



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Environmental Services Director *M.P.S.*  
Geoffrey M. Smyth, P.E., Division Manager, Science & Engineering  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Request for Resolution – Washington State Department of Ecology GROSS Grant –  
April 15, 2014  
**DATE:** March 26, 2014

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**SUMMARY:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology, in the amount of \$277,722; accepting and depositing said sum into the ES Surface Water Utility Fund 4301 to perform laboratory testing and field testing of stormwater treatment media at Wapato Lake.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Strengthen and support public safety, human services, public education, and diverse higher learning opportunities in Tacoma.
- Foster neighborhood, community, and economic development vitality and sustainability.

This grant supports Tacoma's work to improve the quality of stormwater in the Wapato Lake watershed so it can in turn provide needed improvement to the lake. Through this work, public safety in and around the lake will be strengthened and the community supported. As a part of this project, the City will enter into an agreement with the University of Washington Tacoma (UWT) to perform a portion of this research. The City's partnership with UWT for this work leverages the talents of one of our local universities.

**BACKGROUND:**

Excess phosphorus in stormwater runoff can negatively impact receiving waters by causing algal blooms. These algal blooms reduce water clarity, impact the aquatic habitat, and can pose a human health risk. Wapato Lake is one of over 40 bodies of water in Washington that requires a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and/or Water Quality Improvement project for phosphorus control. Current options, however, for phosphorus removal from stormwater include large-scale centralized facilities or treatment trains that do not integrate well into a natural landscape, and are expensive and complex to build and maintain.

Water treatment residuals (WTRs), a common byproduct of drinking water treatment, have been shown to have the potential to remove phosphorus in stormwater. The City, in partnership with UWT, has already done preliminary laboratory testing to explore the viability of using WTR treatment media to remove phosphorus from stormwater. This grant will expand on the previous research by funding additional laboratory testing and also funding field testing at Wapato Lake. The City will enter into a contract with UWT to perform a portion of this research.

**ISSUE:**

Funding will be used to develop a non-proprietary stormwater treatment media utilizing WTRs that provide reliable and protective phosphorus removal. A separate agreement will be executed with the UWT so that they can perform a portion of the research.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

If the grant is not accepted, the City would either not perform this work or need to pay for this research with ratepayer funds.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Environmental Services Department recommends the execution of a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology, in the amount of \$277,722; accepting and depositing said sum into the ES Surface Water Utility Fund 4301 to perform laboratory testing and field testing at Wapato Lake.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
ES Surface Water Utility Fund 4301	80017982	Various	\$154,415.00
University of Washington Tacoma	80017982	5330100	\$123,307.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$277,722.00</b>

\* General Fund: Include Department

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Department of Ecology Grant	521600	6232302	\$277,722.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$277,722.00</b>

**POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:** N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:** Additional revenue of \$277,722

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?** The expenses will be covered under our existing budget. The additional revenue was not budgeted.

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.**

N/A