What (or how) would you recommend prioritizing for stormwater funding?
Overview

https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure
Administer drinking water and wastewater infrastructure funding programs.

- Low-interest loans and grants
- Local government units and non-governmental water utilities
- Infrastructure (construction) projects and supporting studies and activities
- Ensure compliance with federal and state requirements

Fund stormwater projects that are eligible under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.
Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI)

Twice/year applications for funding.

Applications scored based on Priority Rating Systems that are approved by the State Water Infrastructure Authority (SWIA).

Applications score points based on Priority Rating Systems:
• Project Purpose
• Project Benefits
• Good Management Practices
• Affordability / Recipient Characteristics

Funding decisions made by SWIA.
NC General Assembly passed a budget in November 2021.

Includes appropriations from ARPA to be administered by NC DEQ as grant funding for water, wastewater, and stormwater projects.

Creates a new funding program: Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments Fund.
NC DEQ DWI ARPA Administration Plan

Posted on the Division of Water Infrastructure’s website, under “I Need Funding”

https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-need-funding

~$82 million available for stormwater grants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NC DEQ Fund or Reserve</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Allocated directly for specific local governments and public entities (promised), approx.</th>
<th>Approximate remaining for grant funding (non-earmarked)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visible Utility Reserve</td>
<td>Grants for water and wastewater systems that have been designated as distressed by the State Water Infrastructure Authority and the Local Government Commission, for the purposes set forth in subsections (1) through (5) of G.S. 139.06-206.</td>
<td>$89.7 million</td>
<td>$331.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve (State Reserved)</td>
<td>Project construction grants for public water systems and wastewater systems NC DEQ categorizes as at risk of becoming distressed</td>
<td>$116.6 million</td>
<td>$191.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments Fund</td>
<td>Grants for local governments for projects that will improve or create infrastructure for controlling stormwater quantity or quality.</td>
<td>$18.5 million</td>
<td>$82.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total funds: approx. $1.6 billion</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grant funds for projects that will improve or create infrastructure for controlling stormwater quantity and quality.

Eligible entities:

**SECTION 12.14.(d) Eligible Entity.** – An eligible entity for a grant under this section shall be a city or county that (i) documents in a form and manner as the Department may specify a stormwater quality or quantity issue and (ii) demonstrates that it would experience a significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance stormwater management activities within its jurisdiction based on income and unemployment data, population trends, and any other data determined relevant by the Department. A regional council of government created pursuant to Part 2 of Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes or a nonprofit entity is also an eligible entity under this section if the regional council of government or nonprofit entity partners with a city or county.
Grant funds for projects that will improve or create infrastructure for controlling stormwater quantity and quality.

**SECTION 12.14.(e) Grant Types.** – The Department shall make the following types of grants from the Fund:

1. **Construction grants.** – A construction grant is available for the development and implementation of a new stormwater utility or stormwater control measure (SCM), the rehabilitation of existing SCMs, the retrofitting of existing stormwater conveyances to provide SCMs for quantity and quality control purposes, or the installation of innovative technologies or nature-based solutions. The Department shall allow nature-based solutions where feasible and possible.

2. **Planning grants.** – A planning grant is available for research or investigative studies, alternatives analyses, the preparation of engineering concept plans or engineering designs, and similar activities intended to help an eligible entity determine the best solutions for the entity's stormwater quality or quantity issue and to engineer and permit the solutions. The Department shall allow nature-based solutions where feasible and possible.

All funds must be expended by December 2026. Federal and state requirements apply.
Anticipated Timeline

Now
Stakeholder engagements

Spring
SWIA (and its Stormwater Funding Committee) develops a proposed Priority Rating System

Early summer
Public review of proposed Priority Rating System

July
Adopt Priority Rating System; create and post application forms; schedule application trainings

Sept 30, 2022
First round of applications due

May 1, 2023
If funds remain, second round of applications due
What (or how) would you recommend prioritizing for stormwater funding?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of construction projects</th>
<th>Types of planning projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project purposes</td>
<td>Project benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipient characteristics</td>
<td>Stormwater management practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equity / Disadvantaged areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can submit in writing by March 16, 2022 to dwi.publiccomments@ncdenr.gov (subject line: DWI ARPA Stormwater)
Thank you.