

State Water Infrastructure Authority

Meeting Date – December 13, 2017

Agenda Item I – Stormwater Infrastructure Scope of Work Discussion

Division of Water Infrastructure Staff Report

Background

The legislation that created the State Water Infrastructure Authority (Authority) in 2013 included 12 tasks and duties assigned to the Authority.

One of the tasks is to develop a statewide infrastructure master plan. The plan was developed by the Authority in 2016 and 2017. During initial scoping for the master plan, the Authority determined that the primary focus of the first master plan should be on drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. The Authority further determined that stormwater should be included in the next version of the master plan.

Purpose

The purpose of this Agenda Item is to provide time for the Authority to begin discussing stormwater concepts to be included in the next master plan. Following are a few potential topics for consideration:

1. Community solutions for voluntary long-term stormwater planning
 - Early and effective stormwater planning and management by communities as they develop will provide significant long-term cost savings while supporting resilience, economic growth and quality of life
 - Support development of a comprehensive long-term community stormwater plan that integrates stormwater management with communities' broader plans for economic development, infrastructure investment and environmental compliance
 - Through this approach, communities can prioritize actions related to stormwater management as part of capital improvement plans, integrated plans, master plans or other planning efforts
 - Lower barriers to long-term stormwater planning and examine ways to decrease the costs of stormwater management
2. Integrated municipal stormwater and wastewater planning
 - Achieve human health and water quality objectives by identifying efficiencies that arise from distinct stormwater and wastewater programs including how to best prioritize capital investments
3. Green infrastructure
 - Increase municipal capacity to implement green infrastructure through a process of identifying existing social/economic/knowledge/technical barriers and prioritization of strategies
 - Green infrastructure as a way to improve the resiliency of infrastructure and communities by increasing water supplies, reducing flooding, providing climate adaptability, and improving water quality

4. Stormwater as a resource

- One Water concept
- Increasing water supplies
- Role in drought management

Goal

Staff is seeking guidance from the Authority about the scope of stormwater-related ideas and information that should be addressed in the next master plan. Based on the Authority's guidance, staff will develop a working outline of stormwater topics to be researched and addressed.