



Legislation Text

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TMDL Water Quality Restoration Grant Application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the Depot Park Project (B)

This item is a request for the City Commission to authorize staff to submit a grant application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for TMDL funds in the amount of \$374,538 for the Depot Park Project.

The FDEP TMDL Grant Program provides funding for the implementation of best management practices designed to reduce pollutant loads to impaired waters from urban stormwater discharges. This funding is administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as the TMDL Water Quality Restoration Grant, which is set out by rule in Chapter 62-305, F.A.C. and authorized by Section 403.890(2), F.S.

The overall project objective is to mitigate environmental impacts to soil and groundwater and provide stormwater treatment to the 134 acre downtown service area. The objective of the monitoring component of the project is to monitor the effectiveness of the Phase I and Phase II ponds in achieving the pollutant reduction goals that these basins are permitted for. Both ponds are anticipated to reduce the nitrogen by 50%, phosphorus by 65%, total suspended solids by 85% and the biological oxygen demand by 80%. These reduction targets are based on various published sources however the City would like to measure the actual effectiveness of these ponds once Phase II has been built. In addition to measuring the actual effectiveness of these ponds, the data obtained from this monitoring project will provide useful data on estimating the pollutant reduction abilities of a wet pond in a highly urban area. All components of this project have been funded (land acquisition, design and construction) except the monitoring component of the project. Construction of Phase II is on schedule to commence in October 2012 and is anticipated to take no more than 12 months. The installation of the monitoring equipment can begin in August 2012 and monitoring is expected to continue until December 2014. The Public Works Department is requesting approval to submit for the FDEP TMDL Grant for funding of the monitoring component of the project.

The FDEP TMDL Grant Program funds request is for \$374,538. If the Grant is awarded, a local match of \$374,538 is required and available in contributions already made to the project through the Stormwater Management Utility Fund.

The City Commission: 1) authorize the City Manager or designee to make application with FDEP for the TMDL Grant, and 2) if the grant is awarded, authorize the City Manager to execute all related documents, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.