



# Funding Stormwater Projects with Ecology Grants and Loans

APWA Spring 2024 Conference

April 11, 2024

# Today's Speakers



#### Sarah Zehner

Stormwater Fund Coordinator WA State Deptartment of Ecology

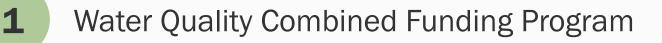
### Sherry Edquid

Levee & Stormwater Project Manager City of Tukwila



Trista Kobluskie Senior Stormwater Planner Otak, Inc. – Water & Natural Resources

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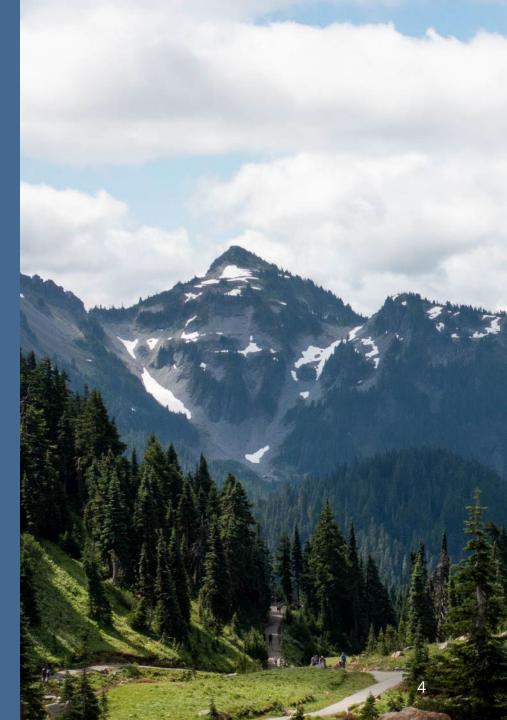
- Stormwater Project Overview
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- **Recipient and Consultant Tips**





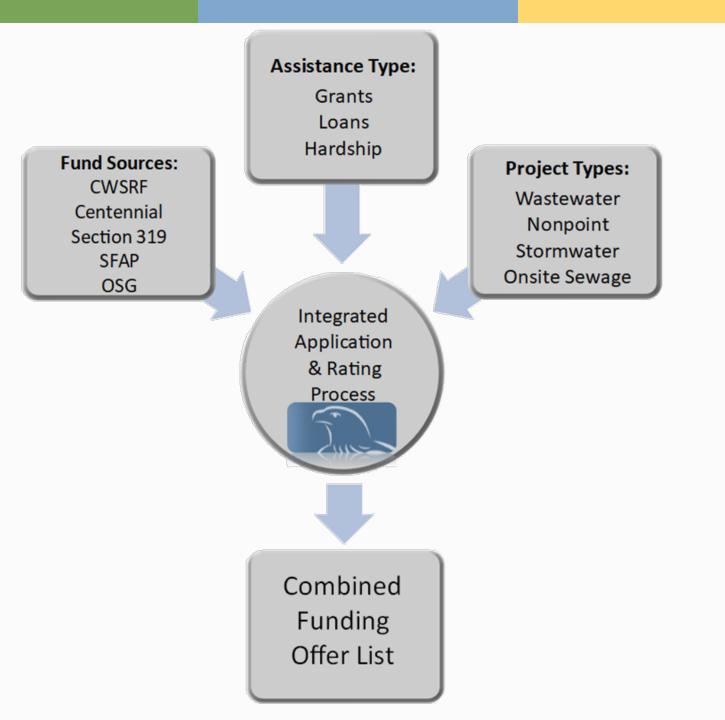
# But first, welcome!

What is your experience with Ecology Water Quality grants?





Water Quality Combined Funding Program





Estimated Funding Available DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY State of Washington

#### FY25 WQC Estimated Funding Available

CWSRF Loan	SFAP Grant	Other Grant	Total Grant & Loan Funds	
\$335 M*	\$29 M	\$22 M	\$357 M	
* \$8 M to stormwater projects				

• We typically receive 50-60 stormwater applications each funding cycle.

• In recent years, approx. 85% receive a funding offer (FY21-24)

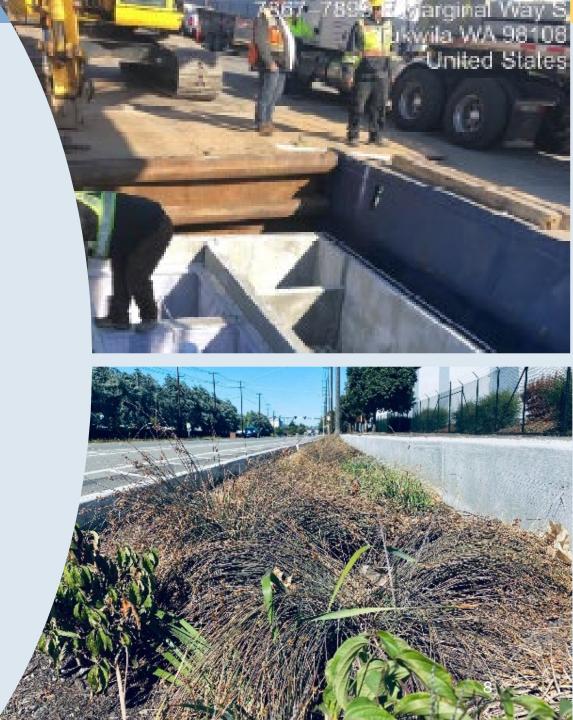
https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Payments-contracts-grants/Grants-loans/Finda-grant-or-loan/Water-Quality-Combined-Funding-Program/WQC-funding-cycle 6

### **City of Tukwila Ecology Grants Awarded**

Year	Project Name	Grant Amount	Match Amount
2016	East Marginal Way South Stormwater Outfalls	\$1,475,000	\$368,750
2017	Stormwater Outfalls Water Quality Retrofits Design	\$287,500	\$44,479
2023	Tukwila's SMAP Basin Planning for Retrofitted Water Quality/Flow Control	\$85,121	\$12,768
2023	Stormwater Outfall Water Quality Retrofit Program	\$1,383,930	\$207,589
2024	Enhanced Maintenance Plan and Decant Facility Design	\$543,580	\$81,537
2025	Stormwater Quality Retrofit Program Part 2	\$1,805,745	\$451,436
Total		\$5,580,876	\$1,166,559

East Marginal Way South Stormwater Outfalls Project – City of Tukwila \$1.475 M Grant

 This project entailed improving water quality in the Duwamish River through design and installation of a bioretention treatment planter and a modular wetland system along East Marginal Way South.





### Enhanced Maintenance Plan (EMP) and Decant Facility Design – \$543,580 Grant



### **Stormwater Management Action Plan (SMAP)**





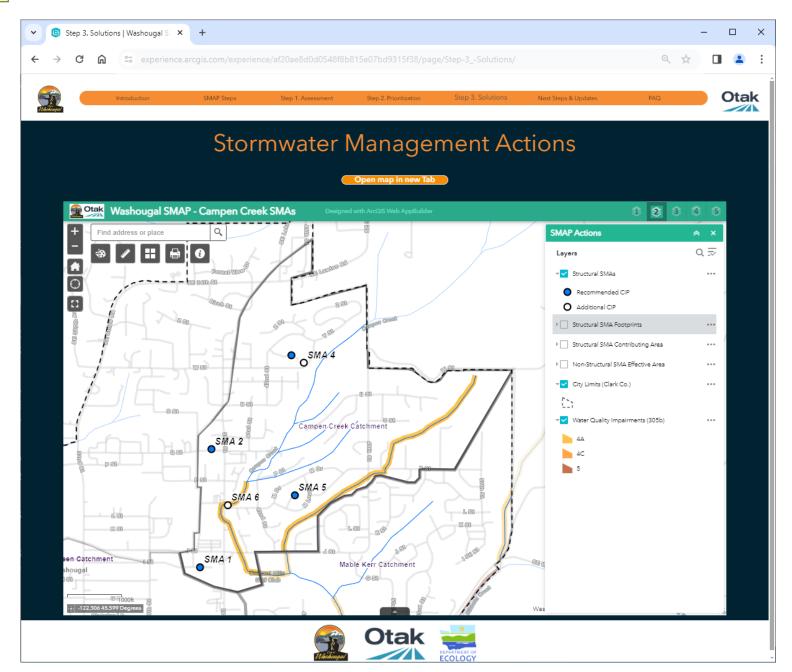
# NE 40th Water Quality Facility – City of Redmond

The 40th Street water quality facility collects stormwater from 19 acres of SR 520 and NE 40th Street and cleans it before draining to Villa Marina Creek and Lake Sammamish.

Villa Marina Creek is home to salmon and trout.

The facility was built with funds from the City, King County, Washington Department of Ecology, and Redmond Community Facilities District 2016-1.





# SMAP for Campen Creek – City of Washougal

Otak

The Washougal SMAP for Campen Creek, and the planning that led up to selecting Campen Creek as the focus of a retrofit plan, was paid for by an Ecology grant.

The SMAP was a requirement of the 2019-2024 Phase II municipal stormwater permit.

# Columbia Park Trail – City of Richland

- Design and construction of ~2,500 LF of roadside bioinfiltration swales
- 8.75 acre contributing basin
- Ecology contribution: \$734,489





# Stormwater Master Plan – City of Liberty Lake

Ecology contribution: \$167,568.00



#### Data review and gap analysis of existing data

• Operations, infrastructure, inspection, maintenance



#### Create a GIS asset database

Soils, land use, topography, permeable/impermeable areas
Existing public and private stormwater system, utilities, existing built environment



#### Develop a Stormwater Plan

Create a prioritization framework that includes water quality
Screen and evaluate problem areas using the framework
Develop conceptual designs



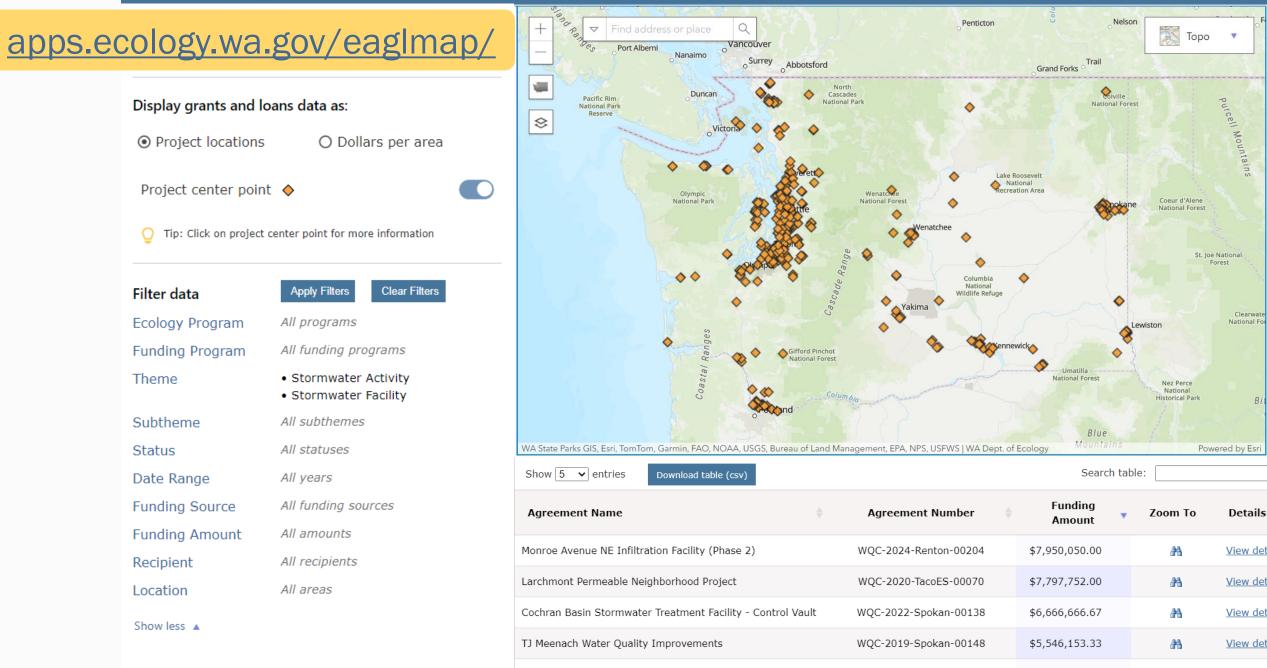
#### Conduct a Stormwater Utility Rate Study

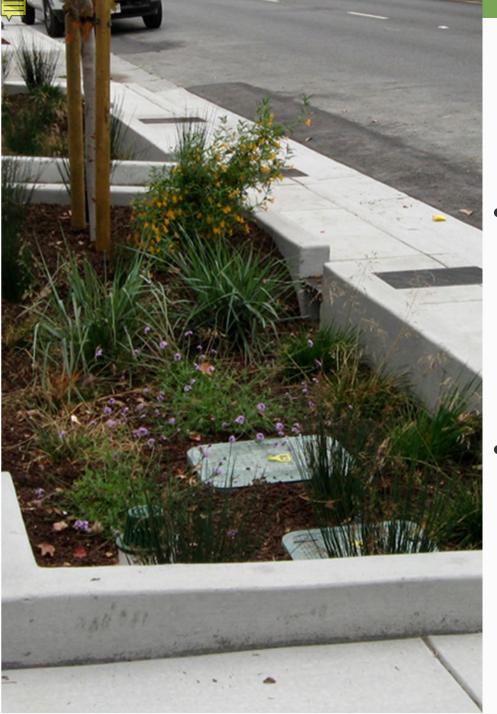
Include existing stormwater utility fee information
Standard rate categories and rate structure options

• Adjusted monthly bill scenarios

#### DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY State of Washington

#### Ecology Grants and Loans (2014 - Present)





# What funding is available? Grants

- Stormwater Financial Assistance Program (SFAP)
  - Only funds projects that manage run-off from existing development (retrofit)
  - Match 15%, Hardship match 5%, Yearly application cap of \$10M
- Grants can pay for some SW NPDES permit requirements
  - Retrofit projects
  - SW Management Action Plans (SMAPs)
  - Increased maintenance
  - Source control programs

# What funding is available? Loans



- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
  - Low interest loans
  - Can fund stormwater projects that grant cannot
    - Runoff from new and re-development even if required by the permit
    - Replace current maintenance equipment
    - Conveyance of SW including upsizing piping
  - May be used as match for SFAP grants (grant/loan combo)

#### Example: FY25 Loan terms

Loan Term	Interest Rate
5 Years	1.6%
20 Years	1.2%
30 Years	0.6%

### **Eligible Applicants by Fund Source**



Applicant	CWSRF	SFAP
Conservation Districts	X	
Counties, cities/towns	X	x
Federally recognized tribes	x	
Institutions of higher education	X	
Irrigation districts	x	
Local health jurisdictions	X	
Nonprofit organizations		
Port districts	X	X
Quasi-municipal corporations	X	
Sewer districts	X	

### Stormwater Projects

Projects that manage runoff generated by urban surfaces Stormwater Facility Projects

Stormwater Activity Projects Planning Step 1

Design Step 2

Construction Step 3

Enhanced Maintenance Programs

Source Control Programs



# Facility Projects - Step 1 Planning

- Planning and prioritizing stormwater projects to achieve Water Quality goals identified by the municipality.
- Examples of potential project components:
  - Mapping stormwater basins/catchments and existing infrastructure.
  - Assembling GIS Layers to assist in the decision-making process.
  - Establishing local water quality improvement priorities (including stakeholder engagement).
  - Preparing lists of prioritized projects and conceptual designs for top options.
- Permit-required SMAP work is eligible, if Water Quality is a priority.

### Facility Projects - Step 2 Design & Step 3 Construction

#### Step 2 Design

- Development of a Design Report and 90% Design Package.
  - Must be designed in accordance with an ECY-approved manual .
- Cultural resources, permitting, land acquisition, etc.

#### Step 3 Construction

- Applications must include an Ecology Design Report and 90% Design Package.
  - Must follow Appendix L in the WQC Funding Guidelines
  - Applications submitted without an Ecology Design Report and 90% Design Package may be offered Step 2 funds only.

#### Step 4 Design & Construction

• Small scale projects be less than \$300,000.

# **Activity Projects - Source Control Programs**

- Manage SW pollutants before they enter the SW collection system.
  - Includes development of:
    - Outreach materials
    - Data management systems
    - Staff training programs
  - Example projects:
    - New local business inspection program
    - Development of an inspection program for private BMPs



## **Activity Projects - Enhanced Maintenance Plans**

### • Step 1 – Development of an EMP

- Uses data to develop an improved, data-driven maintenance program.
- Required to apply for SFAP grant for maintenance equipment and facilities.

#### **Current Baseline Program**

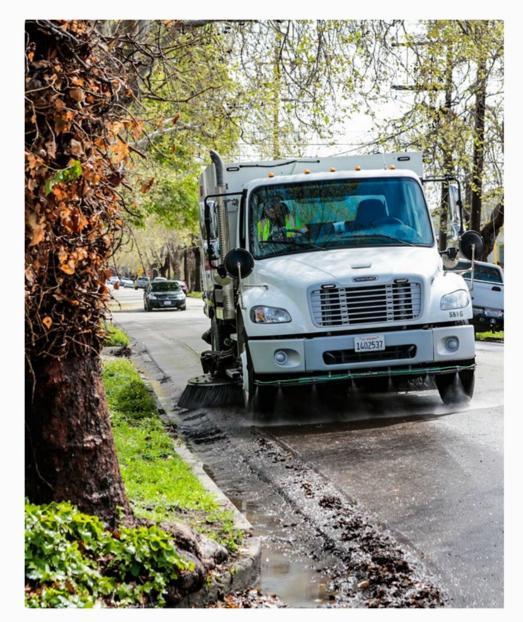
- Evaluate any data currently being collected
- Costs to administer current program
- What WQ benefit is currently being achieved?

#### Future Enhanced Program

- What WQ benefit do we want to achieve?
- What equipment/capacity/ staffing/training do we need?
- How much will it cost?
- What data will be collected to adaptively manage program?

### Activity Projects – EMP Implementation

- Step 2 Implementation of EMP
  - One-time capital investment to support implementation of the Ecology-accepted EMP
    - Purchase a sweeper or vactor truck
    - Construct a decant facility
    - Start a line cleaning program
    - Start an asset management program
- Just want to replace your current maintenance equipment or facility? Loan eligible only.



### What is eligible? Grant vs Loan



Project Type	SFAP Grant	CWSRF Loan
Stormwater Facilities for Existing Development (retrofit)	Х	Х
Stormwater Facilities for New/Redevelopment		Х
Stormwater Quality Plans/SMAPs	Х	Х
Stormwater Management Plans (considers conveyance, not WQ)		Х
Enhanced Maintenance Planning & Implementation (may include equipment)	Х	Х
Equipment needed to maintain the MS4		Х



# What should I emphasize in an application?

- Water quality, including any direct impacts to local waterbodies.
- Any plans or other documents that prioritize this project, especially if it emphasizes water quality.
- Detailed description of current conditions and proposed changes, including detail for readers not familiar with your area.
- Detailed budget and schedule.
- Ineligible projects or project components:
  - Non-clean water infrastructure (roads, bridges, drinking water systems)
  - Water <u>quantity</u>
  - Projects solely for flood control
  - Applying for grants or other funding

### Before the application opens you can...

- Sign up for our Water Quality Grants & Loans newsletter to get:
  - Application reminders
  - Workshop/Training notices
  - Offer list announcements
  - & more!
- Review feedback for past unfunded applications



Project Development, Local Supp Performance	ort, and Past Mr. John Cra 11/6/2014 9		
Readiness to Proceed	Mr. John Cra 11/6/2014 1		
SRF Federal Reporting Information	<u>n</u>		
Section 319 Initial Data Reporting	Alissa Ferrel 4/15/2016 2		
Section 319 Annual Load Reduction	on Reporting Mr. John Cra 1/14/2016 8		
V Uploads	Mr. John Cra 11/7/2014 1		
Screening/Evaluation/Offer			
Screening Checklist	Melanie Tyle 11/21/2014		
Application Modification Commen	ts		
Evaluation Scorecard			
Evaluation Summary	Grant Syste 1/5/2015 4:		
Evaluation Scorecard Report			
Offer Form	Brian B Brac 3/3/2015 3:		
Agreement			
Agreement Information	Alissa Ferrel 9/10/2015 1		
Ecology Contacts	Alissa Ferrel 9/10/2015 1		

# **Application Resources**

- Review the funding guidelines
  - Eligible project components (Sections 1.2, 1.3, 2.3, 2.4)
  - Guidance for deliverables (Appx L)
  - Scope of work templates for your application (Appx L)
- Attend our application workshop on August 13<sup>th</sup>
  - We provide a stormwater-specific applicant prep tool; copy your responses into the application.
- Discuss with an Ecology Project Manager





Link to grant webpages



### **Suggestions from an Applicant**

- Attend Ecology workshops
- Meet with Ecology to discuss your proposed project prior to submitting grant application
- Reach out to other grant awardees with similar projects
- Plan enough time to fill out the application template and copy into EAGL
- Reach out to consultants for grant writing and budget estimates





## **Consultant Assistance**

#### Grant Application Stage

- Attend Ecology's grant applicant workshop(s)
- Understand the benefits of the proposed project/plan
- Partner with applicant each develops some of the application content
- Can be done as contracted work or as business development by consultant
- If consultants will be used to execute the work paid for by the grant (e.g. prepare an engineering design, develop a planning document), ensure consultant's project administration costs are considered in the budget request for each task



## **Consultant Assistance**

#### Grant Performance Stage – All Projects

- Consultant scope of work should match the grant agreement
  - Match structure of phases & tasks to agreement
  - Use same terminology for major tasks & deliverables
  - Consider both client reviews and Ecology reviews in your scope, schedule, and budget
  - Budget for responding to Ecology's comments and additional updates to deliverables
- Send a monthly status report with your invoice each month; this will assist the grant recipient in preparing reimbursement requests and progress reports for their Ecology grant administrator
- Know when the grant expires



### **Consultant Assistance**

Grant Performance Stage - Design / Construction Projects

- Select the appropriate design standards and codes
- Expect non-engineers to review and comment on plan sets and reports

# **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Application period: 8/13 10/15/24
- Application Workshops: 8/13 8/15/24
- Draft Offer List published: 1/30/25
- Final Offer List published: 7/1/25

March - July

August – October Workshops: 8/13 - 8/15/24 Submittal: 8/13 - 10/15/24

October - December

Evaluation, Rating and Ranking: 10/15-12/23/24

January - February Draft List Published: 1/30/25 Public Comment: 1/30-2/29/25

> June-July Final List Published: 7/1/25

July - January Must be signed by 1/31/26 Costs may be eligible as of 7/1/25

Next 1-5 years Work starts no later than April 2026 Work continues through \*June 2028 (activities) or June 2030 (facilities)

Project Planning & Coordination with Ecology Application Workshops & Submittal Application Review Draft **Funding Offer** & Public Comment Final Funding Offer Agreement Development Agreement Execution & Closeout



# Thank you!