

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 17, 2014

Division: Resources Policy and Planning

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TOPIC: Public/Private Partnership for Regional Stormwater Association Multi-use Projects

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Does the Clean Water Commission (commission) want to consider implementing a new *Public and Private Regional Stormwater Association Multi-use Projects* (SWAMP) that would collect and treat stormwater before discharging it into surface water or into the ground (Exhibit A)?

BACKGROUND

At their January 8, 2014 meeting, the Chair provided the commissioners an overview of Public and Private regional SWAMP (Exhibit B). However, since March 2014 five new commissioners who along with the members need to determine if they want spend commission time to pursue this effort.

The commission would research barriers and opportunities for creating multiuse regional stormwater facilities to capture and treat stormwater *versus* the current approach of having several jurisdictions manage stormwater with smaller facilities.

ISSUES

Since this not a function of the county's NPDES permit the county can only provide limited resources to seek funding opportunities. Should the commission decide to address this effort it would coordinate all of the work. They would need to complete a *scope of work* that describes implementing the SWAMP:

1. Provide a brief summary that explains the nature of the project(s)
2. Identify tasks, subtasks and deliverables that need to be completed
3. List people or organizations who will implement tasks and/or provide deliverables listed in Item 2
4. Create a project budget
5. Establish a schedule

SUMMARY / RECOMMENDATION

Before seeking funding or commitment from others, the commission should develop a scope of work that outlines the issues: a) why is this a problem; b) who is going to do the work; c) what are deliverables; d) where will this activity occur, and e) when will the project start and be complete?

EXHIBIT A. Potential Advisory (original draft January 3, 2014)

EXHIBIT B. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program Grant (approved at the January 8, 2014 meeting)

ACTION REQUESTED

The commission should consider if they want to implement the recommendation of this memorandum:

1. Research barriers and opportunities to establishing regional multi-use regional stormwater facilities.
2. Request that Clark County seek funding for this work.

EXHIBIT A

January 3, 2014

Dear Potential Advisor,

The Clark County Clean Water Commission is excited to invite you to provide insight on our Storm Water association multiuse project. (SWAMP) What is the SWAMP? The swamp contains some of the following features, other than just Stormwater.

Your part in this, is to help us to identify barriers and suggest opportunities. We will take this information to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) with recommendations for policy changes that will be required at multiple levels of government

THE SWAMP MOST DO THE FOLLOWING THINGS TO BE COST EFFECTIVE FOR COMMUNITIES:

1. The SWAMP is multi use. This aspect is critical to saving our citizens tax dollars. Our definition of multi-use, is multiple users. County, City, State, Private Developer, Institutions, etc. The way typically we do stormwater management today is to independently build our own individual systems for each new development.
2. The SWAMP is a system. This system will contain infrastructure that will cross jurisdictional boundaries. This system needs to be appropriately sized for growth. Cost sharing is critical for cost savings.
3. The SWAMP is multi-purpose. The SWAMP needs to be many things other than just stormwater management facility it should serve as a Park, Ball field, Golf Course, Walking Trail, passive recreation area, etc.

Typically our governmental agencies work independently on Stormwater projects. We believe that there will be better results, less duplication and cost reductions by creating the SWAMP.

Thank you for your input and we look forward to further participation on this exciting project.

Clark County Clean Water Commission
Jim Carlson, Chairman

EXHIBIT B

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 8, 2014

Division: Resources Policy and Planning

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Phone: (360) 397.2121 ext. 4580

TOPIC: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program Grant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Clean Water Commission is researching the barriers and opportunities associated with public private partnerships to implement the Storm Water Association Multiuse Project (SWAMP) concept. The principal aspect of this concept is to construct a new multiuse regional stormwater facility that captures and treats stormwater runoff rather than having each jurisdiction or developer address this issue with several smaller stormwater facilities within the same vicinity. Turning this concept into reality will likely require seed money from sources such as federal government grants. The *National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Five Star and Urban Water Restoration Program* grant listed below, can fund this endeavor (Table 1); however it is too late to submit an application for 2014. Clark County can apply for this grant in February 2015.

BACKGROUND

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation requests applications for federal grant funding through the Five Star and Urban Water Restoration Program (Table 1). This grant seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships for wetland, forest, riparian and coastal habitat restoration, stormwater management, outreach and stewardship with a particular focus on water quality, watersheds and the habitats they support.

Table 1. Five Star and Urban Water Restoration Program Grant

Annual Funding Amount Per Governmental Entity: \$25,000-\$50,000 ¹	
Match Required:	\$1 Federal Grant and \$1 Local Cash/In-kind Contributions ²
Application Due Date:	February 5, 2014
Start of Funding Period:	Summer 2015
Maximum Time Frame per Project:	24-Months
Requires Public and Private Partnership: ³	Yes
Contact Person:	Claire Thorp, 415-243-3104, San Francisco, CA Carrie Clingan, 202-597-2471, Washington D.C.

¹ Proposals over \$30,000 require greater match contributions, a larger number and diversity of project partners, more significant ecological and educational and should be in the urban area.

² In-kind contributions can cover 100% of the local match.

³ Each proposal must identify at least five organizations from public and private sectors.

ISSUE ONE

The commission needs to complete a *scope of work* that describes implementing the SWAMP (e.g. create multiuse regional stormwater facility to collect and treat stormwater verses having several small stormwater facilities doing the same work). The scope of work should consist of the following:

1. Provide a brief summary that explains the nature of the project

2. Identify tasks, subtasks and deliverables that need to be completed
3. List people or organizations who will implement tasks and/or provide deliverables listed in Item 2
4. Create a project budget
5. Establish a schedule

ISSUE TWO

To receive this grant, the commission, in addition to itself, needs to identify at least five other organizations to contribute to project success.

This could, include but not limited to:

1. Developers
2. Property Owners
3. Relators
4. Land Use Attorneys
5. Watershed Councils
6. Neighborhood Associations
7. Clark County (Public Works/
Environmental Services/
Community Development/Parks)
8. Washington State Department of
Transportation
9. Academia (WSU-Vancouver, others)
10. Economic Development Council
11. Chamber of Commerce
12. Environmental Groups
13. Faith Based Organizations
14. Others

ISSUE THREE

The commission along with Department of Environmental Services, Clean Water Program staff will need to identify the match for this grant.

The goal is to use in-kind contributions where practicable.

SUMMARY / RECOMMENDATION

The commission is in the process of *researching the barriers and opportunities associated with public private partnerships to implement the Storm Water Association Multiuse Project (SWAMP) concept*. Specially, they are focusing on researching the barriers and opportunities for creating multiuse regional stormwater facilities to capture and treat stormwater *versus* the current approach of having several jurisdictions manage stormwater with smaller facilities.

Before seeking funding or commitment from others, the commission must develop a scope of work that outlines the issues: a) why is this a problem; b) who is going to do the work; c) what are deliverables; d) where will this activity occur, and e) when will the project start and be complete?

ACTION REQUESTED

The commission needs to implement the recommendation of this memorandum:

1. Finish its research on barriers and opportunities to establishing multiuse regional stormwater facilities:
 - One result would be the formation of a public private partnership to deliver technical assistance and obligate in-kind contributions to this effort.
2. Request that Clark County seek out federal funding for this work:
 1. By February 2015, the county will have the opportunity to apply for the Five Star and Urban Water Restoration Program grant. The goal is to provide in-kind contribution as match to the grant.