Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study: How to Prepare

Comprehensive Feasibility Study: Liaison

- Works closely with consultant

- Knowledgeable about key components
  - Stormwater Infrastructure
    - Combined Sewer System infrastructure
    - CSO Long Term Control Plans
  - Stormwater operations and maintenance
  - Permit compliance concerns
  - Available staff and equipment
  - Available budget for stormwater
  - Problem areas including
    - Storm-related flooding
    - TMDLs
    - Water quality impairments
    - Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Steps to Establish a Stormwater Utility

1. Discuss Concept
2. Conduct Preliminary Feasibility Study
3. Engage Management
4. Conduct Comprehensive Feasibility Study
5. Engage Stakeholders
6. Engage Public
7. Implement Stormwater Utility

Comprehensive Feasibility Study

- Evaluation of current program
- Projections for future needs
- Analysis of impervious area
- Stakeholder engagement
- Study length depends on time to analyze impervious area

Take Inventory	Identify Needs & Expenses	Analyze Impervious and Pervious Areas	Determine Level of Service Options	Establish Fee & Credit Structures
Geographical coordinates on map or spreadsheet, type, age, and condition: outfalls, basins, storm drain inlets, catch basins, riparian buffers, low flow bypasses, etc.	Current and future maintenance, repair, and upgrade projects Include permit compliance concerns	Fees are based on a fair and equitable proportion of the amount of SW runoff from properties into the service area	Top: Go beyond the permit to fix SW problems with solutions that further improve the community (green spaces, rain gardens, etc.) Middle: Satisfy permit and do some lower cost options from top level Basic: Satisfy permit only	Calculate fees & credits for each service level Consider developing more than one rate structure option to demonstrate how different options affect fees for various types of property owners
Salt storage structures, maintenance yard buildings, vehicles, and equipment including sewer cameras, computers, smart phones, tablets, etc.	Consider SW flooding issues, CSO Long Term Control Plans, HABs, TMDLs, and impairments	Results of this analysis will help determine the appropriate rate structure	Consider start-up costs, capital expenses, O&M, asset management, etc.	Share results with stakeholders Choose most suitable level

www.state.nj.us/dep/dwq/SWU_stormwaterutility.html

Contact

Sherry Preisig

Environmental Specialist 2

MS4 Unit

sherry.preisig@dep.nj.gov

www.state.nj.us/dep/dwq/bnpc_home.htm

609-633-7021

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