



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: March 31, 2009

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral to: Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: **Minneapolis Economic Recovery Strategy: Clean Water Revolving Fund Submission**

Recommendation:

- a. Authorize Public Works to submit a series of applications for Clean Water Revolving Funds passed through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Public Facilities Authority)

Previous Directives:

None

Prepared by: Lisa Cerney, Surface Water and Sewers, 612-673-3061

Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Lisa Cerney, Department of Public Works, Surface Water and Sewers

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	Date
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	Approval	NA	Date
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	NA	Date

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No Financial Impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Not Applicable

City Goals: A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME: the city's infrastructure will be well-maintained, people will feel safe in the city.

Comprehensive Plan: Not Applicable

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

The City will prepare a series of applications and scoring worksheets for Clean Water Revolving Funds in response to the Public Facilities Authority solicitation for the 2010 Project Priority List for federal grant funds. The Clean Water Revolving Fund is the process to obtain American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding for wastewater or storm water projects. This request

includes a summary of the project areas, a brief description, and estimated costs. Projects will be eligible for ten (10) percent grant funding and if there are “green” components in the project that could increase to twenty-five (25) percent. Each project requires a local match, which is included in the Five Year Capital Program.

The City is requesting to submit the following application and scoring worksheets to the Clean Water Revolving Fund Program.

Flow Meter Studies (\$900,000)

This project would allow the City to accelerate the flow metering studies which will provide data citywide that will be used to develop a detailed plan and schedule for future Inflow/Infiltration reduction strategies.

Identified CSO Projects (\$5,381,000)

Five critical CSO projects have been identified for completion in the next calendar year at various locations throughout the city. Public Works has these project programmed in the Five Year Program but would benefit from grant funding. CSO projects are the ultimate “green” projects eliminating the discharge of undesirable flows to the Mississippi River Watershed thereby improving water quality and the standard of life for area citizens and downstream neighbors.

Rainleader Disconnect Program (\$6,600,000)

The City has identified properties which are in violation but require new municipal storm drain infrastructure in order to be disconnected or separated. This submittal would help fund three very important projects. One is located in downtown, one in the Uptown area and the remaining project is located in the Dinkytown vicinity and would all qualify as “green” infrastructure projects.

Stormwater Tunnel Maintenance/Rehabilitation (\$1,030,000)

The City supports an annual program to inspect and provide needed maintenance/rehabilitation to its Stormwater Tunnel System. Three projects on three separate tunnel systems have been identified as part of this submittal.

Sanitary Sewer Maintenance/Rehabilitation (\$550,000)

The City supports an annual program to conduct inspection, rehabilitation and replacement of its aging sanitary sewer infrastructure as deemed appropriate. The War Department Sanitary Sewer Tunnel was originally constructed as a WPA project by the United States government to service the Fort Snelling area. Subsequently, ownership was transferred to the Metropolitan Airports Commission and then to the City through enactment of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2005. This transfer was an unfunded mandate which transferred responsibility for the tunnel’s maintenance and rehabilitation to the City. The City has determined that sediment in the tunnel contains contaminants from release of jet and diesel fuel at the airport over the years. The City is proposing a Phase 1 project which will provide funding for the analyses and appropriate cleaning and disposal of the sediment and a subsequent condition assessment of the tunnel.

Sanitary Sewer Replacement (\$750,000)

As indicated above, the City supports an annual program to conduct inspection, rehabilitation and replacement of its aging sanitary sewer infrastructure as deemed appropriate. The old 1 – MN320 sanitary sewer (which now provides local conveyance) has been determined to be in extremely poor structural condition. MCES has installed a major interceptor in close proximity to this line which can be considered in developing a remedy scenario which may include rehabilitating or replacing sections of the old 1 – MN320, directing flow to a newly constructed lift station and providing discharge to the MCES interceptor. In order to develop the most advantageous solution, the City must disconnect three rainleaders, identify other sources of I/I and execute preliminary and final design tasks. Due to the poor soil conditions in the area, extensive geotechnical evaluation will need to be conducted. The City is requesting funding assistance for Phase 1 of this project which will provide a final design for Phase 2 construction.

Flood Area 5 Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project (\$3,750,000)

This project is located in north Minneapolis, within an area that drains to Crystal Lake in Robbinsdale, thence to Shingle Creek, re-enters Minneapolis and discharges to the Mississippi River. Crystal Lake is impaired for nutrients and a TMDL Study has been completed and submitted to the MPCA for approval. A “piped only” solution would not address all of the goals for the project: protect homes from damage caused by right-of-way flooding, make water quality improvements for Crystal Lake, improve community livability, sustainability, and sense of place, and possibly reduce stress downstream on the stormwater system, reduce the risk of overflows. A variety of tools distributed throughout the subwatershed are needed to add enough capacity without adverse effect on Crystal Lake. A greenway approach (with auxiliary underground infrastructure) is proposed, creating not just stormwater storage but also “green” amenities, heightened public awareness about stormwater, and water quality improvements for impaired Crystal Lake. The concept has been finalized. Engineering and design for the first phase (demonstration project in small, independent portion of the area) are nearly complete with construction possible late summer 2009.

C: Mayor Rybak
City Council
Mike Abeln, Finance