Adopted by Board of Trustees October 1, 2015

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Green Infrastructure Policy

NEORSD will actively pursue opportunities across its program areas to advocate for strategic and cost-effective implementation and maintenance of green infrastructure technologies and innovations that protect, preserve, enhance and restore the natural hydrologic function of our region's watersheds. In addition, NEORSD will seek to maximize the co-benefits provided by green infrastructure projects including opportunities to expand urban natural areas, enhance air quality, and improve quality of life in Northeast Ohio.

NEORSD will use the following definitions of Green Infrastructure:

Project Clean Lake GI Definition

The range of stormwater control measures that use plant/soil systems, permeable pavement, or stormwater harvest and reuse, to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspirate stormwater and reduce flows to the combined sewer system.

NEORSD Wet-Weather Programs GI Definition

Stormwater source control measures that store, filter, infiltrate, harvest and reuse, or evapotranspirate stormwater to increase resiliency of infrastructure by reducing stress on wet-weather drainage and collection systems which increase co-benefits in support of healthy environments and strong communities.

NEORSD will implement green infrastructure through the following program areas:

Capital Improvement & Operation and Maintenance Program
Implement combined sewer overflow control green infrastructure projects and seek additional opportunities to invest in green infrastructure that enhances sewer infrastructure capacity as District projects advance.

Green Infrastructure Grants Program
Partner with communities to promote, implement, and maintain water resource projects through the construction of green infrastructure to remove or detain stormwater from separate or combined sewer systems as such opportunities arise through development activities, neighborhood planning efforts, and other partner-driven projects to expand green infrastructure.

Community Infrastructure Program*
Assess and fund local sewer system improvements in the District's service area that effectively employ and maintain green infrastructure where appropriate to resolve water quality and quantity issues that impact human health and the environment.

Water Resources Restoration Sponsorship Program (WRRSP)
Work with District partners to sponsor projects that protect and improve water quality through preservation and restoration of ecosystem functions in the region's watersheds, such as floodplain storage, habitat restoration, and streambank erosion control through participation in the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund program.

NEORSD Code of Regulations Titles III & IV Community Discharge Permit Program
Seek opportunities to use green infrastructure where appropriate to reduce stress on separate and combined sewer infrastructure and support permit compliance through the effective implementation of the Community Discharge Permit Program.

NEORSD Code of Regulations Title V Regional Stormwater Management Program
Advance the comprehensive management of the regional stormwater system to strategically implement and maintain green infrastructure to help achieve a minimum level of service across the District service area to protect public safety, infrastructure and the environment from flooding, erosion, and water quality concerns.

Notes and References: **Community Infrastructure Program is under development by NEORSD and its implementation is pending Board review and approval.*