



# **HAMILTON COUNTY STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**

---



# Grant Scope:

**Hamilton County is seeking grant applications for stormwater infrastructure projects that will help mitigate overland flooding and help strengthen stormwater collection systems against increasingly intense rain events. Hamilton County expects to award a total of \$3.3 million in American Rescue Plan Act – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA-SLFRF).**

Applicants shall certify that each project submitted is a necessary investment in water or sewer infrastructure as defined in ARPA-SLFRF and all applicable guidance.

A “necessary” Investment in infrastructure must be:

1. Responsive to an identified need to achieve or maintain an adequate minimum level of service, which may include a reasonable projection of increased need, whether due to population growth or otherwise
2. A cost-effective means of meeting that need, taking into account available alternatives.


**Note: Projects eligible under the EPA’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) are generally presumed to be necessary investments.**

## **List of Priority Projects:**

- Projects providing relief to structures in areas historically inundated with overland stormwater flow during rain events.
- Projects providing relief to pockets of known prone single family or commercial buildings that have frequently experienced water in basement that has been determined not to be resulting from MSD lack of sewer capacity.

## **Ineligible Costs:**

- Funding is not intended for the creation of new developments.
- Funds may not be used for indirect costs, profit, insurance expenses, or overhead costs or expenses outside of those directly related to the requested project. Any requests for personnel costs should be kept to a minimum and only for costs directly related to the grant request.
- Funds may not be deposited into any pension funds.
- Funds may not be used for debt service and/or replenishment for rainy day funds.
- Funds may not be used to satisfy settlements and/or judgements.
- Funds may not be used for purposes that contravene or violate the American Rescue Plan Act, Uniform Guidance, conflicts of interest, and other federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Funds may not be used for any ineligible uses for Federal Funds as detailed in 2 CFR 200.



This grant program is funded through ARPA-SLFRF. It is anticipated that any public entities awarded grant funding under this program will be considered subrecipients of Federal funds. As such, applicants must be able to comply with all requirements of such designation including adherence to all rules and regulations outlined within the US Department of Treasury Final Rule.

Any public entity that receives ARPA-SLFRF payments hereunder agrees that it will only submit for reimbursement, those costs that comply with the language of the ARPA-SLFRF Final Rule, any Guidance, and Frequently Asked Questions and Answers issued by the federal government or State of Ohio, which includes without limitation, U.S. Treasury, Office of Inspector General, the Ohio Auditor of State and the Ohio Office of Budget and Management (“Eligible Expenses”). Jurisdictions should review the Final Rule and Frequently Asked Questions and are cautioned that later versions may become available.

In addition, the receipt and review of source documentation as well as the payment of funding by the Board to a public entity shall in no way be construed as Board’s determination or approval of the eligibility of the expenses being reimbursed. In all cases and under all circumstances, the jurisdiction is ultimately responsible for the determination of the eligibility of expenses that it submits to the Board for payment.

**For assistance purposes only, ARPA-SLFRF information can be found here:**

- [Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds](#)
- [U.S. Department of the Treasury SLFRF-Final-Rule-Overview.pdf](#)
- [U.S. Department of the Treasury SLFRF-Final-Rule](#)
- [SLFRF Final Rule SLFRF-Final-Rule-FAQ.pdf \(treasury.gov\)](#)
- [CFDA Listing 21.027](#)

# Application Process

**Applications are due on or before:** November 27th at 4pm

**Email to:** [Sarah.Adams@hamilton-co.org](mailto:Sarah.Adams@hamilton-co.org)

**Anticipated Award Date:** January 2024

**Funds Obligated By Grantee:** December 2024

**Project Completion:** December 2026

All applications will be reviewed for completeness and eligibility. If demand for this funding exceeds the applicable allocation(s), funding will be distributed, in a manner deemed appropriate by the Board.

## **Eligibility:**

- The Applicant must be a public entity able to enter into a grant agreement with Hamilton County.
- Eligible public entities include municipalities, townships, county agencies, and other local government organizations.
- The Applicant must agree to maintain and operate the completed project long term.
- The Applicant is responsible for managing all aspects of operation to include, contract administration, project implementation, site maintenance, and other requirements of the applicant.
- Requests for design assistance to get project shovel ready are allowed so long as timelines can be met.
- Plans must be designed by a certified professional engineer.

## **Required Attachments:**

- Detailed budget for the project, include line items for all proposed expenses related to your project.
- Risk Assessment (Attachment A)
- Conflict of interest Policy
- Location Map and Project Site Photos
- Detailed Project Description
- Project Schedule
- Project Design Plans, if available
- Other Supporting Documents
  - Describe other supporting documents

### **Selection Process:**

Applicants must complete the ARPA-SLFRF Grant Application Form and provide all required documentation with the application by specified deadlines. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Hamilton County will review and evaluate all applications based on the evaluation criteria outlined below. All organizations recommended to Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners for a grant award must comply with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and procedures applicable to this Grant. Awarded grantees will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement, in a form satisfactory to the Board of County Commissioners.

<b>Element</b>	<b>Items used in Ranking May Include:</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Overall Responsiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submitted all documentation.</li><li>• Meets eligibility requirements.</li></ul>	10
Organizational Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience administering grant funding.</li><li>• Fiscal and administrative capacity to administer the funding in compliance with requirements.</li><li>• Demonstration that there is organizational capacity to perform the work within the specified timeframe.</li><li>• Process to ensure funds will be maintained separately from any other federal funding.</li><li>• Experience implementing stormwater projects.</li></ul>	30
Project Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project mitigates overland flooding in historically impacted areas.</li><li>• Readiness to proceed if awarded funds.</li><li>• Water quality or public impacts related to the project.</li><li>• The Proposed project is eligible under EPA's CWSRF or meets the "necessary" need criteria.</li></ul>	40
Budget and Match	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Match funds available</li><li>• Budget is reasonable and proportional to overall project and scope.</li></ul>	20

Hamilton County ARPA Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Application

Deadline: November 17, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Email to: [Sarah.Adam@hamilton-co.org](mailto:Sarah.Adam@hamilton-co.org)

**Please Note: Hamilton County will not accept late or incomplete applications.**

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Watershed: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Contact Information:**

Legal Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAM.gov UEI# \_\_\_\_\_ FEIN (Tax ID) #: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Consulting Engineer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Information:**

Is this a funding request for the construction of a  
shovel-ready stormwater project?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If no, please explain below

### **Project Description Continued**

Does this project meet EPA's CWSRF eligibility?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If no, explain how it is a necessary investment: Responsive to an identified need to achieve or maintain an adequate minimum level of service, which may include a reasonable projection of increased need, whether due to population growth or otherwise, and a cost-effective means for meeting that need, taking into account available alternatives.

**Project Description.** Please include project design specifications, information about who will implement the project, and how the project will be accomplished and who will be responsible for maintenance.

### **Project Description Continued**

**Project Construction Description.** Please include how and when the project will be constructed.

The project meets the “necessary need” criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Estimated project start date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Estimated project end date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Maintenance**

Describe the resources available to maintain the stormwater infrastructure including staffing, equipment, and financial resources. Please list previous experience in BMP maintenance, if any. Please provide an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) plan. Note that the O&M will be the responsibility of the applicant, and that an O&M Plan will be a requirement of the Grant Agreement.

Please provide the estimated maintenance cost per year for this project. \$ \_\_\_\_\_/yr



## **Summary of Benefits**

Describe any Inter-Jurisdictional Benefits, if applicable:

Describe the Flood Hazard Reduction Benefits:

List any Structure Damage that will be alleviated:

Describe any Water Quality Benefits

- Volume of water treated by proposed project, if any.
  - How was this determined?
- Amount of reduced infiltration and inflow resulting from project, if any.
  - Describe the amount and explain how this was determined?

Describe any Natural Resource Benefits:

### Summary of Benefits Continued

Describe any Nuisance Flood Reduction Benefits:

Summarize any Multiple Use Benefits:

Does the project provide flood protection or mitigation of critical facility?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name and type of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this project recommended in a local planning document or the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name of Plan (include page number) \_\_\_\_\_

### Financial Information

The requested funding is not duplicative of other federal, state, or local funding sources?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Total Construction Cost Estimate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Share: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Hamilton County Share: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

List all Funding Sources (only include secured and/or awarded funds):

Entity/Agency	Amount: \$

### **Readiness to Proceed**

For all properties where in-the-ground construction will occur, the applicant shall obtain and provide copies of appropriate land rights (e.g., recorded permanent easement) and all applicable permits.

Do you or will you have prior to grant award necessary easement(s)? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you or will you have prior to grant award necessary permit(s)? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

### **Statement of Local Commitment by Applicant**

Has sufficient matching funds? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Has Sufficient staff capacity? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Will comply with all applicable ordinances, laws, and policies, ARPA-SLFRF rules and regulations? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

### **Project Attachments**

- Location Map and Project Site Photos
- Detailed Project Description
- Project Budget
- Project Schedule
- Project Design Plans
- Other Supporting Documents
  - Describe other supporting documents below

Is the organization or employees under debarment or suspension by any federal, state, or local government agency? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

By signing, I hereby attest that I have the legal authority to sign and submit this application, and that all information provided in this application is complete and accurate. I further agree to submit all necessary source documentation and close-out reports if approved for funding.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_