

SAW Grant Summary – City of Rochester Hills

What is a SAW Grant?

SAW stands for **S**tormwater, **A**sset Management, and **W**astewater. This is a new grant program administered by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to help communities enhance their understanding of the physical condition of their sanitary and stormwater infrastructure and to plan effectively for long-term capital improvements, operation, and maintenance of their sanitary and storm sewer systems.

How does the SAW Grant Impact the City of Rochester Hills?

The City of Rochester Hills has an opportunity to use up to \$2 million in SAW Grant funding to develop Asset Management Plans for the City's stormwater and sanitary sewer infrastructure. This work will allow the City to address deteriorating storm and sanitary infrastructure while leveraging the grant funds to cover sewer cleaning and televising work that the City would otherwise pay out of its own budget. Furthermore, this grant will allow the City to explore options for new funding sources for its stormwater infrastructure, thereby providing a mechanism for the City to address its growing backlog of projects intended to reduce flooding risk and enhance public safety.

What Activities is the City Planning to Implement?

Wastewater

- Enhance GIS mapping of collection system
- Invest in new field equipment to capture infrastructure conditions
- Sewer cleaning and televising
- Collection system evaluation and prioritization to identify maintenance and rehabilitation needs
- Flow metering and wet weather modeling
- Evaluate long-term infrastructure maintenance and capital needs

Total Program Cost: \$1.12 million
State Reimbursement: \$916,000
Local Match: \$204,000

Stormwater

- Enhance GIS mapping of drainage system
- Determine hydraulic bottlenecks and identify critical projects
- Sewer cleaning and televising
- Long-term plan for sewers, open drainage channels, culverts, and detention ponds
- Update stormwater permit to comply with new MDEQ rules
- Review stormwater infrastructure costs and revenue options

Total Program Cost: \$1.32 million
State Reimbursement: \$1.08 million
Local Match: \$240,000

How Long will it Take?

The SAW Grants require that the activities described above be completed *within three years* of the grant award, which could come as early as April 2014. The City must submit the SAW Grant Applications ***on or before December 2, 2013*** to be eligible for the program. We anticipate heavy demand for this grant program, so submitting in the first round is critical.

What Action is Required by Council?

A SAW Grant Resolution for each grant must be approved by City Council in October or November. The resolutions will commit the City to the local matches as described above, and the requirement to complete all grant-funded activities *within three years*. The approved and signed Grant Resolutions are a required component of the grant application. By accepting grant money, the City is also committed to perform an evaluation of system costs and revenues, including the identification of any funding gaps for the wastewater system. If a funding gap exists, the City will need to make significant progress to close the funding gap within three years of grant acceptance.