


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number: 24-219	Meeting: May 20, 2024
	Agenda Item: 34	Roll Call: [_____]
	Submitted by: Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director	

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Water Quality Initiative Urban Conservation Demonstration Projects Cost-Share Grant Contract with Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) in the amount of \$100,000 for the Soil Quality Restoration Batch and Build Program.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of grant agreement with IDALS for a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to help fund a soil quality restoration project with total estimated cost of \$230,000. Recommend approval of grant agreement with IDALS for a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to help fund a soil quality restoration project with total estimated cost of \$230,000.

FISCAL IMPACT:

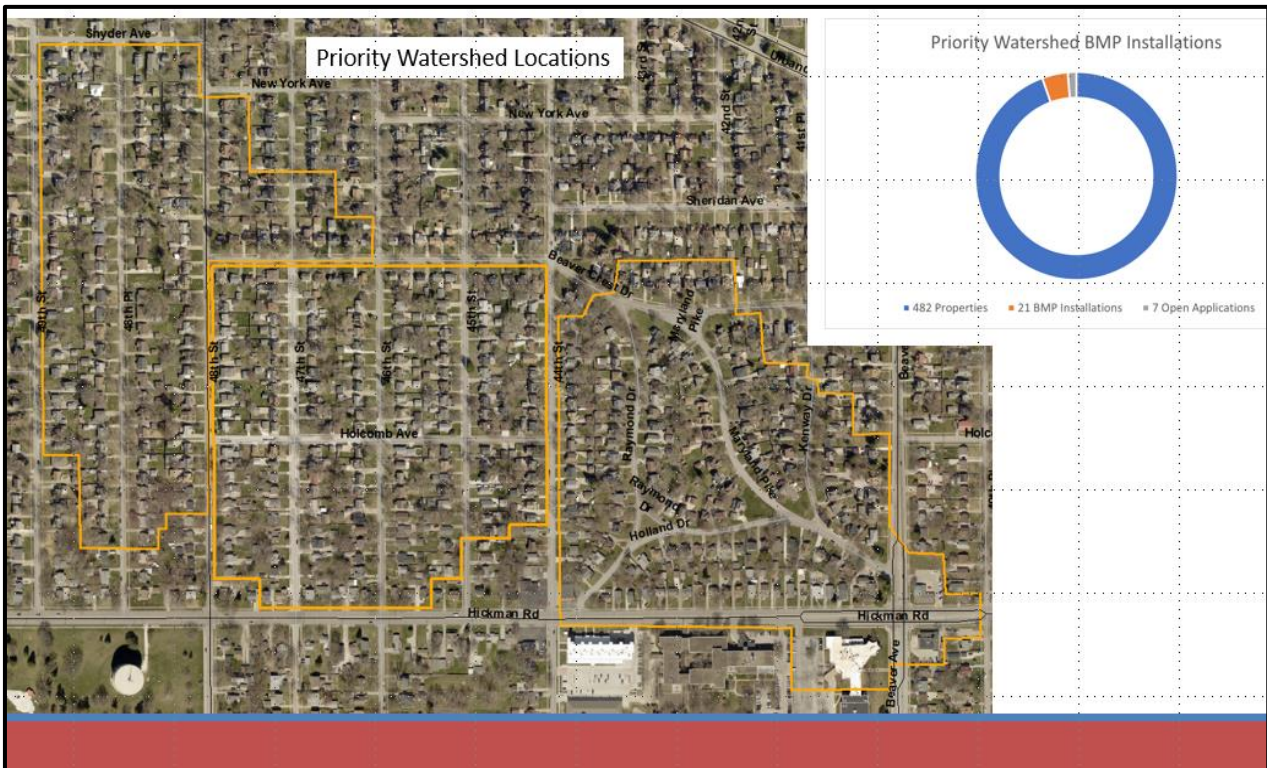
Amount: \$230,000

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Operating Budget, Page 221, Public Works, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), PW248424 (\$130,000 Stormwater Utility revenue, \$100,000 IDALS grant)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Public Works Department currently manages the Stormwater Best Management Practices program which provides funds to private property owners to install various eligible stormwater management practices which reduce runoff and improve water quality of runoff.
- Soil Quality Restoration (SQR) is a practice typically applied to established lawns, using deep core aeration and applying a layer of compost to reduce the need for lawn fertilizers and watering and increase the capacity of the existing soil to soak up and retain stormwater.
- It is recommended by the Public Works Department that implementation of SQR should be increased because it is one of the easiest and most cost-effective stormwater management practices for residential properties to implement.

- The IDALS grant will allow the City to offer a voluntary program where the City will provide SQR for their existing lawns at no cost in order to reduce runoff and improve water quality with a focus on designated priority watersheds.
- Public Works will identify a list of property owners eligible to participate in the program, implement an education/outreach program to encourage participation among eligible property owners, administer a contract with a vendor to provide the SQR to participating property owners, and administer the grant agreement with IDALS.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 22, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0118](#)

Action: [Application](#) to IDALS for a Water Quality Initiative Targeted Demonstration Watershed Project Grant for \$100,000 for SQR Project. ([Council Communication No. 24-036](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Coleman. Motion Carried 6-0.

Date: June 12, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0863](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Sections 118-295, 118-296 and 118-297 of the Municipal Code relating to stormwater best management practices program. ([Council Communication No. 23-277](#)) Moved by Gatto that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Second by Westergaard. Motion Carried 5-2. Absent: Sheumaker and Cownie.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal actions related to procurement of contracted services.

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