2022 Engineering Planning Grant
Program Overview
Overview

Up to $3M in grant funding is available to help municipalities pay for preparation of engineering reports for their wastewater infrastructure projects.

- Up to $100,000 per award
- 20% local match required
- Must meet MWBE, EEO and SDVOB requirements
- Limit of two open EPG awards at one time per municipality
Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must be a municipality **AND**
- Project must be for wastewater/water quality improvement projects **AND**
- Municipalities must meet income criteria based on the 2019 American Community Survey:
  - Municipal median household income (MHI) equal to or less than $95,000 for Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson regions
  - Municipal MHI equal to or less than $75,000 for the rest of the state
Project Examples

- New Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements or Upgrades
- Disinfection
- Collection System Improvements
- Pump Station Improvements
- Regional Consolidation
- Collection System Extension
- Inflow and Infiltration
- Combined Sewer Overflows
- Sanitary Sewer Overflows
- Identified in a DEC-Approved Watershed Implementation Plan
- Combined Sewer Separation
- Wastewater treatment and/or collection system for an area with failing onsite septic systems
- Upgrade or Replacement of Existing System
- Part of Long-Term Control Plan
- Other
Funding Priorities

- Required by an executed Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Order on Consent
- Required by a draft or final DEC State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit
  - Nutrient removal
  - Inflow and infiltration
  - Disinfection, etc
- Upgrading or replacing an existing wastewater system
- Constructing a wastewater treatment and/or collection system for an area with failing onsite septic systems
- Addressing a pollutant of concern in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan
  - Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
  - 9 Element Watershed Plan
  - DEC Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Action Plan, etc
Potential Grant Awards
(New for 2022)

- Up to $50,000 for any wastewater infrastructure-related planning activity, including disinfection
- Up to $100,000 for inflow & infiltration projects required by an Order on Consent or SPDES Permit Compliance Schedule (proof of enforcement must be provided)
- Funding may be limited per round to one project per municipality. Applicants must prioritize projects if submitting more than one application.
Local Match

- All EPGs require a local match of 20% of the grant amount:

  **Example using $50,000 grant**
  - Grant Award: $50,000
  - Local Match: $10,000
  - Total Project Cost: $60,000

  **Example using $100,000 grant**
  - Grant Award: $100,000
  - Local Match: $20,000
  - Total Project Cost: $120,000

- Technical/Administrative Force Account (in-kind services) can be used as local match (must be approved by EFC)

In-kind services: municipal equipment or labor committed that would otherwise be paid from the project budget.
Grant Disbursement Schedule

Disbursements are advanced in two portions:

• 50% of the grant will be paid to the community when the grant agreement is executed.

• The remainder of the grant for total eligible costs will be paid to the community when EFC and DEC accept the engineering report.
  o Invoices and cost documentation are required at this time.
Awardee Requirements

Several items are needed in order to execute a grant agreement with EFC:

1. Certified board resolutions for establishing an authorized representative, committing local match, and evaluating SEQR
2. Executed engineering agreement
   a. Include EFC State Financial Terms & Conditions
3. Compliance with MWBE, SDVOB, and EEO requirements (for contracts over $25k)
   a. EEO Policy Statement & EEO Staffing Plan
   b. Goals are 30% for MWBE and 6% for SDVOB, and an approved Utilization Plan or waiver is needed for each
4. Budget & Plan of Finance form

Grant agreement executed within 6 months of award

The above-referenced Terms & Conditions and forms can be found at: https://www.efc.ny.gov/EPG
Grant Terms

- Projects that are awarded $50,000 grants will have a grant agreement term of 2 years.
- Projects that are awarded $100,000 grants will have a grant agreement term of 3 years.
- Engineering reports must be submitted electronically to EFC no later than **6 months prior to grant agreement expiration** to allow time for EFC/DEC review, coordination of comments, and closeout.
Engineering Report Outline

Reports must include:

✓ Alternative analysis
✓ Capital improvement project recommendation
✓ Cost estimate & schedule
✓ Energy efficiency measures
✓ Green infrastructure alternative
✓ Resiliency & floodplain considerations
✓ Consider impacts on Environmental Justice (EJ) areas
✓ Include location maps showing overall service area, existing project site, and proposed improvements

Check EFC’s website for the latest version
http://efc.ny.gov
Environmental Justice (EJ)

Environmental Justice: Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, income, national origin or color, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

- Discuss how your project impacts an EJ area
- Include a project map in the report appendix
- Use DEC’s Info Locator Tool: https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html
Maps & Figures

All engineering reports must provide a series of maps, drawings, and/or figures that details information regarding the site, the project, and its impacts:

- Overall service area
- Existing project site
- Proposed improvements for each alternative
Financing Available After EPG

The goal of the EPG program is to help municipalities complete project planning in order to advance the project to construction and finance the capital project with EFC or other funding agencies.

• A project must be listed on EFC’s Intended Use Plan (IUP) Annual List in order to be eligible for EFC financing.

• Submit the Engineering Report & Smart Growth Assessment by the end of the listing period.
How to Apply

EPG applications are submitted through New York State’s Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

**Application Deadline**

**July 29, 2022 at 4:00 PM**

The application link can be found at: [https://www.efc.ny.gov/EPGApply](https://www.efc.ny.gov/EPGApply)
Program Contacts

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For more information on the EPG Program:
https://www.efc.ny.gov/EPG