



# PRIVATE PROPERTY INFLOW & INFILTRATION GRANT PROGRAM

Grant Requirements, Guidelines & Timeline – 2024

## Information

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (Met Council, ES) is implementing a private property inflow and infiltration (I/I) grant program beginning January 2024. The goal of the program is to assist private property owners with financial assistance to remove I/I from the regional interceptor system through repairs of the sewer lateral or foundation drain on the property. ES has committed to assigning funds every year from the PayGo fund for this grant program.

## Council Guidelines

### Eligible Municipalities

Eligible municipalities include those that have been designated excessive I/I contributors by the Met Council or that have had a measurable flow rate within 20 percent of the permitted flow limit.

### Eligible Work

- Grants to private property owners shall be for a percentage of actual, reasonable, and verifiable I/I mitigation costs. No costs of studies, engineering, or planning shall be eligible.
- Grant reimbursement shall be 50% of eligible costs, up to \$5,000, for applicants not meeting equity criteria set by the participating municipalities. Eligible work includes:
  - Private lateral repair and/or replacement
  - Foundation drain disconnections and new sump pump, if associated with the foundation drain disconnect
  - Lateral televising and cleaning costs if:
    - Applicant meets the equity criteria or
    - Televising and cleaning result in repair or replacement of sewer lateral
- Grants of up to \$10,000 may be given to private property owners meeting the municipality's equity criterion.
- The private service line or foundation drain must be active and serving an occupied building.
- All repairs and replacements must be made with materials and methods consistent with local codes and permit requirements.
- Qualified spending on eligible work must occur between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024.

## Grant Process

### Application

- ES will notify all eligible municipalities and request grant applications.
- Eligible municipalities will apply for the program and request a total grant amount for anticipated grant reimbursement to private property owners.
- Applying municipalities must submit the Application for Participation and a resolution from City Council authorizing application and execution of the grant.
- After all applications are received, ES will review requested grant amounts for proposed work and encumber a grant amount for each participating municipality. It is anticipated that more

grant funds will be requested than what is available, meaning applicants may not receive their full request. Grant awards will be encumbered to each municipality by this process:

- Half of the available grant funds will be divided equally among participants.
- The remaining half will be distributed to participants based on the size of their grant request.
- Municipalities will be informed of their total grant amount for the program year at the start of the program year.
- ES will send grant agreements to municipalities for signature and, upon return, will sign, and will create purchase orders payable to the applicant municipality.
- Signed agreements and application must be returned to ES prior to participation in the program.

## Reporting Requirements and Reimbursement

- Each quarter, municipalities will submit the **PPII Reporting Form** Excel workbook of work completed, invoices, and certificates of completeness to certify the work for each grant was done and records auditable. Only one grant per property may be awarded.
  - ES has provided a list of verified Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) contractors able to perform water and sewer work (attached). It is not required to use the contractors on that list, but it is provided as an option. More information on the Met Council MCUB program can be found here: <https://metro council.org/About-Us/What-We-Do/DoingBusiness/Small-Business-Programs/mcub.aspx>
- ES will review the **PPII Reporting Form** Excel workbook and supporting documentation and issue grant reimbursement. Municipalities have until March 31 of the following year to submit all paperwork for work performed during the program year.
- Any funds encumbered to a municipality and not spent during the program year will remain in ES's PayGo fund.
- The Council reserves the right to change these guidelines if, in its sole discretion, the results of the process do not equitably allocate the funds.

## Equity Component

Thrive MSP 2040 is the Met Council's vision for the region through the year 2040. It reflects concerns, needs, and aspirations for the region and addresses our responsibility to future generations. Thrive MSP 2040 has five outcomes that reinforce and support each other to produce greater benefits for the region. Those outcomes are Stewardship, Prosperity, Equity, Livability, and Sustainability.

Thrive MSP 2040 provides the following definition of equity: "Equity connects all residents to opportunity and creates viable housing, transportation, and recreation options for people of all races, ethnicities, incomes, and abilities so that all communities share the opportunities and challenges of growth and change. For our region to reach its full economic potential, all of our residents must be able to access opportunity. Our region is stronger when all people live in communities that provide them access to opportunities for success, prosperity and quality of life." (Metropolitan Council, 2014).

The equity component of allowing grant reimbursement up to a \$10,000 cap for private property owners meeting a municipality's equity criterion is one way equity is incorporated into this program. It is acknowledged that each municipality has different equity considerations and knows the needs of their residents the best; therefore, it is up to the municipality to determine if a resident has an equity need and up to the municipality to determine the resident's final grant award, up to \$10,000.

If a repair is higher than the program cap of \$10,000, options, among others, to cover that cost include a municipality match, assessing the property for the remaining amount, or requesting payment from the resident. The means of collection are up to each municipality. Be advised, if grant awards are paid directly to the private property owner, it is recommended to speak with a tax professional, as the municipality may have to provide a 1099 tax form.

## Calendar

Send notice of grant program guidelines to municipalities, requesting applications	November 20, 2023
Grant applications due from municipalities	December 15, 2023
ES notifies municipalities of their grant amount	December 29, 2023
Municipalities submit pay claims for completed work	April 30, July 31, October 31, 2024; January 31, 2025
ES processes reimbursement upon receipt of signed agreement	Quarterly

## Links/References

<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Planning/Wastewater/Inflow-and-Infiltration.aspx>

Metropolitan Council. *Thrive MSP 2040: One Vision, One Metropolitan Region*. (2014).

<https://metro council.org/Planning/Thrive-2040/Thrive-MSP-2040-Plan.aspx?source=child>.