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Title: Resolution calling on the Zoning and Development Review Division of the Department of City Planning of the City of Pittsburgh to establish “environmental overlap zones” based on the results of the Wet Weather Plan.

Sponsors: Corey O'Connor, Deborah L. Gross

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5/20/2015	1	Standing Committee	AFFIRMATIVELY RECOMMENDED	
5/12/2015	1	City Council	Read and referred	

SPONSORED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS DEBORAH L. GROSS AND COREY O’CONNOR

Resolution calling on the Zoning and Development Review Division of the Department of City Planning of the City of Pittsburgh to establish “environmental overlap zones” based on the results of the Wet Weather Plan.

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh has the authority to create overlay zoning districts, including environmental overlay zones, as per Article III of the Pittsburgh Zoning Code;

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh is serviced by the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority, which became party to a consent decree, as per standards outlined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Allegheny County Health Department, in 2008; and

WHEREAS, said consent decree requires the development of a Wet Weather Plan that identifies wastewater infrastructure needs through the year 2046, including areas most in need of green infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, § 265.01, section (w), subsections (1) through (26) of the City of Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances enumerate all “targeted growth zones,” and sections (b) and (c) define the conditions for areas to qualify as “deteriorated areas” or “deteriorated neighborhoods,” respective; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh currently provides tax abatement incentives for areas that meet the criteria

of “targeted growth zones,” “deteriorated areas” or “deteriorated neighborhoods” designations;

WHEREAS, while still providing tax abatements for developments within those aforementioned areas, the City of Pittsburgh should provide similar tax abatement incentives for development utilizing green infrastructure in areas where the Wet Weather Plan deems necessary that fall within the preexisting boundaries of “targeted growth zones,” “deteriorated areas” or “deteriorated neighborhoods.”

Be it therefore resolved by the Council of the City of Pittsburgh as follows:

That upon the publication of the Wet Weather Plan, the Zoning and Development Review Division of the Department of City Planning of the City of Pittsburgh shall assess the results to:

- (a). Determine any overlapping areas, herein referred to as “environmental overlap zones,” between areas identified by the Wet Weather Plan as most in need of green infrastructure and areas identified in § 265.01, section (w), subsections (1) through (26) of the City of Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances as “targeted growth zones” or “deteriorated areas” or “deteriorated neighborhoods,” as defined in § 265.01, sections (b) and (c), respectively; and
- (b). Produce a new classification for these environmental overlap zones that designates as a subset of either “targeted growth zones,” “deteriorated areas” or “deteriorated neighborhoods,” so as allow the environmental overlap zones to remain eligible for tax abatements permissible under the Local Economic Recovery Tax Act (LERTA).