



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Community Program for Stormwater Management
Grant Approvals**

Date:	March 26, 2008
To:	Public Works & Infrastructure Committee
From:	Lou Di Gironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:\2008\Cluster B\TW\ pw08004 (AFS #6953)

SUMMARY

This report recommends approval of grants to community organizations to carry out stormwater management projects that were submitted to the Community Program for Stormwater Management for the March 7, 2008 application deadline.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Toronto Water and the Chair, Community Program for Stormwater Management (CPSWM) Selection Committee recommend that:

1. The following projects be approved for funding in the amount of \$150,041, net of GST including a 10% administrative fee for TRCA under the Community Program for Stormwater Management:
 - a. Rainwater Harvesting at the Brickworks - Evergreen
 - b. Stormwater Management (Source Reduction) – Toronto Chinese for Ecological Living
 - c. Black Creek Project’s Riparian and Steep Slope Planting Program – Black Creek Conservation Project
 - d. Stormwater Runoff Native Plant Garden – North American Native Plant Society
 - e. Reesor Wetland Creation – Friends of the Rouge Watershed
 - f. Ontario Food Terminal Bio-Swale Project – Ontario Food Terminal
2. The appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to take effect thereto.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total value of projects identified in this report is \$150,041 net of GST, including a 10% administrative fee for TRCA and is included in the approved 2008 Toronto Water Capital Budget, WBS Element CWW447-03 – Wet Weather Flow Master Plan – Public Education.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting of September 22, 23, 24 and 25, 2003, in adopting Clause No. 42 of Report No. 9 of the Policy and Finance Committee, adopted the Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan and Wet Weather Flow Management Policy and approved the administration of a community outreach program supporting the Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan by TRCA.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2003/agendas/council/cc030922/pof9rpt/cl042.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Community Program for Stormwater Management provides grants to community organizations and NGOs to carry out projects that advance the goals and objectives of the Wet Weather Flow Master Plan. Grant applications are reviewed two or three times per year by the CPSWM Selection Committee, who recommends a list for approval by City Council. The program has been running since 2004 and is administered by the TRCA.

The CPSWM Selection Committee is chaired by Irene Jones, and includes two TRCA staff representatives, one Toronto and Region Remedial Action Plan Team member from Ministry of the Environment, and five City staff representatives from: Toronto Water (2), Communications (1), Parks, Forestry and Recreation (1) and Toronto Public Health (1).

COMMENTS

Nine applications were received and reviewed by the CPSWM Selection Committee for the March 7, 2008 application deadline. The applications and the recommendations of the Selection Committee are summarized in the following table.

Project #	Project Name	Project Manager and Affiliation	Requested Funds	Recommendations of Selection Committee
2008-01	Rainwater Harvesting at the Brickworks	Claire Ellenwood, Evergreen	\$24,750	Approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.
2008-02	Backyard Habitat Creation Program	Janet McKay, Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests	\$24,576	Declined –Recommend re-submittal with the following considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No assurance that created habitat would be protected long-term because created on private property. Project should be directed to publicly owned land. • Project needs to focus on stormwater/water issues. • Recommend stronger links between stormwater management issues (i.e. educating homeowners about downspout disconnection or lot-level management techniques). • Recommend incorporate a direct implementation component.
2008-03	Ontario Streams	Siobhan Neil, Ontario Streams	\$5,000	Declined –due the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not meet WWF objectives. • Lacks strong community involvement. • Suggest seeking funding support from other City of Toronto sources.
2008-04	Stormwater Management (source Reduction)	William To, Toronto Chinese for Ecological Living	\$24,871	Approval –With the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance program evaluation component. Need to determine how/if the community is incorporating and/or changing their behaviour. • Incorporate a pledge component (i.e. participants at the fishing day also state they will adopt a certain lot-level stormwater management technique). • Encourage TCEL to diversify its programming (in terms of targeting different age groups and locations in the city) for future funding requests and/or develop a demonstration garden at one of the Chinese cultural centres in Toronto. • Ensure that souvenir for participants is an environmental friendly product. • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.

Project #	Project Name	Project Manager and Affiliation	Requested Funds	Recommendations of Selection Committee
2008-05	Black Creek Project's Riparian & Steep Slope Planting Program	Gaspar Horvath, Black Creek Conservation Project	\$25,000	Approval- With the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure City of Toronto staff (including staff from Toronto Water and Parks) have signed off on locations. • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.
2008-06	Stormwater Runoff Native Plant Garden	Paul Heydon, North American Native Plant Society	\$11,780	Approval- With the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All permits and necessary City of Toronto staff sign-off is obtained by the group. • Need to coordinate with Transportation Division. • Ensure safety equipment (i.e. vests) is provided to volunteers. • Do not support the purchase of Globe and Mail advertisement. This funding should be used to ensure watering and maintenance of the garden is undertaken. If necessary, this funding can be used to purchase safety equipment for volunteers. • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.
2008-07	Reesor Wetland Creation	Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Wetland (FRW)	\$25,000	Approval- With the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.
2008-08	Historic Garrison Creek Watershed – Greening and Interpretation Project	Hon Q Lu, Davenport Neighbourhood Association	\$12,915	Declined –Recommend re-submittal with the following considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detail regarding responsibility of project elements (i.e. who will remove and dispose of the asphalt?) and further clarify project deliverables. • Obtain necessary signoff and permits for project sites.

Project #	Project Name	Project Manager and Affiliation	Requested Funds	Recommendations of Selection Committee
2008 -09	Ontario Food Terminal Bio-Swale Project	Bruce Nicholas, Ontario food Terminal	\$25,000	Approval- With the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage follow-up monitoring to determine the effectiveness of the bio-swale (a future graduate student project). • Contact City of Toronto Park Staff to coordinate city plantings on the north side of the site to further enhance the area. • Encourage volunteer element, if possible. • Proof of insurance coverage must be submitted.
Total Amount Requested			\$178,892	
Total Recommended for Approval			\$136,401	

Approval of the above projects as recommended would result in a total funding commitment of \$150,041. This includes \$136,401 for the six recommended projects and a 10% administration fee of \$13,640 for the TRCA. With the approval of these projects, this will commit \$150,041 of the budgeted funding of \$250,000 for new projects in 2008. There will be another round of grant applications reviewed in the fall of 2008.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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