



Focus on **New Grant Program for Low Impact Development for Stormwater Management**

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

Application Workshops

July 20, 2006

Mount Vernon

Best Western
COTTONTREE INN
San Juan Room
2300 Market St.

9:00 a.m.

July 25, 2006

DuPont

Liberty Inn
Liberty & Rainier
Rooms
1400 Wilmington Dr.

9:00 a.m.



A Pilot Grant Program to Support Low Impact Development Stormwater Management in Puget Sound

The 2006 Legislature authorized and appropriated \$2.5 million for the program

The purpose of this pilot program is to provide grants to local governments in the Puget Sound Basin to fund innovative, low impact development (LID) stormwater management projects to meet critical stormwater management needs to protect and restore water quality. The program was included in the Governor's 2006 Supplemental Budget and is an integral part of the Governor's "Puget Sound Initiative." Application workshops are scheduled for Mount Vernon and DuPont on July 20 and 25, respectively.

Program eligibility

Local governments are distinguished as any (Puget Sound Basin) city, town, county, water-sewer district, public utility district, port district, irrigation district, conservation district, flood control district, or any other municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or other political subdivision authorized to levy special benefit assessments for sanitary or storm sewerage systems, domestic water supply or distribution systems, or road construction or improvement purposes. School districts are also considered eligible local governments in this program.

By statute, private for-profit groups (e.g., developers), not-for profit agencies, and universities cannot be considered for financial assistance.

Project examples, areas for use, and eligibility

Examples of innovative, LID projects include, but are not limited to, permeable pavement; bioretention swales, slopes, or cells; rain gardens; vegetated roofs; reverse slope sidewalks; various levels of dispersion; and rainwater harvest projects.

Other LID techniques will be considered if they are noted in or consistent with the *Low Impact Development Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound*, which is available at:

http://www.psat.wa.gov/Publications/LID_tech_manual05/LID_manual2005.pdf

In accordance with the legislative appropriation, grants are to be used for projects on local government property, including rights-of-way or easements to meet stormwater management needs and protect or restore water quality. To encourage information-sharing between other local governments and the public at large, applicants are encouraged to employ LID practices in parks, walkways, trails, etc., where the LID uses can be explained on interpretive signs or other means.

Eligible costs include the design, installation, and monitoring of the LID element(s) of construction projects as well as the cost of retrofitting traditional stormwater facilities into LID designs. All projects must include substantive implementation of LID practices and short- and long-term monitoring.

Financial assistance limitations

Ecology anticipates providing financial assistance for five (5) to ten (10) highest priority projects to local governments that **are ready to proceed. Although there are no ceiling limits or match requirements, local governments that provide match** will receive higher priority.

Goals, application, and evaluation criteria for project proposals

Project goals for new development must be to minimize changes to the natural hydrology and provide protection of water quality. Priority will be given based on the degree to which an applicant proposes to use LID to approach the hydrology of the historic land cover. Goals for retrofit projects must be to provide significant improvement to site hydrology and water quality.

The Program Guidelines, the application, and the evaluation criteria for the program will be provided by approximately July 14, 2006, at the Low Impact Development Web site through:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/links/funding.html>.

Local governments will have until September 15, 2006, to apply for these funds.

The complete evaluation criteria will be available at the Web site listed above. Generally, project proposals (applications) will be evaluated based on:

- Water Quality Protection, Restoration, and Other Positive Impacts
- Overall Quality of Project Proposed and Likelihood of Success
- Transferability of Project Findings
- Readiness to Proceed
- Ability of the proposed project to leverage completion of related LID projects in the area with or without state assistance
- Adequate geographic distribution around Puget Sound (for public information purposes)
- As appropriate, use of variety of innovative practices in project.
- As applicable, the extent to which proposed project aids achievement of flow control guidance: *Low Impact Development Technical Guidance Manual* (Section 1.4.2) (See page 1 for hyperlink) and the *2005 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, Volume I* (Section 2.5.7), available at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0510029.html>

For further information on this financial assistance program contact:

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