

Make Your Proposal Irresistible!

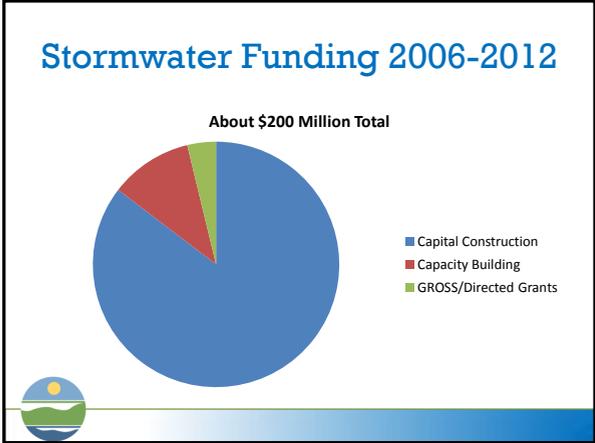
Developing Stormwater Projects that Grantors Want to Fund

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Grants of Regional or Statewide Significance
Capacity Building
Capital Construction

PREVIOUS STORMWATER GRANT PROGRAMS



Grants of Regional or Statewide Significance (GROSS)

- Competitive
- Intended to support programs that cross jurisdictional boundaries
- Available to Phase I and II Permittees
- Supported activities projects



Capacity Grants

- Non- competitive
- Intended to help permittees meet permit requirements
- If permittees are out of compliance the money needs to be used to address that issue first
- Could not be used to build facilities



Capital Construction Grants

- Competitive
- Guidelines change slightly from budget to budget but generally they:
 - Provide support to build facilities projects
 - Support retrofit for existing development
 - Do not support activities like operation and maintenance or education and outreach
 - Can fund design/construct projects



Challenges

- Unpredictable
- Major scope changes between project application and completed project
- Projects routinely over or under budget
- Projects are not completed on schedule
- Hard to track accomplishments



Building a Long Term Stormwater Funding Program

2013 Stormwater Improvements Legislation

- \$15 Million Project Planning Grants
- \$66 Million Competitive Grants
- \$150K to develop a long term funding program



15 Million for Project-Specific Planning and Design

- Prepares projects to compete for the \$66M
- Only available to phase I or II cities or counties
- Must include LID projects
- Can also fund planning of non-LID projects that provide high water quality and ecologic benefits



\$66 Million for a Competitive Grant Program

- Only cities and counties may apply
- Projects must provide a high water quality or ecologic benefit
- Must address existing development
- LID projects receive preference



\$150K to Create an On-Going, Comprehensive, Statewide Stormwater Financial Assistance Program

- Allows for broader range of applicants
- May fund a broader range of projects
- Requires collaboration with stakeholders to develop funding criteria
- Must be included in the existing Combined Water Quality Funding program

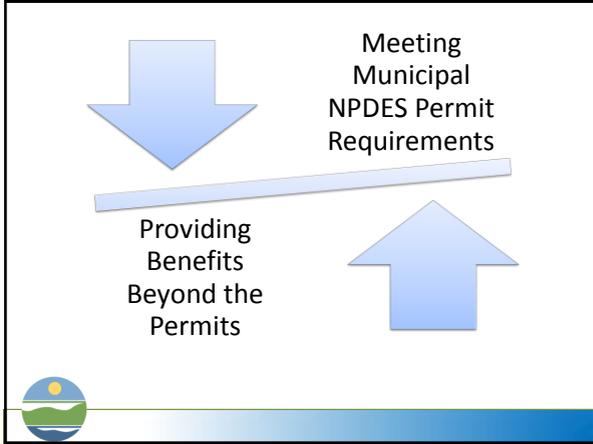


Where did these Sideboards Come from?

WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

AWC ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITIES

Washington State Association of Counties



Funding Program Work Group

- Represent a wide variety of interests across Washington
- Asked to consider their own perspectives and represent the interests of similar agencies/jurisdictions
- Provide constructive project-level insight, advice and guidance
- Provide comments on administrative draft documents

Challenge

Getting Municipalities, Environmental Advocates and Ecology all speaking the same language.

Challenge

Applicants are not starting from the same place with the same resources.

Challenge

Assessing and Tracking Water Quality Benefits

Developing the Program in Stages Allows us to Practice Adaptive Management




Changes to the 2014 FY16 Program

- Stormwater added to the combined funding program
- Expanded Applicant Eligibility
- Project-Specific Planning Grants
- Reduced match for hardship communities
- Increased per-project maximum
- Some activities will be eligible




On-going Program

- Using lessons learned from the 2013 -15 program the work group will:
 - Discuss expanding project eligibility
 - Review guidelines to see if changes resulted in better applications
 - Work on developing a planning-level cost/benefit factor
 - Explore ways to support long term funding



Stormwater Financial Assistance Program

Project Types and Eligibility



Design Construct
Construction Only

FACILITY PROJECTS



Facility Projects May Include:

- Treatment BMPs
- Flow Control BMPs
- Decant Facilities



To be considered for Grant dollars your facility project must:

Be Proposed by a City or County

- Other agencies may be partners, but the city or county will be the recipient of the funds and will be responsible for deliverables.

Provide a High Level of WQ Benefit

- Quantify your benefits where possible
- Flood Control and Fish Passage do provide benefit, but are not the focus of this grant program therefore they are ineligible for SFY2016.

Use Proven Technologies

- Eastern or Western SWMM
- Equivalent ECOLOGY-approved Stormwater Management manual as listed in Appendix 10 of the Phase I Municipal NPDES permit
- TAPE GULD Technologies

Treat Runoff from Existing Development

- Retrofit only - Not required to treat the volume/flow rates for new/re-development standards
- In a project that triggers new/re-development criteria, grant funds may pay for the part of the BMP that is treating water from existing surfaces.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Site is located in an Undisturbed Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Site is developed but the area is being changed significantly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Site is developed and will remain unchanged
New Development 	Re-development 	Retrofit 

Combination Projects will be pro-rated/partially eligible

Design Only
FACILITIES

Project-Specific Planning and Design Grants

- Grant funds are only available to Phase I and II Permittees
- Maximum Grant Award \$250K
- Must include "Low Impact Development" to receive grant funds



ACTIVITIES PROJECTS

Eligible Activities Projects

- Very limited
- Must show a direct water quality benefit
- Must be above and beyond permit requirements



Examples may include:

- Inspections of privately owned stormwater treatment facilities installed prior to NPDES permitting
- Purchase and operation of high efficiency sweepers
- Legacy pollutant identification, tracing, and removal



These Activities are Not SFAP Eligible



- Ed and Outreach
- Monitoring
- Planning
- Inventories
- IDDE



Maximum Grant Award
Match
Hardship

FUNDING PROVISIONS

Maximum SFAP Award

- \$5M per community
- SFAP Project- Specific Planning Grants count towards maximum award
- Max does not include funding awarded from other programs



SFAP Grant Match Requirements

- 25% Cash Match Required for SFAP Grants
- Match requirement for Hardship Communities 15%



Hardship

- Population less than 25,000
- Mean Household Income (MHI) less than 80% state (MHI)
- Required match reduced to 15% of grant award



SRF
Centennial

OTHER RESOURCES FOR STORMWATER PROJECTS

State Revolving Fund

- Able to fund most Projects and Activities
- LID projects eligible for Green Project Reserve
- Can be used to meet match requirements
- Can't double dip incentives – not eligible for forgivable principal if match has been reduced



319/Centennial

- Available for projects that are not required as part of a permit
- Can fund activities



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



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THINKING LIKE A REVIEWER

What is the Purpose of Ecology's Water Quality Funding Program?



WAC and Legislative Provisions

- Fund high priority water quality projects.
- Fund projects that provide a high level of water quality benefit.



Who Looks at My Application?



Reviewers

- Multiple reviewers score each project.
- Chosen based on local knowledge and/or general stormwater knowledge.
- May ask other Ecology staff to help clarify specific points.
 - TMDL staff
 - NPDES staff
 - Grant project managers.



What is a Reviewer Supposed to Do?

Help the state spend wisely by finding:

- the projects provide the best water quality improvements for the dollars spent.
- the projects that are most likely to be successfully completed.



Where do they get this information?

- **The Application**
- The Engineering Review
- Other Staff
- Their Own Experience



What Happens When Reviewers Don't Agree?

- Yes- it happens.
- Reviewers meet as a team prior to the close of the application period.
- The two primary reviewers discuss/debate.
- A third reviewer may be called in.



Remember:

Project Reviewers



Project Managers



Crafting your Application

WHAT DO HIGH-SCORING PROJECTS HAVE IN COMMON?

The Budget Passes the Smell Test

- Could you justify the cost to an auditor?
- Is the bulk of the money being spent on the water quality improvements?



They Provide for Long-Term Success

- Show a full understanding of Long-term maintenance requirements.
- Specify how those maintenance needs will be met.



They Don't Miss Out on Easy Points

- Past Performance
 - All quarterly reports turned in.
 - No outstanding deliverables.
- Answer all the questions – some are repetitive - it is ok to repeat information.



They Take Full Advantage of Available Resources

- Guidelines
- User Guide
- Applicant Workshops
- Stormwater Project Application Instructions
- Reviewer notes
- **Ecology Grant Program Staff**



QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU!