



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
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TO: Al Robinson, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel  
County Administrator

FROM: Janis A. Bobrin  
Drain Commissioner

DATE: August 2, 2000

SUBJECT: Grant Application for Huron River Watershed Stormwater Control  
Demonstration Park

**Board Action Requested:**

It is requested that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorize the submission of the application to the Environmental Protection Agency to plan, design and begin to construct a Storm Water Controls Demonstration Park for a program amount of \$417,871 for use in educating a target audience consisting of the general public, design professionals and engineering students. It is also requested that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; amend the budget and authorize the Administrator to sign the delegate contracts upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk.

**Background**

The Huron River is a high quality urban river, but is experiencing increased degradation associated with land development. In recent years, habitat and recreational uses of the River have been hindered by ever-worsening weed growth, algae blooms and sedimentation in the several River impoundments in the project area. Isolated sites of high levels of bacteria limit physical contact following rainstorms. Within the impoundments, where pollutants settle out, sediment samples have indicated phosphorus, total volatile solids, lead and arsenic levels that fall within EPA's definition of "heavily polluted."

Non-point source pollutant discharge to the Huron River and its tributary creeks is a significant source of resource impairment to the project area. In addition, flow instability is a major source of concern. The increased impervious surface areas and the decreased opportunity for storm water infiltration that accompany development result in greater volume and rate of surface runoff and increased delivery of pollutants; area creeks show the incised, eroded channels, sediment deposition, and diminished water quality associated with urbanization.

## **Discussion**

Promotion of improved storm water management practices is a priority for the Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner. Washtenaw County's storm water system design standards have become the model for Southeast Michigan. Storm water management technologies are rapidly changing and improving. Improved educational opportunities are needed to further the use of these technologies, and a demonstration park, to be sited at the Ann Arbor Northeast Area Park, adjacent to Traver Creek (County Drain) Pond, would advance local education, and allow us to monitor the effectiveness of various storm water best management practices. The City of Ann Arbor, Parks Department, has expressed strong interest in partnering with the Drain Commissioner on this project, as has the University of Michigan's Schools of Natural Resources and Environment, and Engineering. The Huron River Watershed Council will also participate in a technical advisory role.

The Drain Commissioner has been advised that US EPA monies will be available through the State Department of Environmental Quality Department to fund nonpoint source local priority projects. The grant period is estimated to run from 2000-2002.

Work undertaken will include project planning and design, construction, and preparation of information and education materials.

## **Impact on Human Resources**

The Office of Drain Commissioner will provide project management and coordination as in-kind services.

## **Impact on Budget**

The estimated cost for the total project is \$417,871. This total project costs includes funding from the Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$329,613 and \$88,258 as local match. The local match is providing project management, technical review and support, staff commitment to Project Advisory Committee, site surveys to be completed by the City of Ann Arbor, and indirect costs.

## **Impact on Indirect Costs**

Indirect @ 12.1% of staff costs (\$6,829) is provided as local match to the EPA Grant.

## **Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies**

The City of Ann Arbor Department of Parks and Recreation, the University of Michigan, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Huron River Watershed Council will be partners on this project.

## **Conformity to County Policies**

Conforms to County policies

## **Attachment**

Grant application

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR THE STORM WATER CONTROLS DEMONSTRATION PARK PROJECT FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER TOTALLING \$417,871 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2000-2002; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINSTRATOR TO SIGN THE DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 2, 2000

WHEREAS, Federal funding has been made available from US EPA through Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for nonpoint source local priority projects; and

WHEREAS, the Huron River is experiencing increased degradation associated with land development practices; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner and County Government have been working to promote water quality protection and watershed planning approaches in the Huron River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has developed a proposal to create a storm water park to demonstrate storm water management technologies to a target audience; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor Department of Parks and Recreation, the University of Michigan, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Huron River Watershed Council will be partners on this project; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, the County Administrator's Office and the Ways & Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the submission of the application to the Environmental Protection Agency for the application to the Environmental Protection Agency for the Storm Water Control Demonstration Park Project for the Office of the Drain Commissioner totaling \$417,871 for the period of 2000-2002, as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with this application.

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the budget, as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

DRAIN COMMISSIONER  
 STORM WATER CONTROLS DEMONSTRATION PARK PROGRAM  
 For the period March 1, 2000 –March 31, 2002  
 17955800

		Current Budget	Revised Budget	Variance
Revenues:				
50000	Federal Revenue	0	\$329,613	\$329,613
67000	Other Revenue & Reimb.	0	\$ 88,258	\$ 88,258
Total		0	\$417,871	\$417,871
Expenditures				
70050	Personal Services	0	\$ 44,760	\$ 44,760
80000	Other Services & Charges	0	\$354,691	\$354,691
94000	Internal Service Charges	0	\$ 6,820	\$ 6,820
93500	In-kind Charges	0	\$ 11,600	\$ 11,600
Total		0	\$417,871	\$417,871