

Questions and Answers Regarding the RFA 2013 WPD 06 Demo Green Practices

Question: Page 10 of the RFA notes "Limit each project description to 15 double-spaced pages. "Was this intended to say "double-sided" instead?

Answer: That does mean double-sided instead of double-spaced.

Correction: Upon further investigation, we found that the double-spacing requirement is preferred by some reviewers because it forces a concise application, given the 15 double-sided page limit; however, we did provide the above answer to one potential applicant, and so we will stick with that answer for all applicants to this RFA. Please feel free to use 1.0 to 2.0 spacing.

Question: Does this 15-page maximum include attachments, such as resumes or project descriptions?

Answer: The 15 page maximum does not include attachments.

Question: May a non-profit that does not have technical expertise in-house partner with for profit ESD and installation companies to install BMP as part of grant opportunity 03, RiverSmart Communities OR opportunity 04 District Wide Innovative LID/GI Feasibility and Demonstration program

Answer: Partnering with a for-profit to provide those services for both projects is fine. In your budget, that company will appear on a contracting line (this might just say "contractor" in the budget, or it may name a specific company).

Question: Page 32 makes reference to "at least 15 stormwater BMPs such as rain cisterns, rain gardens or pervious pavement." Does DDOE want an applicant to identify and propose 15 separate projects, each featuring a single BMP, or several projects each featuring multiple BMP installations totaling at least 15? Or does DDOE identify the projects and the applicants take on installations as they have capacity to do so, installing a minimum of 15.

Answer: There are two answers: RiverSmart Communities is similar to RiverSmart Homes in that DDOE staff audits properties and recommends and approves projects. The partnering nonprofit manages those projects. The expectations are two: that the partner will manage installation of all the audited and approved projects and that at least 15 of these BMPs will be installed in a year's time. The number 15 is likely also given to help the applicant estimate the cost of this work in order to present it in the budget.

Question: Is this a two-year grant like it says? If so, are the 700 RSH/350 Rebate metrics for one or two years? See p. 30 there seems to be a discrepancy between the stated Project Period and Outputs and Deliverables. Are these outputs and deliverables for a 1 year or 2 year time frame? Please clarify.

Answer: The deliverables are set up for 1 year, but that we can amend the grant for another year for a total of 2. In two years the deliverables would total 1400 RSH/700 Rebates.

Question: For the RiverSmart Tree Installation and Rebate Program, is it known now if these are considered DC or federal funds (with respect to the SAM registration requirement on Page 20)?

Answer: While funding source changes do sometimes occur, we currently plan to use DDOE revenue funds for this work. We do not expect to see this change, but if that happens, we will tell the subgrantee asap so that they can register with SAM.

Question: In the *Project Description* section, one goal of this project is stated as follows: “Site installations within the District’s most impaired/highest priority watersheds (links provided in Project Eligibility section below)”; however, the link is not provided. Could you provide this information?

Answer: Yes, and our apologies for the oversight. A catalog of the Rock Creek and Oxon Run projects, referenced above, can be found on the DDOE webpage, <http://ddoe.dc.gov/watershed>. Targeted sub watersheds in Rock Creek are Fenwick Branch, Dumbarton Oaks and Klingle Valley Stream and will be given priority in selection. Anacostia Watershed projects can be found at the following web link, http://www.anacostia.net/Restoration_Plan/action_plans.html. Anacostia project inventories can be found under each sub watershed action plan. Targeted sub watersheds in the Anacostia watershed are Watts Branch, Fort Dupont, Pope Branch, Hickey Run and the Tidal River.

Please note that there is no scoring criterion associated with this goal.

Question: Can the RFA funds be used for private property owned by a non-profit to offset the cost of installing BMP that has already been audited by river smart communities? For instance, if a local church had a RiverSmart Communities stormwater audit, and an estimate for a cost of \$50,000 to remove blacktop and replace permeable pavers, could we request \$40,000 and have the church match with \$10,000, or would they be required to stick with the 40% that River Smart Communities would reimburse?

Answer: The church is welcome to apply to the LID project for the full cost of the project or the cost less the amount of match they can contribute; however, that would be separate from the RiverSmart Communities program offering. They could continue to work with RiverSmart Homes, and if they are located in a priority area, which is all of Wards 7 & 8, and the Hickey Run subwatershed of Ward 5, there is now, as of six months ago, a design/build option that will bring the project costs back into their budget range.

Question: Will a BMP installed and paid for by these grant funds be eligible to generate stormwater credits in the future if correctly maintained? In other words, if DDOE funds are used to install a BMP on private property, will the private property holder be eligible for the credits in subsequent years if they maintain the BMP?

Answer: The stormwater credit trading program, when it is finalized, will allow this, though in the future, there may be some limitations that are set to ensure a level playing field. The short answer is yes.

Question: For item #4 on the RFA, would DDOE consider an innovative small scale, portable LID system?

Yes –DDOE is interested in innovation in LID in any form, even if it is nontraditional. An elaboration that you may find helpful is that some of the points on which reviewers will judge these projects are the following: cost per water volume treated; term of use – any project needs to be considered permanent; a confirmed long-term maintenance plan; and project viability, including clear data that the innovation is successful at fulfilling its purpose. Given this answer, please also refer to all the scoring criteria published for this project.

Question: For the same item above, if allowed to submit a proposal, could we store the system at a DCPS site that has been abandoned for the past 5 years - Shaw Jr. High School at 925 RI Ave. and is the current site for Old City Farm and Guild ?

Answer: The applicant will need to get approval from the District Department of General Services.