



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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MEMORANDUM

TO: David K. Paylor, DEQ Director

FROM: Melanie D. Davenport, Water Division Director 

DATE: December 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Authorization of SLAF Project Funding List

Purpose

In order to reduce pollution from stormwater runoff, the Virginia General Assembly included Item 360 in Chapter 860 of the Acts of Assembly (the Commonwealth's 2013-2014 Budget) which created and set forth specific parameters for the administration of the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF). The purpose of the Fund is to provide matching grants to local governments for the planning, design, and implementation of stormwater best management practices that address cost efficiency and commitments related to reducing water quality pollutant loads. In accordance with that legislation, the State Water Control Board recently approved Guidelines for the implementation of the SLAF program. The Guidelines call for an annual solicitation of applications, an application review and ranking process, and the authorization of a Project Funding List (PFL) by the DEQ Director. This memorandum informs you of the results of the evaluation process and the staff recommendations for the authorization of projects to be included in the PFL.

Applications Received

On October 4, 2013 the staff solicited applications from all the local governments in the Commonwealth. November 15, 2013 was established as the deadline for submitting applications. Based on this solicitation, DEQ received applications from 35 localities for 113 individual stormwater projects totaling **\$39,366,548**. A listing of the projects is included in Attachment A.

Funding Availability for FY 2014

From the appropriation and bond authorization provided in Item 360 of the Commonwealth's 2013-2014 Budget, **up to \$35,000,000** of the bond proceeds were provided to the SLAF. The bond proceeds, along with any interest earnings thereon, must be used to provide matching grants from the Fund for stormwater best management practices. Additional funds may be appropriated in future fiscal years. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund.

Application Evaluation

All 113 projects were evaluated in accordance with the program's eligibility requirements and priority ranking criteria. It was determined that 12 projects from 6 localities totaling **\$8,227,157** were ineligible for SLAF funding. These included 8 projects involving maintenance dredging of existing stormwater BMPs, 2 projects with manufactured treatment devices (MTD), 1 project for rainwater harvesting, and 1 request for a feasibility study. Staff does not consider the maintenance of existing BMPs to be eligible, MTDs are not eligible because they are not yet listed on the BMP Clearinghouse, rainwater harvesting is ineligible because it is only listed in draft status and is not yet reportable to the Chesapeake Bay Program, and a feasibility study is not a capital project.

The funding amount requested for the remaining, eligible projects totaled **\$31,139,391**, less than the \$35,000,000 currently available. Based on the Board's Priority Ranking System, the point totals for those projects ranged from a high of 540 (out of a possible 550) to a low of 120, reflecting a wide spread in the quality of the applications. Of particular concern was the very low cost effectiveness of a significant number of proposals (i.e. high cost per pound of total phosphorous (TP) removal per year). Given the specific reference in the legislation to "practices that address cost efficiency", and the need to be fiscally prudent with this new state grant program, not funding these low efficiency projects was determined to be appropriate, regardless of the current excess availability of funds relative to the requests received.

To initiate the projects with better environmental benefit and cost-effectiveness, staff believes that the FY 2014 SLAF funding should be distributed in phases, with only projects with costs below \$50,000 per pound of TP removal per year being funded in the first phase and the remaining funds being carried over for another funding solicitation in 2014. Virginia localities are currently in the planning phase for developing projects designed to meet municipal stormwater permit requirements. MS4 Permittees are required to complete Local TMDL Actions Plans (for TMDLS established by July 2008) and Chesapeake Bay-TMDL Action Plans by July 2015. The Bay WIP also calls for localities to consider reducing urban stormwater in areas not covered by permit requirements. A 2014 solicitation will allow localities more time to identify and prioritize projects with better environmental benefits and cost effectiveness and for MS4s to better align requests for grant funding with retrofit projects in their TMDL Action Plans.

The recommended project funding list shown below provides funding for the **71** eligible projects identified in applications received from 31 localities with costs below \$50,000 per pound of TP removal per year, totaling **\$22,937,158**. This first phase of funding will allow for the initiation of projects with better environmental benefit and relative cost-effectiveness and allow the remaining **\$12,062,842** to be carried over for an additional solicitation in 2014. DEQ will issue Letters of Commitment to all recipients on the list so that they may proceed with their projects with the certainty of a funding commitment. DEQ staff will work with the authorized grant recipients as they complete the program requirements and advertise for construction bids. Upon the receipt of construction bids and the development and approval of a final project budget based on as-bid or contractual costs, the grants will be awarded individually to each recipient

Conclusion

DEQ solicited applications for FY 2014 SLAF grant assistance and evaluated the 113 projects received from 35 localities totaling **\$39,366,548**. After an evaluation of funding availability, project eligibility, priority ranking, and analyses of the cost effectiveness of the eligible projects, the recommended PPL for this first phase of funding includes **71** projects in **31** localities totaling **\$22,937,158**. The remaining **\$12,062,842** will be carried over for an additional solicitation in 2014, allowing time for localities to identify projects that are more cost effective and/or better align with their draft TMDL Action Plans.

Staff Recommendations

The staff recommends that the DEQ Director authorize the following localities/projects for SLAF matching grant assistance, subject to compliance with the program requirements and the receipt of construction bids.

	LOCALITY	PROJECT	AMOUNT AUTHORIZED	TOTAL PER LOCALITY
*	Albemarle County	Church Road Basin Retrofit	\$137,750	\$137,750
*	Arlington County	Ballston Pond retrofit to constructed wetland	\$500,000	\$500,000
*	Chesterfield County	Mid-Lothian Mines Park stream restoration	\$421,653	
	Chesterfield County	Swift Creek Watershed - stormwater pond with a sediment forebay.	\$878,200	
	Chesterfield County	Wrens Nest Road - bank stabilization & channel grade control structural (rock weir) retrofits	\$320,783	
*	City of Alexandria	Lake Cook conversion to Wet Pond	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
*	City of Chesapeake	Washington Manor Outfall - 2 new wet ponds	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
*	City of Fairfax	Daniels Run stream restoration	\$285,000	\$285,000
*	City of Hampton	Coliseum Lake retrofit	\$481,155	\$481,155
*	City of Lexington	New School: perm pavement, bioretention & dry detention pond	\$225,000	\$225,000
*	City of Manassas	Prince William Hospital Regional Stormwater Management Facility	\$1,921,471	\$1,921,471
*	City of Newport News	Stony Run Region Stormwater BMP-modified	\$629,645	
	City of Newport News	Glen Allen Court stream restoration	\$140,773	
	City of Newport News	Turnberry Wells stream restoration	\$238,585	
	City of Newport News	Atkinson Boulevard level 1 wet pond	\$191,000	
	City of Newport News	Warwick Boulevard level 2 wet pond	\$242,500	
*	City of Norfolk	Norfolk Juvenile Detention Center Dry Pond Retrofit	\$86,000	
	City of Norfolk	Ballentine School Retention Pond Retrofit	\$124,500	
	City of Norfolk	Greenway Park Enhanced Retention Basin	\$144,941	
	City of Norfolk	Parkdale Stream Restoration	\$184,000	
*	City of Petersburg	Brickhouse Run: stream restoration (ID 5.11)	\$32,500	
	City of Petersburg	Lt. Run @ Animal Shelter: stream restoration (ID 5.12)	\$104,000	
	City of Petersburg	Canal Street: bioretention (ID 4.26)	\$7,000	
	City of Petersburg	Forest Lane Washout: stream restoration (ID 4.01)	\$36,500	
*	City of Richmond	Master Plan ID # 01.01, 03.01, 04.01, 05.01 - Pocosham Creek Stream Restoration	\$1,218,945	
	City of Richmond	Maury Cemetery Stream Restoration	\$451,894	

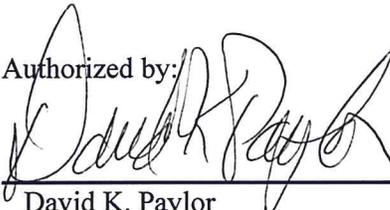
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* City of Suffolk	Design & retrofit existing pond into stormwater management facility	\$500,000	\$500,000
* City of Virginia Beach	Mill Dam Creek stream restoration	\$220,750	
City of Virginia Beach	Thalia Creek permeable pavers, curb & gutter removal and distributed bio-retention basins	\$145,152	\$365,902
* City of Waynesboro	South River constructed wetland	\$850,000	\$850,000
* Fairfax County	Pohick Creek Tributary stream restoration	\$630,500	
Fairfax County	Rabbit Branch stream restoration	\$510,000	
Fairfax County	Banks Property stream restoration	\$625,000	
Fairfax County	South Lakes H.S. outfall stream restoration	\$423,000	\$2,188,500
* Goochland County	Midpoint Industrial Park - 4 wet ponds	\$77,294	
Goochland County	County Administrative Bldg - dry swale	\$24,700	\$101,994
* Hanover County	Church of the Creator - Brandy Branch	\$368,360	
Hanover County	Laurel Meadows E.S. - Beaverdam Creek	\$48,390	\$416,750
* Henrico County	Belmont Golf Course stream bank stabilization	\$176,563	
Henrico County	Hoehns Lake stream restoration	\$146,850	\$323,413
* Isle of Wight County	Franklin Municipal - John B. Rose Airport BMPs	\$165,000	
Isle of Wight County	Nike Park BMPs	\$80,300	
Isle of Wight County	Carrsville E.S. BMP	\$44,220	
Isle of Wight County	Carrollton E.S. BMP	\$48,620	\$338,140
* James City County	Southpoint Outfall repair	\$84,048	
James City County	W'msburg Regional Library - Croaker Rd. Partnership	\$105,000	
James City County	Brook Haven WQ Improvements	\$181,273	
James City County	James Terrace WQ Improvements	\$209,817	
James City County	Jolly Pond Convenience Center BMP Upgrade	\$75,000	\$655,138
* Loudoun County	County park constructed wetland & bioretention basin	\$194,250	\$194,250
* Prince William County	Cow Branch steam restoration	\$280,000	\$280,000
* Roanoke County	Glade Creek at Vinyard Park - stream restoration	\$474,600	
Roanoke County	Murray Run / Ogdon Rd. - stream restoration	\$278,950	\$753,550
* Stafford County	Whitsons Run watershed retrofit Detention Ponds (DP257) & (DP339)	\$125,000	\$125,000
* Town of Ashland	Ashland Police permeable pavement & stream restoration	\$157,500	\$157,500
* Town of Christiansburg	Diamond Hills Phase I stream restoration & detention basin	\$230,000	
Town of Christiansburg	Christiansburg Industrial Park Basin detention basin conversion to wetland	\$122,500	
Town of Christiansburg	Depot Street Drainage Basin stream restoration	\$196,000	
Town of Christiansburg	Diamond Hills Phase II stream restoration & detention basin	\$82,500	\$631,000

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* Town of Leesburg	Exeter Wet Pond retrofit with constructed wetlands	\$392,688	
Town of Leesburg	Greenway Pond retrofit to extended dry detention	\$77,325	
Town of Leesburg	Stratford #1 Pond retrofit to extended dry detention	\$90,438	
Town of Leesburg	Exeter Dry Pond retrofit to extended dry detention	\$63,175	
Town of Leesburg	Stowers Wet Pond retrofit with constructed wetlands	\$110,050	
Town of Leesburg	Tuscarora Creek stream restoration	\$641,075	
Town of Leesburg	Kohl's Pond retrofit to extended dry detention	\$81,838	
Town of Leesburg	Foxridge Pond retrofit to extended dry detention	\$147,575	\$1,604,163
* Town of Vienna	Hunters Branch stream restoration	\$670,000	\$670,000
* York County	Dare Elementary stream restoration, constructed wetlands & retrofit practices	\$507,009	
York County	Wormley Creek stream constructed wetland & stream restoration (Cook Rd. Phase II)	\$406,250	
York County	Cook Road constructed wetland (Phase I)	\$414,806	\$1,328,065
71 Projects		\$22,937,158	\$22,937,158

✓ Action approved as recommended

Authorized by:

 David K. Paylor
 Director, DEQ