



OVERVIEW

2022 MUNICIPAL RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM

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MRGP 2022 Overview

- \$150,000 is available in each of two tracks:
 - 1) implement stormwater authorities, and
 - 2) develop a resilience “project pipeline.”
- Projects completed in **12 month timeframe**
- Eligible Applicants: municipalities, NGOs in partnership with municipalities, and COGs
- Proposal Deadline: **February 1, 2022 (5 pm)**
- Partnerships are encouraged (e.g. universities, consultants, additional NGOs)

Track 1: Implementing Stormwater Authorities

Requests up to \$100,000

FUNDABLE ACTIVITIES

- Technical Tools
 - Accurate parcel mapping
- Feasibility Study
 - Review existing stormwater facilities
 - Identify problem areas and projects
 - Design stormwater fee model
- Community Outreach
 - Host DIMS workshop
 - Create outreach materials
- Implementation
 - Adopt ordinance
 - Create fund



Stormwater Authority Fact Sheet

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What Kinds of Projects Can be Funded Using Stormwater Fees?

Many municipalities prioritize water and sanitary sewer infrastructure over stormwater drainage resulting in a lack of funding for upkeep and improvement of this vital system. Stormwater management systems can become inadequate to address pollutant and capacity loads from greater precipitation and more frequent storms resulting from climate change. Compliance with MS4 regulation, however, has made stormwater management imperative. Stormwater fees can be a way for municipalities to plan capital improvements that may otherwise be difficult to fund. Just as water and sanitary sewer fees support improvements to their infrastructure, dedicated stormwater funds can be used for infrastructure design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the municipal storm sewer system. Additionally, stormwater funds may be used for public outreach related to stormwater management, program administration, or for critical upgrades to municipal systems. For example, New London, Connecticut used stormwater funds to replace two antiquated pumps in an area prone to repeated and increasingly costly flooding, virtually eliminating the problem. Importantly, this funding expands the capacity of municipalities to address their local resilience financing and project development needs by providing matching funds for state and federal grants.

Modest design changes can greatly reduce stormwater runoff and have a big impact on resilience and environmental quality. Incorporating nature-based, sustainable solutions into sites with large areas of impervious pavement can greatly reduce the amount of stormwater flowing into storm sewers, as well as the pollutants it can carry. Bioretention swales added to parking lots allow for onsite filtration of water. Pervious pavement can be used in appropriate areas to reduce runoff. Combining these efforts with informational signage can educate the public about stormwater and resilience and demonstrate how and where stormwater fees are being used to benefit the community.

How Can UConn Help?

- Grants for stormwater authority feasibility studies
- Public workshops, webinars, and technical assistance, including data and maps
- Model ordinance for stormwater authority implementation

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Model Stormwater Authority Enabling Ordinance

A municipality may prefer to create a new board or commission as a stormwater authority as enabled by C.G.S. 22a-498 (a). A general model for enabling this body is below. The municipality will need to determine if the board/ commission will be compensated, and elected or appointed, and the number and composition of the board and length of term. Additional text is needed if the body recommends establishing a stormwater fee to create a stormwater fund and detail the fee basis and appeal process.

The [*chief municipal officer: Mayor, First Selectman, etc.*] shall appoint with the approval of the [*council, board of selectman, etc.*] a stormwater authority consisting of [*XX*] members who shall be electors of [*municipality*].¹ The authority shall have all the powers and duties conferred upon it by law and specifically by C.G.S. 22a-497. The members shall serve without compensation.² Each appointment to the stormwater authority shall be for a term of [*X*] years.³ There shall be no more than 2/3 members⁴ from any one political party appointed to any regular or unexpired term on the authority. [*Language addressing need to remove members from office, if needed.*]⁵

¹ "If a new board or commission is created, such municipality shall, by ordinance, determine the number of members thereof, their compensation, if any, whether such members shall be elected or appointed..." C.G.S. 22a-498(a).

²If members will be compensated, insert details here.

³Terms can be staggered. For example, if terms are for 5 years, the following language could be added: Except that initially two electors shall be appointed for a term of 5 years, two electors shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, two electors shall be appointed for a term of 3 years and one elector shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and thereafter all appointments shall be for terms of 5 years unless such appointment is to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term.

⁴This term may vary depending on municipal charter provisions or state minority representation provisions.

⁵The following language can be inserted if desired to address when and how members may be removed from office: The [*chief municipal officer*] may remove for improper performance of duties, malfeasance or misfeasance in office, a violation of any Code of Ethics of the [*municipality*] or for any other proper cause, any member of the stormwater authority appointed by it, provided that the member shall have been served with a written notice of intention to remove the member, containing a clear statement of grounds for such removal and of the time and place, not less than ten nor more than thirty days after service of such notice, at which the member shall be given an opportunity to be heard thereon. Such hearing shall be public at the option of the member who may be represented by counsel. The action of the [*chief municipal officer*] shall be final.



Stormwater flooding and damage on Branford roadways. (photos courtesy of James Finch and Jan Spiegel)



Funding for this project is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Recovery Program, as administered by the Connecticut Department of Housing.

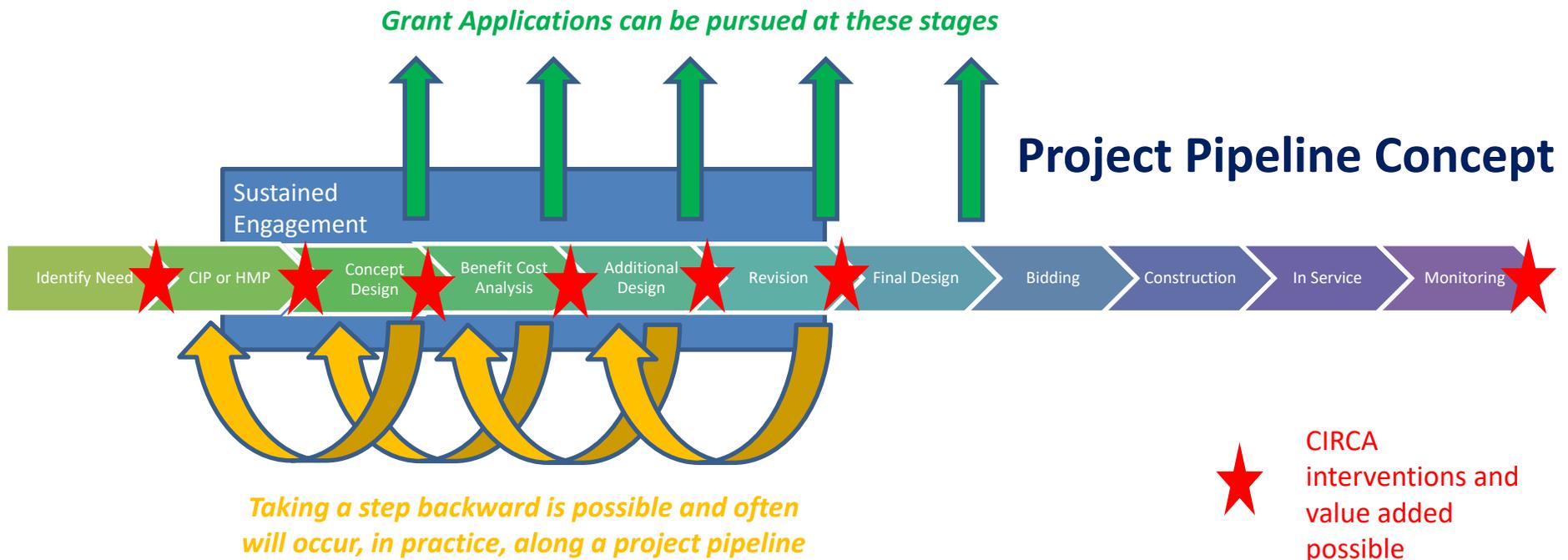


Funding for this project is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Recovery Program, as administered by the Connecticut Department of Housing.

Track 2: Developing a Project Pipeline – Requests up to \$50,000

FUNDABLE ACTIVITIES

1. Concept design that could lead to benefit-cost analysis (BCA)
2. BCA and other specific studies (e.g. environmental assessments, data collection, and/or development of project cost estimates)
3. Application materials for submittal to federal funding sources



Application:

Two parts need to be completed by February 1

- **Part 1:** Complete the form online

<https://circa.uconn.edu/funds-muni-2/muni-funds-apply/>

- **Part 2:** Upload budget, justification and workplan through online form submission

Provide a detailed project description and work plan

Up to 5 pages (not included in the page count: drawings and plans resumes, or letters of support).

Provide a detailed budget and budget justification

Responses should be limited to 2-3 pages in length

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Municipal Resilience Grant Program

- [Grant Program Awarded Projects](#)
- [Grant Program Overview](#)
- [Grant Program FAQs](#)
- [Grant Program Application Form](#)

2022 Municipal Resilience Grant Program: Resilience Financing and Project Development



The Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) is requesting grant proposals from municipal governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in partnership with municipalities, and councils of governments (COGs) for initiatives that advance two specific climate priorities for the state of Connecticut: 1) implementation of stormwater authorities, and 2) development of a resilience "project pipeline." This funding supports the state's recent legislation, [An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation](#) (PA 21-115), and recommendations of the [Governor's Council on Climate Change](#) (GC3). Importantly, this funding expands the capacity of municipalities to address local resilience financing and project development needs.

Project proposals in either track described below should develop knowledge or concepts that are transferable to other communities and have well-defined and measurable goals. Applicants can submit proposals for both tracks, but only one proposal for each track. Projects should be completed in 12-months.

Eligible Applicants

Connecticut municipalities, NGOs in partnership with municipalities, and COGs.

Proposal Deadline

An original and complete application must be received no later than 5:00 pm on **February 1, 2022**.

MRGP 2022 Website & January 7, CIRCA Grant Webinar Registration:

<https://circa.uconn.edu/funds-muni-2/>

MRGP FAQs:

<https://circa.uconn.edu/funds-muni-2/faqs-muni/>

December 16, DEEP Climate Solutions Webinar:

<https://ctdeep.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvc-CsqT8tGtzVBxMdTG7bqICMUKr7d7K4>

QUESTIONS:

circa_municipalfunds@uconn.edu

katie.lund@uconn.edu

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