

Federal Agency Name: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Immediate Office

Funding Opportunity Title: Urban Waters Small Grants

Announcement Type: Request for Proposals (RFP)

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OW-IO-13-01

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 66.440

Dates: Please make note of the important dates listed below. Late proposals will not be considered for funding.

Hard Copy Proposal Submission

- Hard copy proposals (2 copies and CD) must be received by the EPA Contact (See Section IV.B.2 of this RFP) by **4:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on December 16, 2013**. Hard copy proposals must be submitted by overnight/express delivery service. Hard copy proposals submitted by regular U.S. Postal Service mail or hand delivery will not be considered. However, use of overnight/express delivery service via the U.S. Postal Service may be used. EPA will not accept faxed or e-mailed submissions.

Electronic Proposal Submission

- Proposals submitted electronically via Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) must be received on or before **11:59 P.M. EST on December 16, 2013**. Please allow sufficient time to submit your proposal through Grants.gov. Note that the registration process may take a week or longer to complete.

Question Submission

- Questions must be submitted in writing via e-mail and must be received by the Agency Contact identified in Section VII by **December 9, 2013**. Written responses will be posted on EPA's website at: <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-questions>. EPA strongly recommends interested applicants refer to the written responses posted on the website prior to submitting a question.

Evaluation of Proposals

Following EPA's evaluation of proposals, all applicants will be notified regarding their status. Final applications will be requested from those eligible applicants whose proposals have been successfully evaluated and preliminarily recommended for award. Those entities will be provided with instructions and a due date for submittal of the final application package.

Note to Applicants: If you name subawardees/subgrantees and/or contractor(s) in your proposal to assist you with the proposed project, pay careful attention to the information in Section IV.E CONTRACTS AND SUBAWARDS.

SUMMARY:

Under this announcement, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is soliciting proposals from eligible applicants for projects that will advance EPA's water quality and environmental justice goals. Note that, for this grant cycle, projects proposed for funding must take place entirely within and focus on one of 18 specific Eligible Geographic Areas, as listed in Section I.A and illustrated on the Urban Waters Small Grants program mapping website (<http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>).

The goal of the Urban Waters Small Grants program is to fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization, economic development, and other local priorities, with an emphasis on underserved communities.

If the proposal is for a demonstration project, then the applicant must describe how it meets the requirements for demonstration projects, discussed in Section I.C.

In general, projects should meet the following four program objectives (as described in Sections I.A and IV.C):

- Address local urban water quality issues; and
- Engage, educate and empower; and
- Support community priorities; and
- Involve underserved communities.

In addition, proposals will be evaluated on the extent and quality of how the project will accomplish its goals through the use of appropriate and diverse partnerships, as discussed in Sections IV.C and V.A.

For the purposes of this announcement, the term “underserved communities” refers to communities with environmental justice concerns and/or susceptible populations. Communities with environmental justice concerns include minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations or communities that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks as a result of greater vulnerability to environmental hazards. Susceptible populations include groups that are at a high risk of suffering the adverse effects of environmental hazards such as, but not limited to, pregnant women, the elderly, and young children.

For more details on the term “urban” as defined in this announcement, see Section IV.C. For the purposes of this announcement, the term “urban waters” or “urban water body” may include any body of water (e.g., wetlands, rivers, lakes, bays, estuaries, reservoirs, canals, groundwater, etc) that meets this definition.

Eligible applicants include States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the U.S. (including the District of Columbia), public and private universities and colleges, public or private nonprofit institutions/organizations, intertribal consortia, and interstate agencies are eligible to apply. See Section III.A for more details.

The funding provided under this announcement supports the following goals of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 – 2015 EPA Strategic Plan: Goal 2: Protecting America's Waters, Objective 2.2:

Protect and Restore Watershed and Aquatic Ecosystems. Information on the FY 2011 – 2015 EPA Strategic Plan is available at <http://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan.html>.

The EPA funding is expected to be \$40,000 to \$60,000 for each award. The total estimated funding available for the awards under this competition is anticipated to be approximately \$1.6 million, with \$800,000 currently available and up to an estimated additional \$800,000 anticipated in FY 2014. While it is expected that the Selection Official will select at least one award per Region and/or Eligible Geographic Area, the Selection Official reserves the right to select multiple awards per Region, multiple awards per Eligible Geographic Area, no awards per Region or per Eligible Geographic Area, or the top ranked proposals for each Region or Eligible Geographic Area, depending on the rankings and other factors described in Section V.B. EPA funding is contingent upon Agency funding levels, the quality of proposals received, and other applicable considerations.

Applicants may not request more than \$60,000 in EPA funding – proposals requesting more than \$60,000 in EPA funds will not be reviewed. While there is no minimum, EPA suggests applicants request at least approximately \$40,000 in EPA funds. A minimum non-federal cost share/match of \$4,000 is required (see Section III.B for information on the cost share/match requirement). It is anticipated that funded cooperative agreements will have a one- to two-year project period.

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. URBAN WATERS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Urban Waters Small Grants program is to fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality in urban areas through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities. This program recognizes that healthy and accessible urban waters can help grow local businesses and enhance educational, recreational, social, and employment opportunities in nearby communities.

Program Objectives

Proposals submitted under this announcement should meet **all** of the following program objectives:

- (1) Address local urban water quality issues – Many urban waters are impaired by pathogens, excess nutrients, contaminated sediments that result from sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflows, polluted runoff from urban landscapes, and contamination from abandoned facilities. EPA is seeking to support projects that promote a comprehensive understanding of these local urban water quality issues, and identify and support activities that address these issues at the local level; and
- (2) Engage, educate and empower – Proposed projects should include outreach to communities/residents about urban water quality issues and engage them in activities to access, improve, and benefit from their local urban waters and the surrounding land; and

- (3) Support community priorities – Proposed projects should support broader community priorities beyond water quality and environmental benefits. Linking water quality to other community priorities, such as public health, community revitalization and economic development, provides sustained engagement by local residents and encourages broader support for local urban waters efforts; and
- (4) Involve underserved communities – EPA is seeking to fund projects that involve underserved communities. For purposes of this announcement, the term “underserved communities” refers to communities with environmental justice concerns and/or susceptible populations. Communities with environmental justice concerns include minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations or communities that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks as a result of greater exposure and/or vulnerability to environmental hazards. Susceptible populations include groups that are at a high risk of suffering the adverse effects of environmental hazards such as, but not limited to, pregnant women, the elderly, and young children.

As discussed in Section V.A, proposals will be evaluated on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses each program objective described above.

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

The Urban Waters Small Grants program is one element of support EPA is providing to the goals of the multiagency Urban Waters Federal Partnership, currently underway in 18 locations. These locations are listed below, as Eligible Geographic Areas, and are illustrated by the maps found on the Urban Waters Small Grants program mapping website

<http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>. All eligible applicants are encouraged to apply for funding (see Section III.A for more details on eligible applicants). Eligible applicants do not need to be current participants in the Federal Partnership. Eligible applicants also do not need to be currently active in or based in the Eligible Geographic Area. The intent of this solicitation is to strengthen and diversify the work taking place in these Eligible Geographic Areas to improve water quality and support community revitalization, with an emphasis on underserved communities. To learn more about the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, please visit www.urbanwaters.gov.

Eligible Geographic Areas

In their proposals, applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project activities take place entirely within and focus on one of the Eligible Geographic Areas listed below, and illustrated by the maps found at the Urban Waters Small Grants program mapping website

<http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>. In their proposals, applicants cannot propose projects in more than one Eligible Geographic Area. If an applicant submits an application covering more than one Eligible Geographic Area, the application will be rejected. The EPA encourages community involvement and the transfer of results. Projects can include participation from, and provide benefits to, communities outside of the Eligible Geographic Areas.

01. Patapsco Watershed/Baltimore Region (Maryland)
02. Anacostia Watershed (Washington, DC/Maryland)

03. Bronx and Harlem River Watersheds (New York)
04. South Platte Watershed from the Headwaters to the Denver Metropolitan Area (Colorado)
05. Los Angeles River Watershed (California)
06. Lake Pontchartrain Area/New Orleans (Louisiana)
07. Northwest Indiana Area (Indiana)
08. Big River and Meramec River Watersheds, near St. Louis (Missouri)
09. Delaware River Basin (Covering Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Camden, New Jersey; Chester, Pennsylvania; and Wilmington, Delaware)
10. Grand Rapids Area (Michigan)
11. Green-Duwamish River/Seattle (Washington)
12. Mystic River Watershed (Massachusetts)
13. Martín Peña Canal/San Juan (Puerto Rico)
14. Middle Blue River/Kansas City (Missouri)
15. Middle Rio Grande/Albuquerque (New Mexico)
16. Passaic River/Newark (New Jersey)
17. Proctor Creek Watershed/Atlanta (Georgia)
18. Western Lake Erie Basin, near Toledo (Ohio)

Note that eligible applicants do not need to be located within an Eligible Geographic Area (see Section III.A for more information on eligible applicants). However, project activities proposed by eligible applicants must take place entirely within and focus on one of the Eligible Geographic Areas (see Section III.C). Applicants can determine whether their project activities take place within one of the Eligible Geographic Areas by accessing the Urban Waters Small Grants program mapping website at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>. The website includes: 1) interactive online map; 2) list of Eligible Geographic Areas, with associated Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs); 3) step-by-step instructions for locating a watershed/subwatershed using the interactive online map; and, 4) step-by-step instructions for creating a project area map to submit with the application, using the interactive online map (as required by Section III.C and described in Section IV.C.4).

Project Types

Under this announcement, applicants should submit effective and/or creative projects that are focused on one of the three project types listed below. Proposals that address more than one project type will not maximize their score. As discussed in Section IV, applicants should identify the chosen one project type on the cover page of the proposal narrative. If more than one project type is identified on the cover page, the proposal will be evaluated on the first project type listed. As discussed in Section V.A, proposals will be evaluated on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses the one project type identified on the cover page. Eligible activities are those described in Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), as discussed in Section I.C of this announcement. Please note ineligible activities under Section III.D.

- i. Community Greening and Green Infrastructure: This includes eligible activities that engage communities in learning about, planning and developing green infrastructure/low-

impact development (LID)¹ approaches, programs and practices that enhance the sustainability of their communities and more effectively manage stormwater and runoff. Green infrastructure and LID are design philosophies applied to landscape and building design that attempt to mimic the natural hydrology of the site through the use of soils, vegetation, permeable materials and water harvesting techniques. (Please note that projects that construct or install stormwater infrastructure improvements, including use of low-impact development and green infrastructure, are **not** eligible activities for funding under this announcement, as described in Section III.D. Examples of eligible activities include: Green infrastructure and LID outreach programs, design charrettes, master plans, etc.); or

- ii. **Communities and Water Quality Data:** This includes eligible activities that serve to involve community members and/or address community issues and priorities through water quality surveys, investigations and/or monitoring efforts that involve the collection, assessment/analysis, and/or communication of existing/new water quality data; or
- iii. **Integration of Water Quality and Community Development in Planning:** This includes eligible activities that foster collaboration and coordinate a partnership among diverse stakeholders, to develop or refine a plan or study that integrates water quality protection and community revitalization related to the local waterbody or watershed. This also may include eligible activities that involve carrying out actions identified in an already-established integrated water quality/community revitalization plan related to the local waterbody or watershed.

Please see Appendix A for examples of eligible projects for each project type. Note this appendix is not an exhaustive list and is provided for reference only.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS AND LINKAGE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The funding provided under this announcement supports the following goals of the FY 2011 – 2015 EPA Strategic Plan: Goal 2: Protecting America’s Waters, Objective 2.2: Protect and Restore Watershed and Aquatic Ecosystems. Information on the FY 2011 – 2015 EPA Strategic Plan is available at <http://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan.html>.

All proposed projects should demonstrate the linkage to the EPA Strategic Plan and include specific statements describing the environmental results of the proposed project in terms of well-defined outputs and, to the maximum extent practicable, well-defined outcomes that will demonstrate how the project will contribute to the overall goals listed above.

Environmental results are a way to gauge a project’s performance and are described in terms of outputs and outcomes. Environmental outputs (or deliverables) refer to an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective, that

¹ Green infrastructure and low-impact development include the use of natural systems (e.g. greenways, wetlands, parks, forest preserves, native vegetation, etc.) and practices (e.g. rain gardens, conservation landscaping, rain barrels/cisterns, pervious pavement, constructed wetlands, etc.) to manage stormwater, reduce flooding risk, and improve water quality.

will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative, but must be measurable during a cooperative agreement funding period.

Examples of anticipated environmental outputs from the cooperative agreements to be awarded under this announcement are included in Appendix A. Please note that the list of example anticipated environmental outputs provided in Appendix A is not an exhaustive list and is provided for reference only.

Environmental outcomes are the result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective, and are used as a way to gauge a project's performance and take the form of output measures and outcome measures. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related, or programmatic in nature. Outcomes must be quantitative and may not necessarily be achieved within a cooperative agreement funding period. Outcomes may be short-term (changes in learning, knowledge, attitude, skills), intermediate (changes in behavior, practice, or decisions), or long-term (changes in condition of the natural resource).

Examples of anticipated outcomes from the cooperative agreements to be awarded under this announcement are included in Appendix A. Please note that the list of example anticipated environmental outcomes provided in Appendix A is not an exhaustive list and is provided for reference only.

As part of the Proposal Narrative, an applicant should describe how the project results will link the Agency's Strategic Plan. Additional information regarding EPA's discussion of environmental results in terms of outputs and outcomes can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/award/5700.7.pdf>.

C. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The statutory authority for the cooperative agreements to be funded under this announcement is Section 104(b)(3) of the CWA, 33 USC §1254(b)(3). CWA Section 104(b)(3) restricts the use of these cooperative agreements to conducting or promoting the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.

If the proposal is a demonstration project, then the applicant must describe how it meets the following requirement. Demonstration projects must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches. EPA expects that the results of the project will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained in the demonstration project. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not considered a demonstration project. For proposals that include demonstration projects, the applicant must describe how the project meets the above requirements. Examples of what may be considered demonstration

projects are provided in the questions & answers document available at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-questions>.

Construction and installation projects – if not part of a demonstration project – are not eligible for funding under this announcement.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. AMOUNT OF FUNDING

The total estimated funding available for the awards under this competition is anticipated to be approximately \$1.6 million, with \$800,000 currently available and up to an estimated additional \$800,000 anticipated in FY 2014. While it is expected that the Selection Official will select at least one award per Region, the Selection Official reserves the right to select multiple awards per Region and/or Eligible Geographic Area, multiple awards per Eligible Geographic Area, no awards per Region or per Eligible Geographic Area, or the top ranked proposals for each Region or Eligible Geographic Area, depending on the rankings and other factors described in Section V.B. Funding is contingent upon Agency funding levels, the quality of proposals received, and other applicable considerations.

EPA Regional Offices will award the cooperative agreements for projects selected from this announcement.

The EPA funding is expected to be \$40,000 to \$60,000 for each award. Applicants may not request more than \$60,000 in EPA funding – proposals requesting more than \$60,000 in EPA funds will not be reviewed. While there is no minimum, EPA suggests applicants request at least approximately \$40,000 in EPA funds. A minimum non-federal cost share/match of \$4,000 is required (see Section III.B for information on the cost share/match requirement). It is anticipated that funded cooperative agreements will have a one- to two-year project period.

In appropriate circumstances, EPA reserves the right to partially fund a proposal by funding discrete portions or phases of a proposed project. If EPA decides to partially fund a proposal, it will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which the proposal or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award, and therefore maintains the integrity of the competition and selection process.

EPA reserves the right to make no awards under this announcement, or make fewer awards than anticipated. In addition, EPA reserves the right to make additional awards under this announcement, consistent with Agency policy and guidance, if additional funding becomes available after the original selections are made. Any additional selections for awards will be made within six months after the original selection decisions.

B. TYPE OF FUNDING

It is anticipated that cooperative agreements will be funded under this announcement. When a cooperative agreement is awarded, EPA will have substantial involvement with the project

workplans and budget. Although EPA will negotiate precise terms and conditions relating to substantial involvement as part of the award process, the anticipated substantial federal involvement for a project selected may include:

1. Close monitoring of the recipient's performance to verify the results proposed by the applicant;
2. Collaboration during the performance of the scope of work;
3. In accordance with the applicable regulations at 40 CFR Parts 30 and 31, review of proposed procurements;
4. Review of qualifications of key personnel (EPA does not have authority to select employees or contractors employed by the recipient);
5. Review and comment on tasks/deliverables and reports prepared under the cooperative agreement(s) (the final decision on the content of these reports rests with the recipient); and
6. Upon request by the recipient and subject to the availability of personnel, EPA will provide the recipient with access to EPA scientific expertise, sampling protocols, publicly available data, and other forms of technical assistance.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the U.S. (including the District of Columbia), public and private universities and colleges, public or private nonprofit institutions/organizations, intertribal consortia, and interstate agencies are eligible to apply. Individuals, for-profit commercial entities and all federal agencies are not eligible to apply. Nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act 1995 are not eligible to apply.

All eligible applicants are encouraged to apply for funding. Eligible applicants do not need to be current participants in the Federal Partnership. Eligible applicants also do not need to be currently active in or based in the Eligible Geographic Area.

The term "interstate agency" is defined in CWA Section 502 as "an agency of two or more States established by or pursuant to an agreement or compact approved by the Congress, or any other agency of two or more States, having substantial powers or duties pertaining to the control of pollution as determined and approved by the Administrator."

An intertribal consortium is a partnership between two or more tribes that is authorized by the governing bodies of those tribes to apply for and receive assistance (see 40 CFR 35.502.). The intertribal consortium is eligible only if the consortium demonstrates that all of its members meet the eligibility requirements and authorize the consortium to apply for and receive assistance in accordance with 40 CFR 35.504 at the time of proposal submission. An intertribal consortium must submit with its proposal to EPA adequate documentation of the existence of the partnership and the authorization of the consortium by its members to apply for and receive the grant (see 40 CFR 35.504.).

Nonprofit organizations may be asked to provide documentation that they meet the definition of a nonprofit organization in OMB Circular A-122, now at 2 CFR Part 230. The OMB Circular A-122 is available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a122_2004/. Interstate agencies may be asked to provide a citation to the statutory authority, which establishes their status.

Under this competition, **only one proposal can be submitted per applicant**. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, EPA will contact them before the review process begins to determine which one will be withdrawn. If the applicant is not able to communicate a decision within 48 hours of being contacted by EPA, EPA will accept the proposal which was submitted first. For the purposes of this RFP, EPA considers governmental units to be a single applicant per the definition of *Grantee* in 40 CFR 31.3 and they may submit only one proposal to EPA. The Agency will not accept proposals from more than one agency of the same governmental unit. However, applicants may list other eligible applicants as partners on proposals even if the partner also submits a proposal to EPA. Additional information regarding the one proposal per applicant requirement may be found on the questions & answers document available at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-questions>.

B. COST SHARING/MATCH REQUIREMENTS

For this RFP, EPA has determined that **an applicant must provide a minimum of \$4,000 as the non-federal cost share/match**. The non-federal cost share/match may be provided in cash or can come from in-kind contributions, such as use of volunteers and/or donated time, equipment, expertise, etc., and is subject to the regulations governing matching fund requirements described in 40 CFR 30.23 or 40 CFR 31.24, as applicable.

In-kind contributions often include salaries or other verifiable costs and this value must be carefully documented. In the case of salaries, applicants may use either minimum wage or fair market value. Cost share/match must be used for eligible and allowable project costs. Cost share/matching funds are considered grant funds and are included in the total award amount and should be used for the reasonable and necessary expenses of carrying out the workplan. All grant funds are subject to federal audit. Any restrictions on the use of grant funds (examples of restrictions are outlined in Section III.D of this announcement) also apply to the use of cost share/match. Other federal grants may not be used as cost share/match without specific statutory authority. In order to be considered for funding, all applicants must describe in their proposal submission how they will contribute the minimum cost share/match requirement.

Indian Tribes may request a decrease of the cost share/match requirement if fulfilling the cost share/match requirement would impose undue hardship. Tribal governments wishing to request a decrease to the cost share/match requirement should submit the request in writing, demonstrating that fulfillment of the cost share/match requirement would impose undue hardship. The written request should be included as part of the proposal package. Tribal governments may prepare a budget and proposal based on the assumption that EPA will approve the reduced cost share/match. If the applicant does not demonstrate undue hardship, the applicant must then meet the minimum \$4,000 cost share/match requirement. The applicant must also provide a new budget with the final grant application based on the minimum \$4,000 cost share/match

requirement. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that all work plan activities for a project which is evaluated and competitively awarded will be implemented as described in the original proposal.

C. THRESHOLD ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Proposals must meet the following threshold criteria in order to be considered for funding. Only proposals that meet all of these criteria will be considered eligible and evaluated against the ranking factors in Section V of the announcement. Applicants deemed ineligible for funding consideration as a result of the threshold eligibility review will be notified within 15 calendar days of the ineligibility determination.

1. An applicant must meet the eligibility requirements in Sections III.A and III.B of this announcement.
2. Proposed project activities must take place entirely within and focus on one of the Eligible Geographic Areas listed in Section I.A and defined by the maps found at the Urban Waters Small Grants program mapping website <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>. EPA will determine whether applicants have met this requirement by reviewing the required project area map, which must correctly include the elements outlined in Section IV.C.4. If EPA cannot make this determination in its review of the map, the proposal will be deemed ineligible for funding consideration and not be reviewed.
3. Proposals must **substantially comply** with the proposal submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV of this announcement or else they will be rejected.
4. Where a page limit is expressed in Section IV.C.3, pages in excess of the page limit will not be reviewed.
5. Proposals must be in compliance with CWA 104(b)(3) and include projects that conduct or promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.
 - If the proposal is a demonstration project, then the applicant must describe how it meets the following requirement: demonstration projects must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not considered a demonstration project.
 - Unless part of a demonstration project, construction and installation projects are not eligible for funding under this announcement.
6. Proposals requesting EPA funds in excess of \$60,000 will not be reviewed.
7. Applicants must demonstrate in their proposal how they will provide the minimum required non-federal cost share/match of \$4,000 as described in Section III.B.
8. Proposals must be received by EPA or received through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>), as specified in Section IV of this announcement, on or before the proposal submission deadline published in Section IV of this announcement. If submitting a hard copy proposal, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their

proposal reaches the designated person/office specified in Section IV of the announcement by the submission deadline. Proposals received after the submission deadline will not be considered unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that it was late due to EPA mishandling or because of technical issues attributable to Grants.gov. For hard copy submissions, where Section IV requires proposal receipt by a specific person/office by the submission deadline, receipt by an agency mailroom is not sufficient. If you have not received a confirmation of receipt from EPA within 30 days of the application deadline, please contact Ji-Sun Yi (the Agency contact listed in Section IV.B.2) at 202-564-2937. Without a confirmation, there is a risk that your application will not be reviewed.

9. If the applicant chooses to submit a hard copy of the proposal, it must be submitted by overnight/express delivery service. **Hard copy proposals submitted by regular U.S. Postal Service mail or hand delivery will not be considered.** However, use of overnight/express delivery service via the U.S. Postal Service may be used. **EPA will not accept faxed or emailed submissions.** Only one proposal per applicant can be submitted under this RFP. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, EPA will contact them before the review process begins to determine which one will be withdrawn as described in Section III.A.
10. If a proposal is submitted that includes any ineligible tasks or activities (see Section III.D), that portion of the proposal will be ineligible for funding and may, depending on the extent to which it affects the proposal, render the entire proposal ineligible for funding.

D. INELIGIBLE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Provided below are examples of project activities that are generally **not** eligible for funding under this announcement. In some cases, the project activity might be eligible for funding if it is part of a demonstration project (as discussed in Section I.C):

- construction of stormwater infrastructure improvements, including installation of low-impact development and green infrastructure;
- removal of trash and debris;
- construction of habitat for birds and other wildlife along the water body;
- construction of connections between open space to provide corridors for birds and other wildlife;
- installation of erosion control measures to stabilize stream banks;
- construction of community access points, such as overlooks, boat launches, and recreation areas;
- urban farming/agriculture; and

- activities that directly benefit the federal government (e.g., training provided to federal employees, restoration/improvement of federal lands/facilities, etc.).

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. APPLICATION PACKAGES

Applicants can download individual grant application forms, including Standard Forms (SF) 424 and SF 424A, from EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/application.htm> . If you cannot access the electronic forms, a paper application kit will be mailed upon request. Please send an e-mail to GAD_OGDWEB@epamail.epa.gov with 'PAPER APPLICATION KIT' in the subject line to request a paper application kit.

B. FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Proposals must be received by EPA or received through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>), as specified in Section IV.B of this announcement, on or before the proposal submission deadline below.

Applicants have the option to submit their proposals in **one** of two ways: 1) electronically via Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) **or** 2) hard copy (2 copies) and CD by overnight/express delivery to the EPA contact identified in Section IV.B.2. **Proposals that are submitted via regular U.S. Postal Service mail, hand delivery, FAX, or e-mail will not be considered.** However, use of overnight/express delivery service via the U.S. Postal Service may be used. All proposals must be prepared, and include the information, as described in Section IV.C. **CONTENT OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION**, regardless of mode of submission.

Proposals submitted by hard copy with CD must be **received** by the EPA contact identified in Section IV.B.2 by **4:00 P.M. EST December 16, 2013**. Proposals submitted electronically via Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) must be **received** by **11:59 P.M. EST December 16, 2013**. Late proposals will not be considered for funding.

1. Grants.gov Submission

The electronic submission of your application must be made by an official representative of your institution/organization who is registered with Grants.gov and is authorized to sign applications for Federal assistance. For more information on the registration requirements that must be completed in order to submit an application through Grants.gov, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on "Applicants" on the top of the page and then go to the "Get Registered" link on the page.

If your organization is not currently registered with Grants.gov, please encourage your office to designate an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and ask that individual to begin the registration process *as soon as possible*. Please note that the registration process also requires that your organization have a DUNS number and a current registration with the System for

Award Management (SAM) and *the process of obtaining both could take a month or more*. Applicants must ensure that all registration requirements are met in order to apply for this opportunity through Grants.gov and should ensure that all such requirements have been met *well in advance of the submission deadline*. Registration on Grants.gov, SAM.gov, and DUNS number assignment is FREE.

To begin the application process under this grant announcement, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on “Applicants” on the top of the page and then “Apply for Grants” from the dropdown menu and then follow the instructions accordingly. Please note: **To apply through grants.gov, you must use Adobe Reader software and download the compatible Adobe Reader version.** For more information about Adobe Reader, to verify compatibility, or to download the free software, please visit <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support/technical-support/software/adobe-reader-compatibility.html>.

You may also be able to access the application package for this announcement by searching for the opportunity on <http://www.grants.gov>. Go to <http://www.grants.gov> and then click on “Search Grants” at the top of the page and enter the Funding Opportunity Number, **EPA-OW-IO-13-01**, or the CFDA number that applies to the announcement (CFDA 66.440), in the appropriate field and click the Search button. Alternatively, you may be able to access the application package for by clicking on the Application Package button at the top right of the synopsis page for the announcement on <http://www.grants.gov>. To find the synopsis page, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Browse Agencies” button in the middle of the page and then go “Environmental Protection Agency” to find the EPA funding opportunities.

For Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) **submission questions**, please call the Grants.gov 24-hour helpline at 1-800-518-4726 or visit <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>.

Proposal Submission Deadline

Your organization’s AOR must submit your complete application package electronically to EPA through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) no later than **11:59 PM EST December 16, 2013**. *Please allow for enough time to successfully submit your application process and allow for unexpected errors that may require you to resubmit.*

Please submit *all* of the application materials described below using the Grants.gov application package that you downloaded using the instructions above. For additional instructions on completing and submitting the electronic application package, click the “Show Instructions” tab that is accessible within the application package itself.

Application Materials

The following forms and documents are required under this announcement:

Mandatory Documents:

I. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424).

II. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A).

III. Narrative Proposal (Project Narrative Attachment Form) prepared as described in Section IV.C.3 of this announcement and Project Area Map prepared as described in Section IV.C.4 of this announcement.

For uploading the mandatory documents, follow the instructions on Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>). Please note: although the project area map will be uploaded as an “Optional Project Narrative File,” the project area map is a **required** document and must be included in the application package as a separate document.

Optional Documents: Supporting Materials, if applicable. See Section IV.C.3 for more details on what may be considered supporting materials.

Applications submitted through Grants.gov will be time and date stamped electronically.

If you have not received a confirmation of receipt from EPA (not from Grants.gov) within 30 days of the application deadline, please contact Ji-Sun Yi at (202) 564-2937. Without a confirmation, there is a risk that your application will not be reviewed.

2. Hard Copy and Compact Disc (CD) Submission

Two hard copies of all required documents listed in Section IV.C, CONTENT OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION, and an electronic version on a CD, are required to be sent by overnight/express delivery service to the EPA contact mailing address listed below. **Proposals that are submitted via regular U.S. Postal mail, hand delivery, FAX, or e-mail will not be considered.** However, use of overnight/express delivery service via the U.S. Postal Service may be used.

Please mark all submissions: **ATTN: FY13 URBAN WATERS SMALL GRANTS RFP.** The electronic version copied on the CD may be in PDF or MS Word format. Annotated resumes (preferably no more than two pages each) may need to be scanned so that they can be submitted electronically as part of the CD. Proposal submissions sent by hard copy with CD must be received by the EPA contact by **4:00 P.M. EST December 16, 2013.**

Hard copy proposal submission contact:

Ji-Sun Yi
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Urban Waters Program
William Jefferson Clinton (WJC) Building East, Room 2381A
1201 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Attn: FY13 Urban Waters Small Grants RFP

If you have not received a confirmation of receipt from EPA (not from Grants.gov) within 30 days of the application deadline, please contact Ji-Sun Yi at (202) 564-2937. Without a confirmation, there is a risk that your application will not be reviewed.

C. CONTENT OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applicants must read the following section very closely. A complete proposal package must include the following four documents described below:

1. Signed Standard Form (SF) 424, Application for Federal Assistance

Complete the form. There are no attachments. Please be sure to include organization fax number and e-mail address in Block 5 of the SF 424.

Please note that the organizational Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number must be included on the SF 424. Organizations may obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or by visiting the website at www.dnb.com.

2. SF 424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Complete the form. There are no attachments. The total amount of federal funding requested for the project should be shown on line 5(e) and on line 6(k) of the SF-424A. If indirect costs are included, the amount of indirect costs should be entered on line 6(j). The indirect cost rate (a percentage), the base (e.g., personnel costs and fringe benefits), and the amount should also be indicated on line 22. If indirect costs are requested, a copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement must be submitted as part of the application package. In Section B: Budget Categories, column (1) should be filled out for federal funds, column (2) should be filled out for non-federal cost share / match, and column (5) should be filled out for total project cost (combined federal funds and non-federal cost share / match).

3. Proposal Narrative

NOTE: The Proposal Narrative (including cover page) must be limited to no more than 10 single-spaced, typewritten 8.5x11-inch pages (a page is one side of paper). Pages should be consecutively numbered for ease of reading. It is recommended that applicants use a standard 12-point type with 1-inch margins. While these guidelines establish the minimum type size recommended, applicants are advised that readability is of paramount importance and should take precedence in selection of an appropriate font for use in the proposal. Additional pages beyond the 10-page single-spaced limit will not be reviewed.

- The 10-page limit for the Proposal Narrative includes all elements described in Part I (cover page) and Part II (project description) below, except where noted.
- In addition to the Proposal Narrative, applicants are required to submit a map of the proposed project area as a separate document (see Section IV.C.4). The project area map does not count toward the 10-page limit for the Proposal Narrative or the 10-page limit for the supporting materials.

- Please note that supporting materials that the applicant provides are not included in the 10-page limit for the Proposal Narrative. However, supporting materials must also be limited to no more than 10 pages and should be consecutively numbered.
 - Additional pages of supporting materials beyond the 10-page limit will not be reviewed.
 - Partnership letters of commitment, annotated resumes, and/or Quality Assurance/Quality Control documentation are considered supporting materials, but do not count toward the 10-page limit on supporting materials.
 - Please use discretion in the supporting materials provided as attachments; attachments should be relevant to the project.
 - Please submit all supporting materials as one electronic file, such as but not limited to, PDF.

The **Proposal Narrative, including Parts I – II below**, must be typewritten and must include the information described below. If a particular item is not applicable, clearly state this. It is suggested that the proposal be identified by the headings in the exact order as listed below.

I. Cover Page - This section should include the following:

- a) Name of Applicant;
- b) Name of Urban Water Body;
- c) Name of the Eligible Geographic Area in which the proposed project activities will take place;
- d) Project Title (the project title should reflect the main project goal/outcome and should be 15 words or less);
- e) Project Type (choose only one)
- f) Key personnel and contact information (i.e., e-mail address and phone number);
- g) Total project cost (specify the amount of federal funds requested, the non-federal cost share / match, and the total project cost); and
- h) Abstract – Provide a brief (250 words or less) description of the main objective, activities, and outputs/outcomes of the project; and
- i) Applicant Organization – Provide a brief (100 words or less) description of the applicant organization, including its mission and key ongoing projects/activities the organization is involved in.

II. Project Description – Please address the following categories (a - l) outlined below. Proposals will be evaluated according to the selection criteria described in Section V.

- a) Program Objective (1): Address local urban water quality issues – Describe how the proposal addresses this program objective listed in Section I.A. Proposals should describe how the project promotes a comprehensive understanding of the local urban water quality issues, and identifies and supports activities that address these issues at the local level. The description should include the following:
- Describe the characteristics that make the project area and the associated water body “urban”. Examples of supporting information include but are not limited to total population relative to adjacent areas, population density, land use, percentages of residential/commercial/industrial areas, and specific environmental challenges that are unique to the project area (e.g., inaccessible waterways due to development).
 - Describe the following: 1) the water quality issues/threats affecting the water body, 2) the adverse environmental, health, and/or economic impacts of these issues on the community (e.g. contact or swimming restrictions, fish consumption advisories, limited recreational use , reduced property values, flooding, etc); **and**, 3) how the project addresses the water quality issues/threats and addresses the adverse environmental, health, and/or economic impacts on the community (e.g. increase recreation opportunities, increase of green space for community activities, prevention of flooding, etc).
- b) Program Objective (2): Engage, educate and empower – Describe how the proposal addresses this program objective listed in Section I.A. Proposals should describe how the project includes outreach to communities/residents about urban water quality issues and engages them in activities to access, improve, and benefit from the urban water body and surrounding land.
- c) Program Objective (3): Support community priorities – Describe how the proposal addresses this program objective listed in Section I.A. Describe how the project supports broader community priorities beyond water quality and environmental benefits. Examples are public health, community revitalization, economic development, jobs and workforce development, outdoor amenities for recreation, and crime prevention. Community priorities should be demonstrated by available community information (e.g., documented community interests, community plans, surveys, polls, studies, etc.). If this community information is currently under development, proposals should describe how the information will be generated and include a preliminary assessment of community priorities.
- d) Program Objective (4): Involve underserved communities – Describe how the proposal addresses this program objective listed in Section I.A. Proposals should describe how the project involves underserved communities. For

purposes of this announcement, the term “underserved communities” refers to communities with environmental justice concerns and/or susceptible populations. Communities with environmental justice concerns include minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations or communities that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks as a result of greater vulnerability to environmental hazards. Susceptible populations include groups that are at a high risk of suffering the adverse effects of environmental hazards such as, but not limited to, pregnant women, the elderly, and young children.

Describe the characteristics of the population/project area that identifies it as an “underserved community,” using supporting information (such as information on low-income status, fish consumption concerns, difficulties accessing waterways, taking advantage of recreational opportunities, failing infrastructure, and difficulties accessing resources).

- e) Project Types – Describe how the project activities address **one** of the project types listed below. Please see Section I.A for more information on the project types.
- Community Greening and Green Infrastructure; or
 - Communities and Water Quality Data; or
 - Integration of Water Quality and Community Development in Planning.

Please note that proposals that address more than one project type will not maximize their score. Applicants should identify the chosen one project type on the cover page of the proposal narrative. If more than one project type is identified on the cover page, the proposal will be evaluated on the first project type listed.

- f) Partnerships – Describe how the project will accomplish its goals through the use of appropriate and diverse partnerships. Identify and list all partners² involved, including those partnerships that may be under development. Describe the roles or planned roles of each partner in the project, and how each partner will contribute to the goals of the project.
- For existing partnerships, partnership letters of commitment should be included as supporting materials, but will not count toward the 10-page limit for supporting materials. Partnership letters of commitment should describe specific activities partners will assist with or lead during the project. All partnership letters of commitment should be on the official letterhead of the supporting agency or organization, and can be addressed to the applicant. If an

² Partners may include but are not limited to industry, businesses, academic institutions, non-profit organizations, local/regional planning organizations, community organizations (including those that benefit underserved communities) and other appropriate partners to work on urban waters issues.

applicant is in the process of engaging a partner, proposals should describe how the applicant plans to engage that partner and establish a working relationship to successfully complete the project. If the applicant does not intend to have partners, then the applicant should explain how it will effectively perform the project without partners. Please do not send letters of endorsement, recommendation, or support; they will not be considered.

g) Environmental Results and Measuring Progress – Proposals should describe the following elements:

- Stated Objective/Link to EPA Strategic Plan - List the objective of the project and describe the linkage to the EPA Strategic Plan (see Section I.B of this announcement). The Urban Waters Small Grants support the following goals of the FY 2011 – 2015 EPA Strategic Plan: Goal 2: Protecting America's Waters, Objective 2.2: Protect and Restore Watershed and Aquatic Ecosystems.
- Results of Activities (Outputs) - List the products/results which are expected to be achieved from accomplishment of the project activities and an approach for tracking your progress toward achieving the expected project output(s) (examples of outputs can be found in Section I.B and Appendix A of this announcement).
- Anticipated Environmental Improvement (Outcomes) - List the anticipated environmental improvements to be accomplished as a result of the project activities. These improvements are changes or benefits to the environment which are a result from the accomplishment of project outputs. Describe an approach for tracking your progress toward achieving the expected project outcome(s) (examples of outcomes can be found in Section I.B and Appendix A of this announcement).

h) Project Activities/Milestone Schedule/ Detailed Budget Narrative – Proposals should describe the following elements:

- Project Activities – Outline the steps the applicant will take to meet the project objectives. Describe the detailed project activities or components and the anticipated products associated with each activity.
- Milestone Schedule – Provide a projected milestone schedule that covers each year of the total grant period request and provides a breakout of the project activities into phases with associated activities, a timeframe for completion of activities, and an approach for ensuring that awarded funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner. The project start date will follow award acceptance by the successful applicants.

- Detailed Budget Narrative – Provide a detailed budget and estimated funding amounts for each project component/activity. Identify the requested federal dollars, demonstrate how the non-federal cost share/match will be met and provide a total project cost. This section provides an opportunity for narrative description of the budget or aspects of the budget found in the SF 424A (i.e., personnel, travel, contractual, other). All subgrant funding should be located under the “other” category. This section provides an opportunity for narrative description of the budget or aspects of the budget such as other and contractual. Describe itemized costs in sufficient detail for EPA to determine the reasonableness and allowability of costs for each work plan component/activity including the use of the cost share/match funds. Helpful tips on writing a budget may be found at http://www.epa.gov/ogd/recipient/ogd_budget_detail_guidance.pdf.
 - Total costs must include separate breakdowns for federal costs and non-federal cost share/matching components (a minimum \$4,000 non-federal cost share/match is required). Explain if and how partners will contribute to the required cost share/match. Attach letters of commitment from intended cost share/match partners, to your proposal. Partnership letters of commitment should be included in the supporting materials, but will not count toward the 10-page limit for supporting materials. All partnership letters of commitment should be on the official letterhead of the supporting agency or organization, and can be addressed to the applicant. Describe cost-effectiveness, reasonableness of costs, and value of in-kind contributions. If applicable, include any travel for applicant staff to attend any necessary meetings throughout the proposed project period, including travel associated with an in-person presentation on their project to the local Urban Waters Federal Partnership in their Eligible Geographic Area, if the applicant chooses to provide the presentation in-person (see Section VI.E of this announcement for additional information). Similarly, travel costs associated to having one representative from the recipient organization attend the Urban Waters Small Grants National Training Workshop must be included if the recipient plans to use cooperative agreement funds for travel expenses to the National Training Workshop or if the recipient intends to pay for travel expenses to the National Training Workshop as part of the recipient's match requirement (see Section VI.F of this announcement for additional information on the National Training Workshop).
- i) Share Results – Describe how the applicant will share the results of the project with state, tribal, and local government agencies, other community and

watershed organizations, public and private organizations, and/or other interested stakeholders. For example, the applicant could create opportunities for sharing best practices and lessons learned in the form of meetings, webcasts, or other mechanisms.

j) Programmatic Capability/Specialized Experience – Proposals should describe the following elements:

- Organizational Experience – Provide a brief description of your organizational experience related to the proposed project, and your infrastructure as it relates to your ability to successfully implement the proposed project.
- Staff Expertise/Qualifications – Provide a list of key staff and briefly describe their expertise/qualifications and knowledge, and describe your resources or the ability to obtain them to successfully achieve the goals of the project. Include an estimate of the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) workers (based on 2,080 hours per year/FTE). List proposed partner entities, and describe their roles, and whether they will participate as subgrantees. Annotated resumes of applicant’s key staff (no more than two pages each) are also encouraged. Annotated resumes should be included in the supporting materials, but do not count toward the 10-page limit for supporting materials.

k) Past Performance – Briefly describe federally and/or non-federally funded assistance agreements (an assistance agreement is a grant or cooperative agreement and not a contract) similar in size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project that your organization performed within the last five years (no more than three such agreements and preferably EPA agreements) and:

- Describe whether, and how, you were able to successfully complete and manage those agreements.
- Describe your history of meeting the reporting requirements under those agreements including submitting acceptable final technical reports.
- Describe how you documented and/or reported on whether you were making progress towards achieving the expected results (i.e., outputs and outcomes) under those agreements. If you were not making progress, please indicate whether, and how, you documented why not.

Note: In evaluating the applicant’s past performance, the Agency will consider the information supplied by the applicant in its proposal, and may also consider relevant information from other sources including Agency files (e.g., Grantee Compliance Database) and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify

and/or supplement the information provided the by applicant). If you do not have any relevant or available past performance information, please indicate this in the proposal and you will receive a neutral score for these factors under Section V. Failure to provide any past performance information, or to include a statement in the proposal that you do not have any relevant or available past performance or reporting information, may result in a zero score for these factors (see also Section V).

- 1) Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC)– If you plan to collect or use environmental data or information, explain how you will comply with the Quality Assurance/Quality Control requirements (see Section VIII.A QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL (QA/QC) of this announcement for additional information). If applicable, Quality Assurance/Quality Control document should be included in the supporting materials, but will not count toward the 10-page limit for supporting materials.

NOTE: The applicant should also provide in its Proposal Narrative any additional information, to the extent not already identified above, that addresses the selection criteria found in Section V.

4. Map that demonstrates that the proposed project activities will take place entirely within and focus on one of the 18 Eligible Geographic Areas outlined in Section I.A and illustrated at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>. Applicants are required to submit a map of the proposed project area as a separate document. The map does not count toward the 10-page limit for the Proposal Narrative or the 10-page limit for the supporting materials.

- The map should be produced using the Urban Waters Small Grants Program mapping website, found at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-mapping>.
- Also, attach to the map a list of the 12-digit HUC(s) in which the project activities will take place. A list of eligible HUCs, as well as step-by-step instructions for locating a watershed/subwatershed and creating the project area map are available on the mapping website (see URL address above). Applicants should follow the step-by-step instructions to create the project area map, to be included as part of the application package.

D. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

Proposals submitted by hard copy with CD must be **received** by the EPA contact identified in Section IV.B.2 by **4:00 P.M. EST December 16, 2013**. Proposals submitted electronically via Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) must be **received** on or before **11:59 P.M. EST December 16, 2013**. Late proposals will not be considered for funding.

E. CONTRACTS AND SUBAWARDS

1. Can funding be used for the applicant to make subawards, acquire contract services, or fund partnerships?

EPA awards funds to one eligible applicant as the recipient even if other eligible applicants are named as partners or co-applicants or members of a coalition or consortium. The recipient is accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of funds.

Funding may be used to provide subgrants or subawards of financial assistance, which includes using subawards or subgrants to fund partnerships, provided the recipient complies with applicable requirements for subawards or subgrants including those contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate. Applicants must compete contracts for services and products, including consultant contracts, and conduct cost and price analyses, to the extent required by the procurement provisions of the regulations at 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate. The regulations also contain limitations on consultant compensation. Applicants are not required to identify subawardees/subgrantees and/or contractors (including consultants) in their proposal. However, if they do, the fact that an applicant selected for award has named a specific subawardee/subgrantee, contractor, or consultant in the proposal EPA selects for funding does not relieve the applicant of its obligations to comply with subaward/subgrant and/or competitive procurement requirements as appropriate. Please note that applicants may not award sole source contracts to consulting, engineering or other firms assisting applicants with the proposal solely based on the firm's role in preparing the proposal.

Successful applicants cannot use subgrants or subawards to avoid requirements in EPA grant regulations for competitive procurement by using these instruments to acquire commercial services or products from for-profit organizations to carry out its assistance agreement. The nature of the transaction between the recipient and the subawardee or subgrantee must be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and subrecipient assistance under Subpart B Section .210 of OMB Circular A-133 , and the definitions of subaward at 40 CFR 30.2(ff) or subgrant at 40 CFR 31.3, as applicable. EPA will not be a party to these transactions. Applicants acquiring commercial goods or services must comply with the competitive procurement standards in 40 CFR Part 30 or 40 CFR Part 31.36 and cannot use a subaward/subgrant as the funding mechanism.

2. How will an applicant's proposed subawardees/subgrantees and contractors be considered during the evaluation process described in Section V of the announcement?

Section V of the announcement describes the evaluation criteria and evaluation process that will be used by EPA to make selections under this announcement. During this evaluation, except for those criteria that relate to the applicant's own qualifications, past performance, and reporting history, the review panel will consider, as appropriate and relevant, the qualifications, expertise, and experience of:

- (i) an applicant's named subawardees/subgrantees identified in the proposal if the applicant demonstrates in the proposal that if it receives an award that the subaward/subgrant will be properly awarded consistent with the applicable regulations in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31. For example, applicants must not use

- subawards/subgrants to obtain commercial services or products from for-profit firms or individual consultants.
- (ii) an applicant's named contractor(s), including consultants, identified in the proposal if the applicant demonstrates in its proposal that the contractor(s) was selected in compliance with the competitive Procurement Standards in 40 CFR Part 30 or 40 CFR 31.36 as appropriate. For example, an applicant must demonstrate that it selected the contractor(s) competitively or that a proper non-competitive sole-source award consistent with the regulations will be made to the contractor(s), that efforts were made to provide small and disadvantaged businesses with opportunities to compete, and that some form of cost or price analysis was conducted. EPA may not accept sole source justifications for contracts for services or products that are otherwise readily available in the commercial marketplace.

EPA will not consider the qualifications, experience, and expertise of named subawardees / subgrantees and/or named contractor(s) during the proposal evaluation process unless the applicant complies with these requirements.

F. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR APPLICANTS INCORPORATED INTO THE SOLICITATION

Additional provisions that apply to this solicitation and/or awards made under this solicitation, including but not limited to those related to confidential business information, can be found at http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/solicitation_provisions.htm. These, and the other provisions that can be found at the website link, are important, and applicants must review them when preparing proposals for this solicitation. If you are unable to access these provisions electronically at the website above, please communicate with the EPA contact listed in this solicitation to obtain the provisions.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals eligible based on the Section III threshold eligibility review will be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria and weights below (100-point scale). Points will be awarded based on how well and thoroughly each criterion and/or sub-criterion is addressed in the proposal package. Refer to Section IV.C for more details on how to address these criteria.

- 1) Program Objective (1): Address local urban water quality issues (Total of 17 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses this program objective by demonstrating the following, as described in Section IV.C.3.II.a
 - A. The characteristics that make the project area and the associated water body “urban” (7 points).

- B. 1) the water quality issues/threats affecting the water body, 2) the adverse impacts of these issues on the community (e.g., contact or swimming restrictions, fish consumption advisories, limited recreational use, reduced property values, flooding, etc); **and**, 3) how the project addresses the water quality issues/threats and addresses the adverse environmental, health, and/or economic impacts on the community (e.g., increase recreation opportunities, increase of green space for community activities, prevention of flooding, etc) (10 points).
- 2) Program Objective (2): Engage, educate and empower (6 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses this program objective, as described in Section IV.C.3.II.b
- 3) Program Objective (3): Support Community Priorities (6 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses this program objective, as described in Section IV.C.3.II.c
- 4) Program Objective (4): Involve underserved communities (8 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses this program objective, as described in Section IV.C.3.II.d
- 5) Project Types (3 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of how well the project addresses the **one** project type identified on the cover page. See Section I.A for more information of the project types. Please note that proposals that address more than one project type will not maximize their score.
- 6) Partnerships (Total of 7 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated on the extent and quality of how the project will accomplish its goals through the use of appropriate and diverse partnerships as described in Section IV.C.3.II.f
- 7) Project Activities/Milestone Schedule/ Detailed Budget (Total of 15 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which the proposal demonstrates the following:
- A. Project Activities (5 points) – Clear description of steps the applicant will take to meet the project objectives. Descriptions of the detailed project activities or components and the anticipated products associated with each activity
- B. Milestone Schedule (5 points) – Clearly articulated milestone schedule, including timeframes and major milestones to complete significant project activities and an approach to ensure that awarded funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner.
- C. Budget (5 points) – Reasonableness of the budget and estimated funding amounts for each project activity. Applicants will be evaluated based on: the adequacy of the information provided in the detailed budget; whether the proposed costs are reasonable and allowable; and how well the applicant demonstrated cost-effectiveness and value of

the project. Total project costs must include both federal and required cost share/match (non-federal) components.

- 8) Share Results (5 points) – Clear description of how the applicant will share the results of the proposed project (including lessons learned) with state, tribal, and local governmental agencies, community and watershed organizations, and/or other interested stakeholders.
- 9) Environmental Results (Total of 13 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the following elements:
 - A. Results, Outputs and Outcomes (10 points) – The extent and quality to which the proposal demonstrates potential environmental results, anticipated outputs and outcomes, and how the outcomes are linked to EPA's Strategic Plan (see Section I.B of the announcement).
 - B. Measuring Progress (3 points) – The extent and quality to which the proposal demonstrates a sound plan for tracking progress toward achieving the expected outputs and outcomes (examples of outputs and outcomes are provided in Section I.B and Appendix A of the announcement).
- 10) Programmatic Capability/Specialized Experience (Total of 10 points) – Under this criterion, proposals will be evaluated based on the applicant's ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project, taking into account the applicant's:
 - A. Programmatic Capability (5 points) – Organizational experience related to the proposed project, and the organization's infrastructure as it relates to their ability to successfully implement the proposed project.
 - B. Specialized Experience (5 points) – Staff experience/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources, or the ability to obtain them, to successfully implement the proposed project.
- 11) Past Performance (Total of 10 points) – Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project, taking into account their:
 - A. Completion and management of previous assistance agreements (4 points) – Past performance in successfully completing and managing federally and/or non-federally funded assistance agreements (an assistance agreement is a grant or cooperative agreement and not a contract) similar in size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project performed within the last five years (no more than three, and preferably EPA agreements).
 - B. Meeting reporting requirements (3 points) – History of meeting reporting requirements under federally and/or non-federally funded assistance agreements (an assistance agreement is a grant or cooperative agreement and not a contract) similar in size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project performed within the last five years (no more

than three, and preferably EPA agreements) and submitting acceptable final technical reports under these agreements.

- C. Progress in achieving anticipated results (3 points) – Extent and quality to which they documented and/or reported on their progress towards achieving the expected results (e.g. outcomes and outputs) under federally and/or non-federally funded assistance agreements (an assistance agreement is a grant or cooperative agreement and not a contract) performed in the last five years (no more than three, and preferably EPA agreements), and if such progress was not being made, whether the applicant adequately documented why not.

Note: In evaluating applicants under this criterion, the Agency will consider the information supplied by the applicant in its proposal, and may also consider relevant information from other sources including Agency files (e.g., Grantee Compliance Database) and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). Applicants who have no relevant or available past performance information will receive a neutral score for these factors (i.e., 2 points for subcriterion A., 1.5 points for subcriterion B., and 1.5 points for subcriterion C.). Failure to provide any past performance information, or to include a statement in your proposal that you do not have any relevant or available past performance information, may result in a zero score for this factor.

B. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

All proposals received by EPA in hard copy or via Grants.gov by the submission deadline will first be evaluated for eligibility by EPA Headquarters staff using the threshold criteria in Section III.C of the announcement. Proposals that are deemed eligible will be evaluated using the criteria described in Section V. A. using the process described below. Proposals that are deemed ineligible will not be evaluated further or considered for funding.

All eligible proposals will be evaluated by EPA Regional review panel(s), which will be composed of EPA staff and which may also include representatives from other federal agencies. The Regional review panels will evaluate eligible proposals for Eligible Geographic Areas within that Region. Evaluations will be based on the 100-point scale described in Section V.A above. Each EPA Regional Office will provide a ranking list of the proposals within that Region to the Selection Official in the EPA Office of Water

The Selection Official will review the lists and then make the final funding decisions for awards based on the rankings and other factors described below. While it is expected that the Selection Official will select at least one award per Region and/or Eligible Geographic Area, the Selection Official reserves the right to select multiple awards per Region, multiple awards per Eligible Geographic Area, no awards per Region or per Eligible Geographic Area, or the top ranked proposals for each Region or Eligible Geographic Area, depending on the rankings and other factors described below.

Other Factors

In making the final funding decisions for awards, the Selection Official will consider the ranking of proposals and may also consider other factors, including: availability of funds, geographic diversity, project diversity, and program priorities.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. AWARD NOTICES

Following EPA's evaluation of proposals, all applicants will be notified regarding their status. Final applications will be requested from those eligible applicants whose proposal has been successfully evaluated and preliminary recommended for award. Those entities will be provided with instructions and a due date for submittal of the final application package.

EPA reserves the right to negotiate and/or adjust the final grant amount and workplan prior to award, as appropriate and consistent with Agency policy including the Policy for Competition of Assistance Agreements, EPA Order 5700.5A1. An approvable final workplan narrative is required to include:

1. Workplan components to be funded under the cooperative agreement;
2. Estimated work years and the estimated funding amounts for each workplan component;
3. Workplan commitments for each workplan component and a timeframe for their accomplishment;
4. Performance evaluation process and reporting schedule in accordance with §35.115 of 40 CFR; and
5. Roles and responsibilities of the recipient and EPA (for cooperative agreements only) in carrying out the workplan commitments.

In addition, successful applicants will be required to certify that they have not been Debarred or Suspended from participation in federal assistance awards in accordance with 40 CFR Part 32.

Any additional information about this RFP will be posted on EPA's Urban Waters website at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>. Deadline extensions or other modifications will be posted on this website and on Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>).

B. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The general award and administration process for this RFP is governed by regulations at 40 CFR Part 30 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations), 40 CFR Part 31 (States, Tribes, interstate agencies, intertribal consortia and local governments), and 40 CFR Part 35, Subpart A ("Environmental Program Grants for State, Interstate, and Local Government Agencies") and Subpart B ("Environmental Program Grants for Tribes"). A description of the Agency's substantial involvement in the cooperative agreements will be included in the final assistance agreement.

C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

This program may be eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. Further information regarding this can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc.

D. DISPUTE PROCEDURES

Assistance agreement competition-related disputes will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures published in 70 FR (Federal Register) 3629, 3630 (January 26, 2005) which can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/resolution.htm>. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Agency contact in Section VII.

E. REPORTING

In general, recipients are responsible for managing the day-to-day operations and activities supported by the assistance funding, to assure compliance with applicable federal requirements, and for ensuring that established milestones and performance goals are being achieved. Performance reports and financial reports must be submitted semi-annually and are due 30 days after the reporting period. The final report is due 90 days after the assistance agreement has expired. Recipients will be required to report direct and indirect environmental results from the work accomplished through the award. In negotiating assistance agreements, EPA will work closely with the recipient to incorporate appropriate performance measures and reporting requirements in the workplan consistent with 40 CFR 30.51, 31.40, and 40 CFR Part 45.

By the end of the assistance agreement performance period, grantees will provide a report to describe the project as a success story that helps other communities across the country learn from their experience. In addition, within the first year of the project period, Urban Waters Small Grants recipients will provide a presentation on their project to the local Urban Waters Federal Partnership in their Eligible Geographic Area. Presentations can be made in-person or virtually, via conference call or online presentation platform. Recipients electing to provide an in-person presentation may use cooperative agreement funds for travel. If the recipient wishes to use cooperative agreement funds for travel expenses for the in-person presentation, these costs must be included in the submitted proposed budget.

F. NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP

Urban Waters Small Grants recipients will be required to attend an EPA-sponsored Urban Waters Small Grants National Training Workshop. It is anticipated that the workshop will take place over a period of up to 2 days in early Fall of 2014 in the Washington, DC area. One representative from the recipient organization should plan to attend. The purpose of this training is to help the recipient with strategic planning and management of cooperative agreements, as well as afford grantees numerous opportunities to learn from their peers and other experts. The recipient will be allowed to use cooperative agreement funds to pay for one person's travel (this

may include airfare), per diem, and lodging to attend the National Training Workshop. If the recipient plans to use cooperative agreement funds for travel expenses to the National Training Workshop, these costs must be included in the submitted proposed budget.

G. URBAN WATERS LEARNING NETWORK

Recipients will become part of the Urban Waters Learning Network. The goal of the Network is to create and promote sharing of effective practices, provide technical assistance, and offer learning opportunities to urban waters practitioners located across the country. The Network includes nearly 100 members that are working to improve their impaired urban water resources, and represents a variety of organizations, including local watershed organizations, community groups, tribal, and local governments.

The Network provides periodic peer-support conference calls on specific topics, webinars and virtual trainings, and convenes for in-person trainings. Membership to the Network is provided to all Urban Waters Small Grants recipients.

Within the first 30 days of receipt of the award, Urban Waters Small Grants recipients are required to join Basecamp.com, the Learning Network virtual platform for network communications. Recipients are expected to attend an orientation conference call/webinar, during which they will be introduced to the Learning Network.

H. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR APPLICANTS INCORPORATED INTO THE SOLICITATION

Additional provisions that apply to this solicitation and/or awards made under this solicitation, including but not limited to those related to DUNS, SAM, copyrights, and administrative capability, can be found at http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/solicitation_provisions.htm. These, and the other provisions that can be found at the website link, are important, and applicants must review them when preparing proposals for this solicitation. If you are unable to access these provisions electronically at the website above, please communicate with the EPA contact listed in this solicitation to obtain the provisions.

VII. AGENCY CONTACTS

Note to Applicants: In accordance with EPA's Assistance Agreement Competition Policy (EPA Order 5700.5A1), EPA staff will not meet with individual applicants to discuss draft proposals, provide informal comments on draft proposals, or provide advice to applicants on how to respond to ranking criteria. Applicants are responsible for the contents of their proposals. However, consistent with the provisions in the announcement, EPA will respond to questions from individual applicants regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the proposal, and requests for clarification about the announcement. In addition, if necessary, the EPA may clarify threshold eligibility issues with applicants prior to making a final eligibility determination. Questions must be submitted in writing via e-mail and must be received by the Agency Contact identified below by **December 9, 2013** and written responses will be posted on EPA's website at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters->

[small-grants-questions](#). EPA strongly recommends interested applicants refer to the written responses posted on the website prior to submitting a question.

Agency Contact

Ji-Sun Yi

E-mail: urbanwaters@epa.gov

In addition, EPA will host one national Information Session regarding this announcement via webinar, based on the schedule below. EPA will attempt to answer any appropriate questions in this public forum. Registration information for the Information Session can be found at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>.

Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. (EST)

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

A. QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL (QA/QC)

Quality Assurance/Quality Control requirements apply to these grants (see 40 CFR 30.54 and 40 CFR 31.45). QA/QC requirements apply to the collection of environmental data. Environmental data are any measurements or information that describe environmental processes, location, or conditions; ecological or health effects and consequences; or the performance of environmental technology. Environmental data include information collected directly from measurements, produced from models, and compiled from other sources such as databases or literature. Successful applicants should allow sufficient time and resources for this process. EPA can assist successful applicants in determining whether QA/QC is required for the proposed project. If QA/QC is required for the project, the successful applicant may work with the EPA QA/QC staff to determine the appropriate QA/QC practices for the project. See Section VII., AGENCY CONTACTS for Agency Contact information for referral to an EPA QA/QC staff.

The successful applicant must ensure all water quality data generated in accordance with an EPA approved Quality Assurance Project Plan, either directly or by subaward, is transmitted into the Agency's Storage and Retrieval (STORET) Data Warehouse annually or by project completion using either WQX or WQXweb. Water quality data that are appropriate for STORET include physical, chemical, and biological sample results for water, sediment and fish tissue. The data include toxicity data, microbiological data, and the metrics and indices generated from biological and habitat data. The Water Quality Exchange (WQX) is the water data schema associated with the EPA, State and Tribal Exchange Network. Using the WQX schema partners map their database structure to the WQX/STORET structure. WQXweb is a web-based tool to convert data into the STORET format for smaller data generators that are not direct partners on the Exchange Network. More information about WQX, WQXweb, and the STORET Warehouse, including tutorials, can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx/>.

B. DATA SHARING

All recipients of these assistance agreements may be required to share any data generated through this funding agreement as a defined deliverable in the final workplan.

C. UNFUNDED PROPOSALS

Subject to the availability of funds, funding authorities, and other considerations, the U.S. Forest Service may consider for funding proposals not selected for funding by EPA under this RFP.

Project Examples and Project Example Environmental Outputs and Environmental Outcomes

The goal of the Urban Waters Small Grants program is to fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations¹ that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities, with an emphasis on underserved communities. As discussed in Section I.A, proposals submitted under this announcement should meet all of the following Urban Waters Small Grants program objectives: 1) address local urban water quality issues; 2) engage, educate and empower; 3) support community priorities; and, 4) involve underserved communities.

As required by Section IV.C.3.II.g, applicants should describe the results of the project activities (Outputs) and the anticipated environmental improvements (Outcomes). The tables below provide examples of eligible projects and associated environmental outputs and outcomes. This is not an exhaustive list and is provided for reference only.

Environmental outputs (or project deliverables) refer to an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative, but must be measurable during a cooperative agreement funding period.

Environmental outcomes are the result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective, and are used as a way to gauge a project's performance and take the form of output measures and outcome measures. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related, or programmatic in nature. Outcomes must be quantitative and may not necessarily be achieved within a cooperative agreement funding period. Outcomes may be short-term (changes in learning, knowledge, attitude, skills), intermediate (changes in behavior, practice, or decisions), or long-term (changes in condition of the natural resource).

More information on environmental outputs and outcomes may also be found at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/ECOCOMM.NSF/webpage/measuring+environmental+results>.

¹ Proposals must be in compliance with CWA 104(b)(3) and include projects that conduct or promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.

If the proposal falls under the demonstration category, then the applicant must describe how it meets the requirements set forth for demonstration projects, as discussed in Section I.C. Additional examples of demonstration projects are provided in the questions & answers document available at <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants-questions>.

COMMUNITY GREENING AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE²		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
Provide training to schools and/or faith-based organizations on low-impact design (LID) / green infrastructure practices for yards around their locations which supports community revitalization and helps reduce the amount of pollution/stormwater entering the local water body.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of outreach, education and presentations • Number of participants at outreach, education and presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved understanding of “green” sustainable practices that can be implemented at schools and/or faith-based locations • Increased number of low-impact development educational sites are installed at schools and/or faith-based locations • Increased education, engagement, and empowerment of local communities, including underserved communities regarding “green” sustainable practices that also support community priorities identified in the proposal • Reduced pollution/stormwater runoff into water body • Increased livability of neighborhoods that received trainings (e.g. walkable neighborhoods, increase of green space, greater connectivity to local water body) • Increased greening of urban schoolyards and/or faith-based locations which participated in trainings

² If not part of a demonstration project, proposals for the construction or installation of stormwater infrastructure improvements, including low-impact development and green infrastructure, are not eligible for funding under this announcement (see Section III.D).

COMMUNITY GREENING AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Develop a neighborhood water currency program where community members earn water credits at participating local businesses, by engaging in “green” practices that educate/connect residents and businesses, and reduce stormwater runoff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of water currency program workshops held in the community • Number of individuals enrolled in the program • Number of businesses committed to participate in the program, as locations where water currency credits may be redeemed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved understanding of “green” sustainable practices that can be implemented at businesses and/or homes to enhance open space in community development plans • Increased technical support is provided to homeowners, businesses and other community members interested in designing rain gardens, and supporting other “green” practices • Increased number of low-impact development educational sites are installed to further knowledge • Reduced pollution/stormwater runoff into local water body and improved water quality • Greater community connection

COMMUNITY GREENING AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
Offer job skills training program on green infrastructure practices to unemployed and under-employed local youth with a goal of improving water quality and developing a local green workforce and to lay a foundation for economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of green job trainings/workshops • Number of educational materials, and other assistance applied during training • Number of trained local youth who have successfully completed the program • Number of training participants hired for green jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge and experience of program participants in water quality improvement techniques • Increased use of “green” practices in training participants’ home and business landscapes • Increased sharing of water quality knowledge from training participants to their family and friends • Increased green job opportunities
Evaluate current zoning and its limitations (e.g. designated port authorities) and develop model zoning ordinances to better incorporate low-impact development/green infrastructure, other stormwater best management practices (BMPs), and promote neighborhood livability goals in local development/re-development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluations of current zoning • Model zoning ordinances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased local ordinances implemented • Increased use of low-impact development and other best management practices • Increased neighborhood livability (e.g. safe & walkable neighborhoods, affordable transportation options, etc) • Reduced pollution/stormwater runoff into water body and improved water quality

COMMUNITIES AND WATER QUALITY DATA		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Create a volunteer monitoring program that engages veterans groups / minority-serving institutions / public housing entities to expand awareness on water quality data and water quality improvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New locations for volunteer monitoring training • Number of volunteer monitoring training workshops • Number of participants • Data gathered from volunteer monitoring • Reports on evaluation of data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge and experience in monitoring • Increased number of new volunteer monitoring teams to further monitor and recommend ways to improve water quality • Increased education, engagement, and empowerment of local communities, including underserved regarding water quality data use/assessment that benefits community priorities • Reduced pollution into water body • Increased number of water quality improvement actions and recommendations from the community

COMMUNITIES AND WATER QUALITY DATA		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Create a community stewardship program or workshop that effectively communicates to residents information on gathered or available water quality monitoring data, and facilitates community recommendations to improve the water quality of the local water body.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River reaches and water quality conditions are identified in educational materials (e.g., greatest impairments help prioritize sites) • Number of workshops/meetings where information is shared • Number of participants at such workshops/meetings • Draft community recommendations from the community to local leaders on measures to take to protect or improve water quality • Number of outreach campaigns or public service announcements done to help the community understand how poor stewardship practices (e.g., inefficient water use) can result in poor urban water quality conditions and to communicate how they can help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge of water quality conditions by community • Increased knowledge of water quality data by local officials so they can implement recommendations to improve water quality • Reduced pollution into water body and improved water quality • Increased number of water quality improvement actions, stewardship efforts, and recommendations from the community

COMMUNITIES AND WATER QUALITY DATA		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Conduct a neighborhood stream walk program with youth groups or senior citizen groups to expand awareness on the local water quality conditions, while creating connectivity to their local waterway.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of areas along waterway where poor water quality conditions are identified, to help prioritize areas where greatest impairments exist ● Number of areas of eroding stream banks are identified ● Plans are drafted to stabilize stream banks with vegetation and rock, or enlarged drainage culverts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased understanding by the community of the water quality conditions of their local urban waterway ● Increased knowledge to improve areas currently experiencing flooding due to undersized culverts and additional housing development ● Increased knowledge by identifying areas for posting signs and warnings to restrict access or use of the contaminated waterway for recreation or fishing. ● Increased corrective measures for stream bank erosion areas to improve water quality ● Reduced pollution into water body ● Increased connectivity between the community and their local waterway through providing sustainable and educational community activities

INTEGRATION OF WATER QUALITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN PLANNING		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Create and facilitate a group of diverse stakeholders (e.g. community members, local industry, schools, faith-based organizations, etc) to develop a plan that integrates local water quality protection and community revitalization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core partnership is established representing community interests, those living and working in the community, affected by the project, up- and downstream stakeholders, underserved communities, and key local, state and federal departments and agencies with regulatory jurisdiction or programmatic assistance • Number of meetings held to develop a water quality protection/community revitalization plan • Water quality protection/community revitalization plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of local and state ordinances enacted / enforced to improve water quality • Increased knowledge to aid in community improvements to protect water quality • Reduced pollution into water body • Establishment of a group of community members committed to addressing a community priority influenced by the health of the local water body
<p>As an action identified from an established integrated water quality protection/community revitalization plan, form a diverse (e.g. residents, faith-based organizations, schools, etc) community coalition to map trails and other walkways to identify gaps or areas where additional connectivity or waterway accessibility is needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps are prepared illustrating all properties, current use and types of ownership • Maps are prepared illustrating designated or maintained trails, common paths, sidewalks, and railroad, pipeline and other right-of-ways for potential access • Number of community meetings held to identify potential trails, paths and green space, properties for acquisition and municipal maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased dedicated public areas for ‘green’ or open space and safe community access to waterways • Increased local or municipal maintenance to improve community environment and safe access to waterways • Increased awareness and stewardship of the urban water body and surrounding land

INTEGRATION OF WATER QUALITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN PLANNING		
Project Example	Output Examples	Outcome Examples
<p>Convene a group of diverse community stakeholders (e.g. local businesses, local/regional planning organizations, community organizations, environmental justice organizations, etc) to refine an established water quality protection/community revitalization plan to integrate the need for a more protective water quality goal, to allow for desired community activities on/in the water body.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants • Data gathered and analyzed to demonstrate the need for a more protective water quality goal • Reports on data analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of local and state ordinances enacted / enforced to improve water quality • Reduced pollution into water body • Increased opportunities for desired community activities on/in the water body by community members • Establishment of a water quality goal that has broader support because it addresses local community priorities