

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 8, 2014

Division: Resources Policy and Planning

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TOPIC: Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 (Section 319) Grant - Administered by the Washington Department of Ecology

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Clean Water Commission is researching the barriers and opportunities associated with public private partnerships to implement the Storm Water Association Multiuse Project (SWAMP) concept. The principal aspect of this concept is to construct a new multiuse regional stormwater facility that captures and treats stormwater runoff rather than having each jurisdiction or developer address this issue with several smaller stormwater facilities within the same vicinity.

Turning this concept into reality will likely require seed money from sources such as governmental grants, the *Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant*.

Clark County can apply for this grant during the fall-winter 2014; grant-related activities would not occur until the summer 2016. Local matching funds may consist of perhaps, interlocal contributions and/or in-kind contributions.

BACKGROUND

Congress established Section 319 as part of the Clean Water Act amendments of 1987 to address nonpoint sources of water pollutions. The U.S. EPA (EPA) offers an annual grant to Washington State to implement its plan to control nonpoint sources of pollution, the Washington's Water Quality Management Plan and to Nonpoint Sources of Pollution (Table 1). The grant from EPA requires a 40 percent state match, and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) provides this match through Centennial grants for nonpoint source pollution control projects.

Section 319 provides grants for a variety of activity project that address nonpoint sources of pollution, including watershed planning, implementation of best management practices (BMPs), water quality monitoring, outreach and education. Projects that implement BMPs are required to collect and report data to estimated load reductions of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediments, Ecology must report the reductions to EPA annually. Eligible applicants include public bodies of in addition to not-for-profit groups that are not eligible for other water quality funding programs administered by Ecology.

There are no specific state laws or rules for Section 319, but Ecology uses federal laws, rules, and guidelines and Centennial grant laws and rules to steer to the program.

Table 1. Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant –Administered by the Washington Department of Ecology

Annual Funding Amount per Governmental Entity: \$250,000 or less	
Section 319 Match Required:	State Match: 75%; Local Match: 25% (e.g. Interlocal Contribution and/or In-kind Contribution) ¹
Application Due Date:	Fall-Winter 2014

Start of Funding Period:	Spring 2016
Maximum Time Frame per Project:	36-Months
Ecology Water Quality Program Contact Person:	Alissa Ferrell, 360-407-6509 Tammy Riddell, 360-407-6295

¹ Interlocal or in-kind contributions can cover 100% of the local match.

ISSUE ONE

The commission needs to complete a *scope of work* that describes implementing the SWAMP (e.g. create multiuse regional stormwater facility to collect and treat stormwater verses having several small stormwater facilities doing the same work).

The scope of work should consist of the following:

1. Provide a brief summary that explains the nature of the project
2. Identify tasks, subtasks and deliverables that need to be completed
3. List people or organizations who will implement tasks and/or provide deliverables listed in Item 2
4. Create a project budget
5. Establish a schedule

ISSUE TWO

The commission along with Department of Environmental Services, Clean Water Program staff will need to identify the match for this grant.

The goal is to use interlocal and/or in-kind contributions where practicable.

SUMMARY / RECOMMENDATION

The commission is in the process of *researching the barriers and opportunities associated with public private partnerships to implement the Storm Water Association Multiuse Project (SWAMP) concept*. Specially, they are focusing on researching the barriers and opportunities for creating multiuse regional stormwater facilities to capture and treat stormwater *versus* the current approach of having several jurisdictions manage stormwater with smaller facilities.

Before seeking funding or commitment from others, the commission must develop a scope of work that outlines the issues: a) why is this a problem; b) who is going to do the work; c) what are deliverables; d) where will this activity occur, and e) when will the project start and be complete.

ACTION REQUESTED

The commission needs to implement the recommendation of this memorandum:

1. Finish its research on barriers and opportunities to establishing multiuse regional stormwater facilities:
 - One result would be the formation of a public private partnership to deliver technical assistance and obligate interlocal and/or in-kind contributions to this effort.
2. Request that Clark County seek out state funding for this work:
 - By fall-winter 2014, the county will have the opportunity to apply for the Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 grant. The goal is to provide interlocal and/or in-kind contribution as match to the grant.