

# Report to the Environmental Review Commission

## Pursuant to S.L. 2014-120, Sec. 29 REFORM AGENCY REVIEW OF ENGINEERING WORK

January 14, 2015

Name of Local Government Unit: City of Gastonia

Approved/delegated program subject to reporting requirements:

☐ Sedimentation/erosion control

☐ Stormwater

☒ Water/sewer

☐ Cross-connection

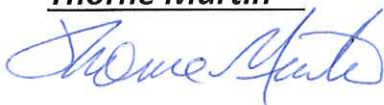
☐ 401 certifications

☐ Other

City of Gastonia

Thorne Martin

1/6/15



1/6/15

Submit this report electronically to Mariah Matheson, Commission Assistant, Environmental Review  
Commission, at [Mariah.Matheson@ncleg.net](mailto:Mariah.Matheson@ncleg.net).

**Name of local government unit: City of Gastonia, NC**

*\*\*Please attach any written procedures that may have been developed to implement the provisions of this law.\*\**

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program implemented procedures whereby plan reviewers distinguish between plan changes that are required by statutory or other legal authority and those that the reviewer offers as suggestions for improvement. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(b)(1) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program identifies the statutory or regulatory authority for any revisions or requests for additional information that are required by the program in order to grant the requested plan permit, approval, or license. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(b)(2) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program implemented procedures for local governments to follow when (1) a Professional Engineer submits a sealed design or practice that is not in the local government's guidance, manuals, or standard operating procedures, and (2) the submitting Professional Engineer requests additional internal review of that design or practice. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(c)(1) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program established a procedure whereby the plan reviewer's supervisor OR the approving/delegating state agency can provide further review and oversight of these design details. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(c)(1) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program either employs a Professional Engineer who can conduct further review of these innovative designs, or maintains a list of consulting Professional Engineers of the local government unit's choice that may conduct this review, if requested by and paid for by the submitting Professional Engineer. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(c)(1) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program established an informal internal process to address disputes when a plan reviewer identifies a change to the plans as being "required" under a specific, identified legal authority. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(c)(2) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program discontinued use of the word "engineer" in the job titles of all program employees whose responsibilities include review of plans in affected programs, *unless* those employees hold Professional Engineer licenses. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(h) for further details about this requirement.

**Name of local government unit:** City of Gastonia, NC

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program reviewed the titles of all employees conducting plan reviews for this program. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(h)(1) for further details about this requirement.

☒ Check to indicate that this plan review program proposed revisions to those employees' job titles in order to eliminate use of the word "engineer" when publicly identifying those employees, if those employees do not hold Professional Engineer licenses. Refer to S.L. 2014-120, Section 29.(h)(2) for further details about this requirement.

**Additional information:** See Attached

# **STATE LAW 2014-120 - Section 29 REFORM**

**Review comments that are “Suggestions or Recommendations” will be noted as “Suggestions or Recommendations”.**

**Review comments will include supporting ordinance, specification, detail, or policy.**

## **Innovative Designs**

The procedure for an internal review for an “Innovative Design” is:

When a request is made to the supervising PE for an additional internal review of an “Innovative Design”, an initial meeting will be scheduled between the supervising PE and the designer. The meeting objective is to give the designer an opportunity to explain the “Innovative Design”. The supervising PE will have 30 days to research the request and schedule a final meeting with the designer to discuss the cities decision on the “Innovative Design”. If the “Innovative Design” is acceptable to the City of Gastonia and at the designer request, the City of Gastonia will provide a PE to review the construction drawings and specifications of the “Innovative Design”.

## **Disputes involving changes that are “Required”**

The procedure for requesting a meeting to discuss disputes involving changes that are “Required” is:

The supervising PE will schedule a meeting with the designer to discuss the specific concern of a “Requirement”. The supervisor will provide the designer feedback on the authority of the “Requirement”.

**To request a meeting please contact Thorne Martin, Assistant City Engineer at 704-866-6895.**



**Thorne A. Martin, PE**

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