

I/I Clean Water Grant Program

Design & Process

Eligible Communities

Communities eligible for the new grant program include:

- The 50 metro area communities eligible under the Public Infrastructure Bond Grant Program offered in 2012 (and ongoing).
- Any community that receives an MCES I/I surcharge notice for the first time during 2013 or the course of this grant program, and is required to take some action.



Eligible communities **must** pre-apply and sign a standard Council grant agreement before any eligible expenses can be submitted for reimbursement. Agreements shall require that communities:

- Entirely pass through grants received (as is being done by MCES).
- Cooperate with pre-qualification requirements of MCES, and screening of eligibility.
- Sign certification of work done to receive grants.
- Retain records and cooperate with any audit.
- Be responsible for communication with retail applicants.
- Issue plumbing permits for all eligible repairs.
- Report quantitative information of repairs for MCES reports to state.

Eligible Repairs

- a) Sewer service laterals—pipes that run from buildings to the city sewer in the street, including any portions of individual services that are owned and maintained by a city—are eligible. Municipally owned pipes that serve many properties, lift stations, and other related appurtenances are **not** eligible).
- b) A prequalification will be mandatory. Retail applicants will submit a dated contractor's bid/estimate for the repair to their city.
- c) Types of repairs eligible include:
 - i. Any rehabilitation or service line replacement, either in part, or in its entirety that is owned and maintained by the property owner (private, governmental, institutional), between its connection to the municipally owned trunk or lateral system and the first cleanout inside the building shall be eligible for grant reimbursement.
 - ii. Foundation drain disconnections.
 - iii. City-owned service laterals under 'right of way' qualify, subject to all terms and conditions herein as long as the full connection to service line is repaired.
- d) The private service line or foundation drain must be active and serving an occupied building.
- e) All repairs and replacements must be made with materials and methods consistent with local codes.



- f) The completed improvement must be inspected and found acceptable *by the city* having jurisdiction for said improvements.

Eligible Costs

- a) Eligible expenses are for out-of-pocket costs of a repair only, not to include any owner labor costs.
- b) Inspection costs are allowable ONLY if the service line inspected results in eligible repairs.
- c) Expenses are eligible for reimbursement ONLY for work inspected no sooner than July 1, 2013.
- d) Grants will be **1/3 of actual, reasonable and verifiable eligible repair costs**, but limited to \$2,000 maximum per site. Note: Given the regional sewer, city sewer and private benefit, a city and private match are proposed so funding would be 1/3 regional, 1/3 municipal, and 1/3 private (if total cost is \$6,000 or less). However, the city match will not be mandatory. (This will not change the MCES grant limit of 1/3 of eligible costs and maximum of \$2,000 per site.)

Grant Process

- a) Eligible cities will need to first apply to participate in the program.
- b) Monthly, participating cities screen and submit requests in batch for prequalification approvals. Each individual request must include the following information:
- Owner name and building address
 - Date and amount of contractor bid/estimate (for use in ranking first-come, first-served)
 - Type of building (single family, multi-family, commercial)
 - Type of work proposed
- c) MCES reviews technical details and approves by applicant, within 10 days. MCES encumbers prequalified amounts. MCES can only approve up to the full amount of the \$1 million appropriation. If qualified applications exceed amount available, the date of contractor bid/estimate will be used to determine the ranking of remaining projects, which will be put on a waiting list for further funding when available. If there are multiple applications on the last day in each fiscal year that cannot be fully funded, MCES will use a random assignment method to select those funded.
- d) MCES will send agreements to cities for signature and, upon return, will sign, and will create purchase orders payable to the city.
- e) Cities will notify retail applicants of decisions and the approved maximum MCES grants. Applicants must submit actual receipts for work to get the rebates.
- f) Cities will submit information to MCES certifying that the work for each grant was done and the records auditable.
- g) Within 30 days, MCES remits to cities in amounts identifiable to specific projects. Cities choose when to remit to property owner.
- h) MCES will reduce encumbrances. If claims come in less than the prequalified amounts, the released funding will become available for the next applications in line.