


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	19-115	Meeting:	March 25, 2019
	Agenda Item:	42	Roll Call:	19-0493
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Amending Chapter 118 of the Municipal Code regarding Stormwater Best Management Practices Rebate Program.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of staff recommendations and the ordinance regarding changes to Stormwater Best Management Practices Rebate Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The rebate program is currently part of the Municipal Code and funded in the budget. Staff will monitor resident usage under the amended terms and recommend a budget amendment if deemed necessary.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit issued by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) requires public education and outreach on stormwater and also requires the City to encourage the use of stormwater best management practices that consider both quality and quantity of stormwater runoff. The goals of this rebate program are to create a cost-effective incentive for the construction of stormwater best management practices and to increase public awareness of the sustainable practices to control stormwater runoff.
- In response to the flash flooding events in June and July 2018 the Public Works Department has begun the development of a Watershed Repair Program. This program targets smaller watersheds which are less than 100 acres in size and involves a watershed working group to be made up of property owners within the targeted watershed. Each approved watershed repair project may include recommendations for the use of stormwater best management practices on both public right of way as well as private property. Implementation of stormwater best management practices on private property will be on a voluntary basis.

- In order to encourage higher levels of privately owned stormwater best management practices within those project areas approved as part of the Watershed Repair Program, a financial incentive is necessary above and beyond the normal stormwater best management rebate. Currently all City of Des Moines property owners may apply for a rebate for qualified stormwater best management practices to refund 50% of the out of pocket costs up to a maximum \$2,000 rebate per property.
- The proposed amendment to Chapter 118 of the Municipal Code provides for the designation of “Priority Watersheds” by the Public Works Director which will be eligible for an increased rebate level in order to target specific watershed planning goals such as those identified through the Watershed Repair Program.
- The proposed amendment allows properties within the Priority Watersheds to be eligible for a 100% rebate for out of pocket costs related to installing qualified storm water best management practices up to a maximum \$4,000 rebate per property.
- The proposed amendment removes the \$100 total rebate limit for rain barrels in order to encourage increased use of rain barrels on individual properties and updates the definition of Stormwater Best Management Practices to address both quality and quantity of stormwater runoff.
- Section 118-272 is being amended to allow Stormwater Utility funds to be used to support construction of improvements and best management practices located outside City limits, but which provide a direct benefit to the Stormwater Utility. This change will allow for future cooperative efforts with watershed partners.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 20, 2017

Roll Call Number: [17-0307](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Chapter 118 of the Municipal Code regarding Stormwater Management Utility (Best Management Rebate Program). ([Council Communication No. 17-076](#)) Moved by Westergaard that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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