

FFY20 IUP CWSRF Amendment

Notification sent 4/13/2021

Public Comment until 4/28/2021

Public Responsiveness Summary and FAQs

Q Funds are 100% subsidy for design phase up to \$100,000 per project?

A Yes. This is for planning (which includes feasibility, preliminary engineering, and final design.) For 3 Acre SW financing, this all covers any costs associated with permit obtainment included permit fees. Please note this is a per project cap and an applicant may request to fund multiple projects into one funding application and the forgiveness would be additive and not capped for a borrower.

Q Are there 100% subsidy funds for construction phase as well, and if so, is there a cap per project?

A No, there is no funding associated with construction at this time.

Q Is a PER required prior to design phase? If so, could the P3 project count towards that?

A For CSO or Village Wastewater planning, then all standard CWSRF documents will be required. For 3 Acre financing, no PER is required.

Q Are there QBS requirements for planning?

A No, the program has elected to use 100% repayment funds for these forgiveness projects, therefore the QBS process will not be required. The entity should follow their own procurement procedure.

Q For 3 Acre SW forgiveness, would the VTDEC P3 contract count for this even though the clients moving forward would be private entities?

A These funds are only available to municipal applicants for private entities included on the 3 Acre Property list. Any other funding avenues (P3, CWIP Block Grants) can be *complementary* funding, but only municipalities can apply for this opportunity.

Q For 3 Acre SW forgiveness, if we were already prequalified with VTrans ATR process, does that mean we're eligible for this opportunity?

A These funds are only available to municipal applicants for private entities included on the 3 Acre Property list. Any other funding avenues (P3, CWIP Block Grants) can be *complementary* funding, but only municipalities can apply for this opportunity.

Q What other requirements are there to utilize this funding, i.e. preparation of an EID, Davis Bacon, DBE, AIS, etc.?

A For CSO and Village Wastewater Initiative, submission of a DEC approved engineering services agreement (ESA), preliminary engineering report (PER), Environmental Information Document (EID) will be required, as applicable. As this opportunity does not fund construction, Davis Bacon, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, and American Iron and Steel do not apply. However, they may be required if the project later receives construction funding through the CWSRF.

For 3 Acre Stormwater projects, these project reviews will not require the traditional CWSRF approval documents and will mirror the permit application and approval process, with the goal of this funding to be 100% permit obtainment and design.

Q Is there a deadline to get on the IUP?

A You don't need to be on our priority list in the IUP in order to take advantage of additional subsidy for planning. These funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Q How will later American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds be delivered? Will my project be eligible? Will it be in the form of a grant or a loan or a mixture of both? What if I'm not on the priority list but funding for my project type becomes available through ARPA?

A For now, other than Governor Scott's April 6th "[Proposed Investment of American Rescue Plan Funds](#)" is the only information available to ANR. The Vermont Legislature is considering how to spend these funds. Once those directives are finalized, ANR will provide more information on next steps. If funding necessitates construction funding from the CWSRF, it is likely the program will amend the current IUP again to solicit for relevant projects.

This amendment proposes to reallocate remaining unutilized loan forgiveness offered in the FFY20 IUP to incentivize planning of certain projects. All loan forgiveness is offered only for municipally-sponsored projects and is offered on a first come, first-served basis. The following project types are eligible for 100% forgiveness, up to \$100,000 per project. There is no per borrower limit. It is anticipated that these funds will be made available after the close of the public comment period, approximately early May 2021 and will be proposed to be continued through the FFY21 IUP subject to public comment.

The three project types include:

- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Abatement/Elimination
- Village Wastewater; and
- Private Entity 3 Acre (General Permit 3-9050) Stormwater Retrofits: This includes planning, design, engineering feasibility assessments, and permit obtainment. Eligible recipients for this funding are included in the list of 3 Acre Properties.
https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/stormwater/docs/9050/3acreList_09252020.pdf

The FFY20 IUP has approximately \$2.6M available for these planning efforts and will be divided as follows:

CSO	550,000
Village Wastewater	550,000
3 Acre Funding	1,500,000
Total	2,600,000

All other requirements listed in [this IUP](#) continue to apply, unchanged. In particular, page 15 regarding the requirements for securing additional subsidy.