

# SFY 2016 Combined Water Quality Funding Program

## Stormwater Projects

### How does Ecology's Combined WQ Funding Program support stormwater projects?

**Primary Funding:** The Stormwater Financial Assistance Program (SFAP) was created through 2013 state legislation that directed Ecology to develop a long-term funding program that would support projects and activities that have been proven effective at reducing environmental degradation from stormwater.

**Other Funding:** The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Centennial Clean Water Fund also support stormwater projects and activities by providing loan, forgivable principal loan (loans that do not have to be paid back), and grant dollars for stormwater projects.

FY16 Combined Funding Program Proposed Funding for Stormwater Projects	
SFAP	\$62,838,144
SFAP Project Planning	\$372,577
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$63,210,721</b>
CWSRF Forgivable Principal	\$76,905
CWSRF Loan	\$2,352,910
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,429,815</b>
Centennial Grant	\$317,316
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$317,316</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$65,921,852</b>

SFY16 Combined Funding Program	Applications	Funded Projects	Proposed Funding
Stormwater Facility	122	94	\$61,747,183
Stormwater Activity	20	16	\$4,174,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>\$65,921,852</b>

### What types of projects are proposed?

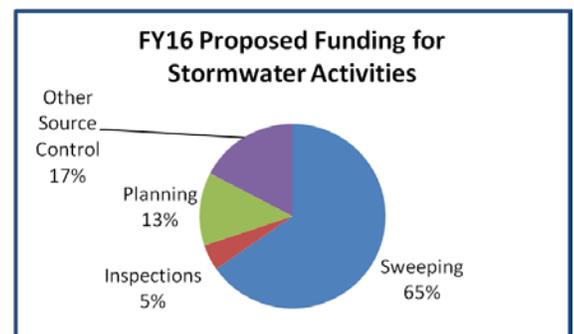
**Facility Projects** include both low impact development stormwater BMPs and traditional gray infrastructure BMPs. **Activity Projects** include source control projects such as expanded maintenance and sweeping programs, inspection programs, monitoring projects, and watershed or community water quality planning projects.

### Who will receive funding?

All applications for stormwater projects for the FY16 funding round were submitted by Washington cities and counties. Ecology is proposing to provide up to \$63.4M in assistance to communities under NPDES municipal permit requirements and an additional \$2.5M for non-permitted communities. \$46.7M of these funds will be spent on projects that benefit the Puget Sound.

### How are projects selected?

Stormwater project applications are reviewed, rated and ranked by Ecology staff based on the quality and completeness of the proposed scope of work, the value of the water quality benefits achieved for dollars spent, how well the project addresses a specific water quality or public health problem, if the project helps to achieve multiple federal or state priorities, and the experience and commitment of the project team. Projects may also receive additional points if they are ready to start work or are proposed by a hardship community seeking loan dollars.



# Stormwater Financial Assistance Program (SFAP)

## 2013 Project-Specific Planning and Design Grants

**What was the goal of the Project Specific Planning and Design Grant Program?** This program, which was also referred to as the “\$120K grants” or the “Capacity Grants Task 3” was intended to assist cities and counties covered by a phase I or II national pollutant discharge elimination system permit to prepare projects for application to a competitive grant program. This program placed particular emphasis on helping cities and counties explore low impact development techniques by requiring that recipients plan at least one low impact development project with the funding.

**How were the 2013 Project-Specific Planning and Design Grants funded?** The Washington State Legislature provided up to \$15,000,000 in the 13-15 capital budget for this program. These funds were distributed as a direct award of \$120k to each interested municipal permittee as an add-on to their 2013-15 Biennial Municipal Stormwater Capacity Grant.

**How many Permittees participated in the program?** 96 of the 117 municipal permittees expressed interest in pursuing a project by accepting the funding as part of their capacity grant agreement and 84 submitted at least a preliminary design to Ecology. About 48% of the projects initially discussed with Ecology were able to successfully reach bid-ready (90%) Ecology-approved designs.

**Were pre-construction projects successful in competing for construction dollars?**

Pre-construction projects made up 55% of the total stormwater project applications for the SFY16 Water Quality Combined Program and 80% of the pre-construction projects that applied for construction dollars are proposed for funding in SFY16.

Average scores for pre-construction

projects (704) were slightly higher than the overall average score for stormwater projects (684). The average score for projects that were not pre-planned with the project specific planning and design grants was 665.

2013 Project Specific Planning and Design Projects	LID	Total
Total projects discussed with Ecology	96	132
Number of pre-construction projects that applied for funding	53	72
Pre-construction projects that received funding	47	58
Projects with an accepted 90% design	53	64
Projects with an accepted 90% design that did not apply for funding	20	20
Projects with an accepted 90% design that received funding	33	42
Projects with an accepted 90% design that applied for funding and were not funded	2	3

**What does the future look like for funding project specific pre-construction projects?** Ecology anticipates that funding will be available in SFY16 for pre-construction activities. These pre-construction dollars may be distributed through the combined program or as a separate grant program. Elements of the pre-construction program may include:

- Applicant eligibility limited to Phase I and II NPDES Municipal Primary Permittees
- No match requirement
- Projects proposed should be “Green Retrofits,” which will include projects that treat stormwater using natural processes, but may not necessarily provide onsite infiltration.
- To receive funds - applicants fill out an eligibility application to ensure that the project will use green retrofit principles and will result in high level of water quality benefit.

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