

BUSINESS ITEM 2013-256

Adoption of Clean Water Fund Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) Grant Program Design

John Atkins, MCES Budget Manager

Environment Committee, September 10, 2013



Today's Agenda

- I. Proposed Schedule
- II. Program Design Essentials
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Questions and Comments
- V. Committee Action

Draft I/ Grant Program Schedule

- July 9: Staff Proposal to Environment Committee
- August 13: Public Meeting
- August 23: Public Input ends
- Sept. 10: Env. Comm: Review input, and recommendation
- Sept. 25: Potential Council Approval
- November 1: Program Begins (cities eligible to apply)

Proposed Eligibility

- High priority = Communities participating in I/I Surcharge Program
 - 50 communities to date
 - New communities: 1) getting a preliminary I/I surcharge, AND
2) taking action to mitigate
- Also, Communities must be willing to sign grant agreement

Proposed Eligible Repairs

- Only non-municipal sewer infrastructure (service laterals and foundation drains),
where:
 - Work is pre-qualified before done
 - Property owner provides a repair cost estimate
 - Building is occupied
 - Community allowed to inspect

Proposed Eligible Repairs

- Grants to be one third of actual, eligible, reasonable and verifiable repair costs:
 - Out-of-pocket costs only
 - (e.g. owner labor costs not eligible)
 - Limited to \$2,000 per site
- Community match of one third is encouraged

Proposed Process

1. Cities:

- apply to be in program and sign grant agreements
- communicate program to private parties

2. Private parties:

- get estimates or bids from contactors
- submits to their City

3. Cities:

- review requests for eligibility
- submit requests to MCES for prequalification approvals

4. MCES:

- also reviews eligibility details
- approves, if funding available
- encumbers funds, notifies Cities

Proposed Process (continued)

5. Cities:

- notify applicants (approval maximums)
- issue permits

6. Private Parties:

- get the repair work done
- submit receipts to City

7. Cities:

- send summary of actual dollars spent to MCES
- certifies work was done and records are auditable

8. MCES:

- gets City paid, and
- if less than encumbered, MCES adjusts available pool of funds
 - and issues more prequalification approval(s)
- reports to State

Public Meeting – August 13

- Chaired by Council Member Wendy Wulff
- Attended by:
 - 15 stakeholders
 - Various MCES staff
- No voiced objections to overall proposal
- 3 written comments submitted; MCES staff responded to those (see packet)

Public Comments

- Metro Cities supportive of program and its design
- City owned service laterals under “Right of Way” – eligible only if full connection to service line is repaired
- City contribution to costs recommended, not mandatory
- Sump pump redirects not allowable
- Cities may determine their own requirements and will pay property owners directly and on their terms
- Cities must be I&I surcharge program participant
- All attendees expressed interest in participating

Questions?

Comments?

Committee action