

Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 28, 2016

Subject: 2016 Stormwater Grant Remaining Fund Allocation

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute three stormwater management grants described in Attachment A in the total amount of \$100,713.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Staff clarified that the process of determining award recipients is based on being innovative, able to be demonstrated, educational, require collaboration, exhibit multiple benefits, and supports the equity and sustainability principles of Thrive. Applications were evaluated by a panel of internal Council staff with input from Metro Cities. Geographical distribution has not been considered as part of the evaluation criteria in the past, but could be for future allocations.

This is the second year of the stormwater grant program.

In 2015, 3 grants were awarded in the total amount of \$800,000.

- Waconia Stormwater Reuse (\$400,000)
- Minnesota Zoo BMP (\$350,000)
- Beaver Pond Park Stormwater Reuse Project in the City of Hugo (\$50,000)

For 2016, 9 total grants will be awarded a total amount of \$1,000,000.

- Chanhassen High School Capture and Reuse (\$200,000)
- Fire Station #2 Water Harvesting and Reuse (\$99,287)
- Water's Edge Stormwater Reuse (\$200,000)
- Northside Neighborhood Engagement & Opportunities (\$100,000)
- Westminster Church Management & Reuse (\$100,000)
- Snelling Midway Soccer Redevelopment (\$200,000)

Remaining funds were requested as part of this business item and are reflected in Attachment A.

Motion to approve the proposed action was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Environment Committee

Meeting date: September 13, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 28, 2016

Subject: 2016 Stormwater Grant Remaining Fund Allocation

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Water Resources Policy Plan, Minnesota Statutes 471.59 (Joint Exercise of Powers) and 473.505 (Total Watershed Management)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Joe Mulcahy, 651-602-1104; Judy Sventek, 651-602-1156

Division/Department: MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute three stormwater management grants described in Attachment A in the total amount of \$100,713.

Background

Research and monitoring has shown that nonpoint source pollution is having a detrimental effect on the water quality of lakes, streams, and rivers in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Nonpoint source pollution is polluted stormwater runoff from agricultural and urban land that enters wetlands, lakes, streams, and rivers without treatment.

The Council approved six grants for highly visible stormwater management projects in the total amount of \$899,287 at its June 24 meeting. One proposed grant was pulled from that item because it was cancelled by the applicant. These remaining grants will fund small stormwater projects that could be replicated throughout the metro region.

Rationale

This project supports the Thrive MSP 2040 stewardship and sustainability outcomes and the water sustainability goal of the Water Resources Policy Plan. The proposed action requires Council approval.

Funding

Funding is budgeted in 2016 operating budget from Council's General Fund.

Known Support / Opposition

None

1. Greenfield Central Park Pond Project - Pioneer-Sarah Watershed Management Commission - \$41,136
Recommended funding \$41,136

Project would construct stormwater pond and swale to treat runoff from a city park that drains to a farm field and then to a creek and eventually Lake Sarah. The Metropolitan Council has designated Lake Sarah as a priority lake for its high regional recreational value.

2. Lilydale Stormwater Improvement Project - Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization - \$9,000
Recommended funding \$9,000

Project is to buy and install a St. Anthony Falls Lab (SAFL) baffle in a storm sewer manhole to remove sediment, along with installation of an educational sign. This is part of a larger project to repave Trunk Highway 13. Stormwater from the intersection of Trunk Highway 13 and Lexington Avenue in Lilydale discharges to the Mississippi River near its confluence with the Minnesota River.

3. Small Space Stormwater Retrofits for the Rum and Mississippi Rivers - Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization - \$100,000
Recommended funding \$50,577

Project would install retrofit stormwater treatment practices such as filtration, iron enhanced media, curb cut rain gardens, bio swales, and/or others in the cities of Anoka and Ramsey. Targeting of projects is based on 2015-16 study that examined portions of the cities of Anoka and Ramsey that drain directly to rivers and have little to no stormwater treatment.