



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

100 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Legislation Text

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 7, 2016

COMMITTEE ON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Mr. David St. Pierre, Executive Director

Authority to become a program partner with the Water Environment Federation and DC Water in developing a National Green Infrastructure Certification Program, with payment to the Water Environment Federation in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, Account 501-50000-612490, Requisition 1430284

Dear Sir:

Authorization is requested to become a program partner with the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and DC Water in developing a National Green Infrastructure Certification Program, with payment to WEF in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

The use of green infrastructure (GI) is a critical component of comprehensive stormwater management, and while it offers many benefits, they can only be attained through the proper installation and ongoing maintenance of the GI systems. The National Green Infrastructure Certification Program (NGICP) will set national certification standards for GI construction, inspection, and maintenance workers. These best practice standards are intended to promote GI as an environmentally and economically beneficial stormwater management option, support the development of proficient green workforces, and establish a career path for skilled GI workers.

The District has been invited to be a part of the coalition of stormwater leaders from across the country that will develop the vision and guide the implementation of the NGICP. Total NGICP development costs are estimated to be \$1 million, and program partners are asked to contribute \$50,000.00. In addition to gaining a position on the NGICP's Strategic Advisory Group, the District would be recognized as a Founding Member of WEF's Stormwater Institute (SWI). The SWI is a WEF center of excellence that provides national leadership for sustainable stormwater management.

Based on the foregoing, it is requested that the Board of Commissioners grant authority to become a program partner with WEF and DC Water for the development of a National Green Infrastructure Certification Program, and make payment to the Water Environment Federation in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Funds are available in Account 501-50000-612490.

Requested, Catherine A. O'Connor, Director of Engineering, WSS:JJY

Recommended, David St. Pierre, Executive Director

Respectfully Submitted, Michael A. Alvarez, Chairman Committee on Stormwater Management

Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for July 7, 2016.