



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Bill Moore, Water Quality Program
P.O. Box 47696
Olympia, WA 98504-7696

June 8, 2017



Dear Mr. Moore,

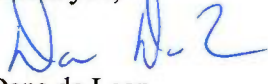
In May 2016, the Stormwater Work Group (SWG) put out a request for proposals for a second round of Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) effectiveness studies to be funded out of the remaining permit Special Condition S8.C funds then estimated at approximately \$1.3M. We received 21 Letters of Interest and gave feedback to those project proponents. Ten full proposals were submitted in December. Those proposals were reviewed by Ecology's engineers and members of the SWG Effectiveness Subgroup, and eight of them were discussed at a public workshop in April. Permittees were then invited to vote on their top three choices among the eight remaining studies; 51 permittees voted.

Having considered further review and discussion by the SWG's caucuses, the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee, the SWG Effectiveness Subgroup, and the voting by the permittees, the SWG recommends that Ecology and the SAM coordinator encumber a total of approximately \$2.3M for projects selected in this second round of studies as follows:

1. Enter into a contract to conduct FP03 *Bioretention soil media final phase* (\$382K) as soon as possible.
2. As first round projects wrap up later this year and in 2018 and contract management capacity is available, work with project proponents to respond to comments and concerns on scope and approach as needed and then enter into contracts to conduct the following projects:
 - a. FP05 *Bioretention hydrology performance phase II* (\$478K): This project is ready to go as soon as the project team has capacity to begin the next phase.
 - b. FP01 *Longevity of bioretention for biological effectiveness* (\$315K): This project proposal has responded to comments and is undergoing a second technical review.
 - c. FP04 *Oyster shell retrofits* (\$325K): As proposed, this is a pilot project.
 - d. FP07 *Mulch choices for bioretention* (\$198K): This project will add an additional mulch type to the study.
3. Inform the proponents of the following proposals that the SWG is requesting they convene Technical Advisory Committees to address concerns about the projects' approaches and to refine the proposals. These projects are slated for funding as part of this round but will need to be reviewed again by Ecology's engineers and members of the SWG Effectiveness Subgroup and then re-confirmed by the SWG prior to contracting.
 - a. FP02 *Effectiveness of trees in mitigating runoff* (\$291K): In particular, can alternate sites be identified with preferred tree species?
 - b. FP09 *Hydraulic control options for bioretention* (\$309K): In particular, define specific field study and modeling components of the study that address concerns about (1) using bioretention as a flow control BMP and (2) whether it is worth investigating smaller orifice sizes that are likely to plug.
4. Inform the project proponent of FP08 *Monitoring the stormwater treatment prototype at Manchester Beach* (\$178K) that their project is not funded as part of this round.
 - a. Per the recommendations of the SWG local government caucus, the project proponent should consider finding additional regional facilities, particularly those designed under the source control transfer option in the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, for inclusion in a resubmitted proposal for a future round of funding.

These recommendations commit the \$1.1M now unencumbered in this permit cycle's S8.C funds, and a portion of the permittees' anticipated 2018 contributions. Please contact me at ddeleon@ci.tacoma.wa.us or SWG Project Manager Karen Dinicola at karen.dinicola@ecy.wa.gov with any questions regarding these recommendations.

Thank you,


Dana de Leon
SWG Chair