palmyra and shall be titled “Regulations Pertaining to the Retrofitting of Existing Private Storm Drain Inlets**

**SECTION I. Purpose:**

An ordinance requiring the retrofitting of existing storm drain inlets which are in direct contact with repaving, repairing, reconstruction, or resurfacing or alterations of facilities on private property, to prevent the discharge of solids and floatables (such as plastic bottles, cans, food wrappers and other litter) to the municipal separate storm sewer system(s) operated by **Borough of Palmyra** to protect the environment, public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply. Installation of all new storm drain inlets must include a catch basin or other BMP designed for solids collection in areas which drain to surface waters and that do not have any other downstream BMPS prior to the surface water discharge.

**SECTION II. Definitions:**

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Chapter clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When consistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- A. “Municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4)” means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) that is owned or operated by **Borough of Palmyra** or other public body, and is designed and used for collecting and conveying stormwater.

NOTE: In municipalities with combined sewer systems, add the following: “MS4s do not include

combined sewer systems, which are sewer systems that are designed to carry sanitary sewage at all times and to collect and transport stormwater from streets and other sources.”

- B. “Person” means any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.
- C. “Storm drain inlet” means the point of entry into the storm sewer system.

**SECTION III. Regulated Activities:**

- A. No person in control of private property (except a residential lot with one single family house) shall authorize the repaving, repairing (excluding the repair of individual potholes), resurfacing (including top coating or chip sealing with asphalt emulsion or a thin base of hot bitumen), reconstructing or altering any surface that is in direct contact with an existing storm drain inlet on that property unless the storm drain inlet either:
  - 1. Already meets the design standard below to control passage of solid and floatable materials; or
  - 2. Is retrofitted or replaced to meet the standard in Section IV below prior to the completion of the project.
- B. The below design standard applies to the following types of storm-drain inlet retrofit projects unless a more stringent standard is specified by the municipality’s Stormwater Control Ordinance:
  - 1. Privately-owned or operated storm drain inlets (e.g., condominium association) must be retrofitted where the storm drains are:
    - a. In direct contact with any repaving, repairing (excluding individual pothole repair), or resurfacing (including top coating or chip sealing with asphalt emulsion or a thin base of hot bitumen); or
    - b. In direct contact with any reconstruction or alteration of facilities. This does not include single family homes.
- C. Grates in pavement or other ground surfaces shall meet either of the following standards:
  - 1. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) bicycle safe grate standards described in Chapter 2.4 of the NJDOT Bicycle Compatible Roadways and Bikeways Planning

and Design Guidelines (see [www.state.nj.us/transportation/about/publicat/pdf/BikeComp/introtofac.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/about/publicat/pdf/BikeComp/introtofac.pdf)); or

2. A grate where each individual clear space in that grate has an area of no more than seven (7.0) square inches or is not greater than 0.5 inches across the smallest dimension. Note that the Residential Site Improvement Standards at N.J.A.C. 5:21 include requirements for bicycle safe grates.
  - a. Examples of grates subject to this standard include grates in grate inlets; the grate portion (non curb opening portion) of combination inlets; grates on storm sewer manholes; ditch grates; trench grates; and grates of spacer bars in slotted drains. Examples of ground surfaces include surfaces of roads, (including bridges), driveways, parking areas, bikeways, plazas, sidewalks, lawns, fields, open channels, and stormwater basin floors used to collect stormwater from the surface into a storm drain or surface water body.
  - b. For curb-openings inlets, including curb-opening inlets in combination inlets, the clear space in the curb opening, or each individual clear space if the curb opening has two or more clear spaces, shall have an area of no more than seven (7.0) square inches or be no greater than two (2.0) inches across the smallest dimension.

#### **SECTION IV. Exemptions:**

The following exemptions from the design standard apply:

- A. Where each individual clear space in the curb opening in existing curb-opening inlets does not have an area of more than nine (9.0) square inches;
- B. Where the review agency determines that the standards would cause inadequate hydraulic performance that could not practicably be overcome by using additional or larger storm drain inlets;
- C. Where flows from the water quality design storm as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:8 are conveyed through any device (e.g., manufactured treatment device, or a catch basin hood) that is designed, at a minimum, to prevent delivery of all solid and floatable materials that could not pass through one of the following:
  1. A rectangular space four and five-eighths inches long and one and one-half inches wide; or
  2. A bar screen having a bar spacing of 0.5 inches;
    - a. Note that these exemptions do not authorize any infringement of requirements in the Residential Site Improvement Standards for bicycle safe grates in new residential development (N.J.A.C. 5:21-4.18(b)2 and 7.4(b)1).

- D. Where flows are conveyed through a trash rack that has parallel bars with one inch (1”) spacing between the bars, to the elevation of the water quality design storm as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:8; or
- E. Where the Department determines, pursuant to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:4-7.2(c), that action to meet the standard is an undertaking that constitutes an encroachment or will damage or destroy the New Jersey Register listed historic property.

**SECTION V. Enforcement:**

This ordinance shall be enforced by the **Police Department and/or other Municipal Officials of the Borough of Palmyra**

**SECTION VI. Violations and Penalties:**

Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 for each storm drain inlet that is not retrofitted to meet the design standard.

**SECTION VII. Severability:**

Each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this Ordinance is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase, and the finding or holding of any such portion of this Ordinance to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

**SECTION VIII. Effective Date:**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and any publication as may be required by law.

Approved for introduction at the Regular Council meeting of the Borough of Palmyra Mayor and Council on **February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Public Notice of the second reading and public hearing was published in the Burlington County Times on **February 25, 2024**. Public Notice and second reading will be held **March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

| RECORDED VOTE | MOTION | SECOND | INFAVOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| DR. CLOUD     |        | X      | X       |         |         |        |
| MS. LATMORE   |        |        |         |         |         | X      |
| MR. LIEBE     |        |        |         |         |         | X      |
| MRS. MCCANN   |        |        | X       |         |         |        |
| MS. O'CONNOR  |        |        | X       |         |         |        |

|                           |   |  |   |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| MR. HOWARD                | X |  | X |  |  |  |
| MAYOR GINA<br>RAGOMO TAIT |   |  |   |  |  |  |

Approved for final adoption at the regular meeting of the Borough of Palmyra Mayor and Council on **March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024** after a public hearing was held. Public Notice was given for the public hearing by being published in the Burlington County Times on February 25, 2024

| RECORDED VOTE             | MOTION | SECOND | INFAVOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| DR. CLOUD                 |        |        |         |         |         | X      |
| MS. LATIMORE              |        |        | X       |         |         |        |
| MR. LIEBE                 |        |        |         |         |         | X      |
| MRS. MCCANN               | X      |        | X       |         |         |        |
| MS. O'CONNOR              |        |        | X       |         |         |        |
| PRESIDENT<br>HOWARD       | X      |        | X       |         |         |        |
| MAYOR GINA<br>RAGOMO TAIT |        |        |         |         |         |        |

DATE OF FINAL PUBLICATION: **March 22, 2024**

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doretha R. Jackson  
Municipal Clerk

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Gina Ragomo Tait  
Mayor