

2024 ES CUSTOMER BUDGET AND ANNUAL UPDATE Q&A

May 21 and June 6, 2024

Do all communities qualify for Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) grants?

The I/I Grant Program is available to metro area communities 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. A list of eligible communities in 2023 can be found in the 2023 Municipal I/I Grant Program Information Session Presentation (PDF) file on the Municipal Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program page linked below.

- Municipal Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program
- Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program

How long will the Private Property I&I Grant Program continue? Will there be a grant in 2025?

Feedback on previous grant programs emphasized the need for a dedicated, reliable, and sustained funding source to mitigate private property I&I, so this program will be ongoing for the foreseeable future, with \$1.5M of funding per year. Communities' participation in the program helps document the need for this work for future discussions at the Legislature.

If communities have more need for private property I&I mitigation than the current program can fund, should they include that information in their grant applications?

Yes, including this information would assist the Council in demonstrating the need for this and similar programs.

Is there a long-term asset management plan available for communities to look at?

We use asset management practices to coordinate our activities over the lifecycle of our assets, from planning to capital to operating and maintaining and renewing. Since we have centralized some services like maintenance and engineering to achieve efficiencies, we rely on asset management to bring our central service providers to the table to understand the operational priorities that are critical to meeting and sustaining our customer levels of service. This includes monitoring and managing asset condition, preparing new assets for operation through commissioning, planning and scheduling maintenance to meet permit compliance requirements, and budgeting to reduce energy and chemical use.

ES has extracted much value from its computerized maintenance management system and is replacing it with a modern Enterprise Asset Management System. We are in the early stages of procuring a solution and will be implementing it in 2025 and 2026. Our goal is to implement this new system with improved business processes that help us focus our limited resources on the most important work and bring accurate data to our front-line employees to support the decisions they make every day to keep our infrastructure running optimally and cost effectively.

Will there be a regional fats, oils, and grease (FOG) program?

There is not currently a regional program, but there may be a second task force in the future to discuss a more regional approach to the issue. For more information, please contact Angie Peterson, FOG Coordinator, at angie.peterson@metc.state.mn.us or 651-602-4764.

Can communities post resources from the FOG toolkit on their websites?

Yes, communities can link to and post resources from the <u>Metropolitan Council's FOG toolkit</u> to their websites. We will also be expanding the documents to include a few additional languages as well in the coming months.

Where can I find the resources mentioned in the presentation?

- MCES Customer Budget & Annual Update
- 2024 to 2029 Capital Program booklet
- Customer Portal
- 2050 Water Policy Plan
- Municipal Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program
- Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program
- Fats, Oils, Grease, and Rags Toolkit