

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM POLICY

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (District) supports the strategic implementation and long-term maintenance of green infrastructure that protects, preserves, enhances, and restores natural hydrologic function. The Green Infrastructure Grant (GIG) Program focus is the funding of green infrastructure projects within the combined sewer area. Green infrastructure refers to stormwater source control measures, or water resource projects, that store, filter, infiltrate, or evapotranspire stormwater to increase resiliency of infrastructure by reducing stress on wet-weather drainage and collection systems thereby supporting healthy environments and strong communities.

The GIG Program for the combined sewer area is open to member communities, governmental entities, non-profits, or business working in partnership with their community in the combined sewer area interested in implementing water resource projects that remove stormwater from the combined sewer system and in ensuring the long-term maintenance of these practices. A GIG is awarded through a competitive funding process with final recommendations approved by the District Board of Trustees. The availability of GIG Program funds in any calendar year is at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

The District recognizes that construction can cause an increase in impervious surface at the site. For grant consideration, applicants must demonstrate compliance with Title IV (Combined Sewer Code) of the District's Code of Regulations as outlined in the *Submittal Requirements for Connections to the Combined Sewer System*. Applicants are responsible for funding the portion of a project that is necessary to meet the minimum requirements to satisfy Title IV. The District will consider project funding above Title IV requirements, provided the following conditions are met to the satisfaction of the District:

- Project meets all grant eligibility requirements, as will be set forth in a Request for Proposal document issued by the District;
- Applicant provides the cost details for compliance with Title IV; and
- Applicant provides the cost details for water resource project that exceed Title IV compliance.

Member communities or governmental entities awarded a GIG will enter into a direct agreement for the implementation and long-term maintenance of the GIG project. Non-governmental entities will enter into a lease agreement for the water resource project. GIG funds will be provided by the District on a reimbursement basis for project cost, in accordance with the District's GIG Reimbursement Policy. Funds must be used in accordance with the agreement. Any funds not expended for the purposes contained in the applicable agreement and approved by the District shall remain with the District.

A GIG project must be maintained for the design life expectancy of the project, as determined by the District. If the GIG project fails to be maintained in accordance with applicable agreements executed with the District, the full amount of GIG funds paid for the water resource project shall be returned to the District.



REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

The Green Infrastructure Grant Program (GIG) grant funds shall be provided by the District on a reimbursement basis directly to the Grantees or Sub-Grantee for Project costs, conditioned on the District's prior approval of the design and construction of the Project. Under no circumstance shall grant funds be used for compliance under Title IV of the District's Code of Regulations. District staff members, selected by the District, shall be a permanent part of the Project team dedicated to design review and construction inspection throughout the duration of the Project. Funds must be used in accordance with the authorized amount indicated. Any funds not expended for the purposes agreed to by the Sub-Grantee/Grantee and the District shall remain with the District.