



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Finance/Policy/Facilities Addendum
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois
Tuesday, November 1, 2011 – 6:00 p.m.

Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

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1. <u>County Facilities</u>	
A. <u>Consideration of County Storm Water Management Project Approach and Related Grant Opportunity</u>	1-4

C. Pius Weibel

Chair

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**Office of
County Board
Champaign County, Illinois**

MEMORANDUM

TO: County Facilities Committee of the Whole

FROM: Tom Betz, Deputy Chair – County Facilities

DATE: October 28, 2011

RE: Storm Water Management Project

Attached to this Memorandum is information prepared by Paul Fish at the Regional Planning Commission regarding an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Infrastructure Grant opportunity for which the County Storm Water Management Project is a viable candidate, if the project includes implementation of Best Management Practices or “Green” solutions. Mr. Fish investigated this grant on behalf of the County at the request of Board Chair Pius Weibel.

At the October County Facilities of the Whole Meeting, the issue of determining the storm water management project approach was deferred to January 2012. I bring this grant information to your attention only to let you know it is available, and to further let you know that if Champaign County’s project is to be submitted for consideration, the County Board will need to adopt the project plan approach for the storm water management project at this month’s meeting – with final approval by the County Board on November 17, 2011. This is necessary in order to complete and submit the grant application by the application deadline of December 15, 2011.

This issue is now included as an agenda item with the Addendum to the Agenda for County Facilities Committee of the Whole on November 1, 2011.

attachments

TO:	C. Pius Weibel, County Board Chair
FROM:	Paul Fish
DATE:	October 21, 2011
RE:	Notice of Intent to Apply for Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG)
REQUESTED ACTION:	Authorization to apply for and, if awarded, accept IGIG grant funds to be used for improvement of drainage and management of storm water in the northern watershed of the Champaign County East Campus site.
RECOMMENDATION:	Champaign County should utilize the IGIG state grant funds to offset the costs of BMP planning and construction of watershed improvements.

BACKGROUND

Champaign County retained Berns-Clancy & Associates (BCA) for engineering services with regard to improving the drainage and management of stormwater in the northern watershed of the Champaign County East Campus site. Part of BCA’s scope of services was to study the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the area and offer this analysis in addition to the typical storm sewer management approach. Best Management Practices take a “green” approach to stormwater management, implementing more environmentally friendly design to control runoff and sewer flows.

BCA’s preliminary design was completed in September 2011. The BMP approach indicates a variety of green practices for the East Campus site, including the use of wetland basins, bio-swales, grass prairies and rain gardens. These practices are compared to the traditional approach of handling surface runoff with storm sewers. BCA’s analysis indicates probable construction costs for a BMP approach to be in excess of \$500,000.

ILLINOIS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT (IGIG)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has recently announced the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant program (IGIG) for 2012. This program seeks to encourage the use of BMPs for stormwater management to protect and improve water quality within Combined Sewer Overflow areas and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. The program has three categories: Combined Sewer Overflow Category; Stormwater Retention and Infiltration Category; and Green Infrastructure Small Projects Category. The total available pool of funding for the 2012 grant program is approximately \$5 million. Grant awards can range up to \$3 million. The IGIG is a reimbursement program; therefore grant recipients must complete the work, pay costs, and submit invoices in order to obtain grant reimbursement. Grant applications are due by December 15, 2011.

IMPLEMENTATION OF IGIG

Currently, it appears as though the County’s East Campus sewer project falls under the Stormwater Retention and Infiltration (SRI) Category of the IGIG program. Proposals under this category must focus on the implementation of stormwater retention and infiltration BMPs to reduce stormwater

flows and cleanse stormwater before entering surface waters or infiltrating to the groundwater. The BMPs proposed in BCA's September 2011 report fit in this category.

The SRI allows for a maximum grant award of \$750,000, or 75% of the project cost, whichever is lower. The minimum local match requirement is 25%. Grants awarded in this category range from \$100,000 to \$750,000. The project length requirement is 6-36 months. The IEPA anticipates awarding 2-18 projects in this category.

BUDGET / STAFFING IMPACT /TIMELINE

A reimbursement grant program like the IGIG could offset a significant portion of the East Campus project costs. The requested IGIG funds would cover up to \$750,000 or 75% of the total costs of the project, whichever is lower. The 25% matching fund requirement would be met with the funds the County has set-aside for the East Campus project. At this time, the need for additional County staffing or County funds is not anticipated.

The IGIG application is due December 15, 2011. It is estimated grant recipients would be announced by June 2012. Since the IGIG is a reimbursement program the East Campus project could begin post award, at a time unhindered by any grant requirements. Administration of the grant award and submittal of reimbursements could be conducted by County staff currently on hand within the required 6-36 month time period.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Apply for an Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant under the Stormwater Retention and Infiltration Category. If awarded, accept and administer the grant through the grant program.

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
APPLICATION FORM FOR
GRANT CONSIDERATION, ACCEPTANCE, RENEWAL/EXTENSION**

Department: Facilities & Services
Grant Funding Agency: IEPA
Amount of Grant: Up to \$750,000 or 75% of project cost, whichever is lower
Begin/End Dates for Grant Period: 6-36 months after awarded
Additional Staffing to be Provided by Grant: N/A
Application Deadline: December 15, 2011
Parent Committee Approval of Application: Facilities
Is this a new grant, or renewal or extension of an existing grant? New
If renewal of existing grant, date grant was first obtained: _____

Will the implementation of this grant have an effect of increased work loads for other departments? (i.e. increased caseloads, filings, etc.) _____ yes no

If yes, please summarize the anticipated impact: _____

Does the implementation of this grant require additional office space for your department that is not provided by the grant? _____ yes no

If yes, please summarize the anticipated space need: _____

Please check the following condition which applies to this grant application:

The activity or service provided can be terminated in the event the grant revenues are discontinued.

The activity should, or could be, assumed by County (or specific fund) general and recurring operating funds. Departments are encouraged to seek additional sources or revenue to support the services prior to expiration of grant funding.

This Grant Application Form must be accompanied by a Financial Impact Statement. (See back of form)

All staff positions supported by these grant funds will exist only for the term award of grant, unless specific action is taken by the County Board to extend the position.

DATE: _____

SIGNED: _____
Department Head

Application for & Acceptance of Grant Approval:

Approved by Parent/Finance Committee: _____
Approved by County Board: _____
Approved by Grant Executive Committee: _____