6.2.6. Pre-Subdivision Site Grading

(A) **Pre-Subdivision Site Grading Allowed.** Pre-subdivision site grading may occur after issuance of a construction permit by the ECM Administrator in accordance with this Section and the requirements of the ECM. Approval and issuance of the construction permit and ESQCP for pre-subdivision site grading does not guarantee or create a right, or right of expectation that the BoCC will approve the preliminary plan or final plat for the subject property. Approval of pre-subdivision site grading does not guarantee that additional grading will not be required based on final grading plans and construction drawing approvals.

(B) **Pre-Subdivision Site Grading Requirements.** A construction permit for pre-subdivision site grading will only be issued if the following requirements are met, in addition to the requirements in the ECM:

(1) **PCD Director and ECM Administrator Approval Required.** Issuance of a construction permit for pre-subdivision site grading requires prior approval of the PCD Director and ECM Administrator of the pre-subdivision site grading plan. Approval of the pre-subdivision site grading plan shall include authorization for the ECM Administrator to accept the construction surety required by the ECM. Any request for approval of pre-subdivision site grading which includes the installation of wet utilities shall require prior approval by the BoCC.

(2) **Grading to Conform to this Code and ECM.** Pre-subdivision site grading shall conform to the grading and erosion and sediment control requirements of this Code and the ECM, except as specifically modified by this Section.

(3) **ESQCP Required Prior to Issuance of a Construction Permit.** The ECM Administrator shall issue an ESQCP in accordance with the requirements of the ECM prior to the issuance of a construction permit for pre-subdivision site grading. A construction permit for pre-subdivision site grading shall meet all requirements of the ECM.

(4) **Required Drainage Report and Construction Drawings.** Detailed engineering information meeting the requirements of the ECM will be required when stormwater facilities are required to be constructed as part of the pre-subdivision site grading. A drainage report meeting the requirements of the ECM for a final drainage report shall be provided to the ECM Administrator and shall be approved prior to issuance of a construction permit. Approval of construction documents for all stormwater facilities to be constructed as part of the pre-subdivision site grading shall be obtained concurrent with approval of the drainage report. The construction documents shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the ECM Administrator that no adverse impact will occur to any offsite property or drainageway, including property downstream of the activity.

(5) **Acknowledgement Form Required.** A Pre-Subdivision Site Grading Acknowledgment and Right of Access Form shall be completed and submitted with the construction permit application. The Pre-Subdivision Site Grading Acknowledgment Form acknowledges that owner signatory will proceed to perform grading under the construction permit and ESQCP at owner signatory's sole risk. The construction permit shall be personal to the property owner and shall not run with the land. Any change in property ownership prior to stabilization of the site requires the new owner to execute their own Pre-Subdivision Site Grading Acknowledgement and Right of Access Form, obtain a separate Construction Permit, and receive approval of an updated Financial Assurance Estimate and provide the associated surety.

(6) **Surety Required.** Construction and stormwater surety for the benefit of the BoCC for the cost of the erosion control measures and noxious weed management plan requirements shall be provided in conformance with this Code and the ECM. Surety for pre-subdivision site grading shall be in the form of cash, Certified or Cashier's Check, or letter of credit, unless another form is approved by the ECM Administrator.

(7) **Compliance with State and Federal Requirements.** The applicant is responsible to obtain the necessary permits and comply with all other applicable federal, State, or local rules and regulations that may be required prior to commencing pre-subdivision site grading, including, but not limited to, Section 404 permits, floodplain development permits, dust permits, permits under the federal Clean Water Act, and Section 7 or Section 10 permits under the Endangered Species Act from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

(8) **Financial Assurance Combined with Subdivision Construction Financial Assurance.** The construction and stormwater Financial Assurance for pre-subdivision site grading may be consolidated with the construction Financial Assurance for the common subdivision and public improvements when a final plat is approved by the BoCC and upon issuance of an updated construction permit.

(9) **Release of Financial Assurance.** Construction and stormwater Financial Assurance shall be released in full or in part in accordance with procedures set forth in the ECM.