



**2023 Water Resources Program
Work Scope and Deliverables
Total 2023 Request: \$60,000**

Sustaining Scioto Board & Program Implementation: \$55,000

Task 1: Sustaining Scioto Board and Working Groups

Subtask 1.1: Coordinate and hold quarterly meetings with Chairs and funders to iterate on Sustaining Scioto vision and review project progress. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.2: Coordinate and hold six Sustaining Scioto Board meetings per year including creation of Board roadmap and KPI's for programming. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.3: Convene six Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team meetings per year. Q1-Q4.

Subtask 1.4: The working team will continue to work with partners to promote the implementation of structural and nonstructural best management practices within the agricultural communities – a short term adaptive strategy of the Sustaining Scioto study. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.5: Sustain working partnerships including key stakeholders representing the agricultural community, northern reaches of the Scioto watershed, and water quality monitoring practitioners and partners to leverage support for future opportunities. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.6: Leverage board meetings to amplify regional topics and initiatives including City of Columbus One Water Planning, regional water management, water quality monitoring efforts, and best practices around stormwater management and green infrastructure.

Deliverable(s): Sustaining Scioto Board and Agricultural and Outreach Working Teams meetings and materials; Key working partnerships and collaboration.

Task 2: Secure Funding, Establish Key Priorities, Objectives, and Deliverables for Regional Water Management Plan

Subtask 2.1: Meet with interested funders to discuss key priorities, objectives, and deliverables for Regional Water Management Plan.

Subtask 2.2: Develop a scope of work for Regional Water Management Plan that is consistent with key priorities, objectives, and deliverables set by interested funders.

Subtask 2.3: If authorized, Task 2 will be amended to add additional subtasks consistent with the developed scope of work for the Regional Water Management Plan.

Deliverable(s): Scope of Work for Regional Water Management Plan

Task 3: Support water resources protection and infrastructure planning needs through development and identification of relevant climate data, tools, and resources.

Updating Precipitation Data for Water Infrastructure Planning

Subtask 3.1: Develop an outreach strategy for building awareness, continued support, and outreach for the value of the updated precipitation data in partnership with OSU Byrd Polar Climate & Research Center and Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District. The outreach strategy which will consist of presentations and forums to stakeholders will be developed in collaboration with partners and focused on targeted audiences including stormwater professionals, engineers and utility providers. The plan will highlight the results, and opportunities for the precipitation estimation tool.

Subtask 3.2: Implement outreach plan upon completion of Phase 1 work that is being conducted by Franklin Soil and Water under contract with OSU Byrd Polar Climate & Research Center.

Subtask 3.3: Contingent upon securing funds for Phase 2, MORPC will convene the board and relevant stakeholders on next steps and amplify this work. MORPC will assist with dissemination of the updated data, including how to use the data, and consider recommendations for an updated stormwater design standard informed by the updated data. Q4.

Deliverable(s): Written outreach plan and editorial calendar outlining outreach tactics to be deployed, timeline; Implementation of outreach plan.

Task 4: Update MORPC's Green Infrastructure Toolkit

Subtask 4.1: Update the Green Infrastructure Toolkit to share current best practices and case studies of green infrastructure featuring installation design, construction costs, and maintenance requirements with the target audience being local governments, private developers and commercial and industrial building owners installing green infrastructure on private property to comply with Ohio EPA general construction permit water quality requirements and local water quantity control requirements and expand the toolkit to include rural community case studies from surrounding counties. Q1

Subtask 4.2: Leverage the toolkit to elevate GI practices as an important strategy for more sustainable and resilient development. Promote the toolkit through social media, member communications, and in forums that engage local governments and developers. Q2-Q4

Deliverable(s): Updated Green Infrastructure Toolkit; Outreach plan for toolkit promotion.

Task 5: Education and Outreach Framework in Partnership with American Farmland Trust and Columbus DPU

Subtask 5.1: Conduct stakeholder analysis and mapping to provide focus for outreach and education activities in understanding who has the most influence over the Sustaining Scioto and American Farmland Trust Farmer to Farmer projects and is most affected by them. Understand potential touchpoints and communication to reach specific groups. Q2-Q4

Subtask 5.2: Leverage the focus groups to develop and complete A/B message testing of themes and messages that grow community awareness and trust in water utilities. Q3-Q4

Subtask 5.3: Under the advisement of the Sustaining Scioto Board and AFT leadership, develop and implement a detailed and adaptive Communications Plan to include target goals, activities, tools, and timelines. Q4

Deliverable(s): Key outreach audiences identified and key messaging; Education and engagement framework.

Task 6: MORPC On-going Communications and Engagement Support for Sustaining Scioto

Subtask 6.1: Use MORPC's e-newsletter and/or social media accounts as platforms to communicate project progress to regional stakeholders no less than 12 times per year. Q1-Q4

Subtask 6.2: Leverage communications networks of other environmental programming to increase reach of Sustaining Scioto education and outreach framework. Education around broader Sustaining Scioto goals will be deployed through internal MORPC Board groups including Sustainability Advisory Committee, Sustainable2050, Commission and the Central Ohio Greenways Board. Additionally, MORPC partner networks including Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, and Be the Change partnership will be leveraged to increase reach. Q1-Q4

Deliverable(s): 12 articles and/or social media posts in a year.

GreenSpot Outreach and Engagement to Increase Membership: \$2,000

Task 7: GreenSpot Outreach and Engagement Activities

Subtask 7.1: Promote and distribute GreenSpot applications at MORPC's Summit on Sustainability in October 2023. The Summit will be hosted in person and expected to attract more than 500 attendees based on previous attendance. Q4

Subtask 7.2: Include GreenSpot promotion and application distribution at community events, including the African American Wellness Walk, which attracts more than 10,000

people in central Ohio. Continue to include additional outreach opportunities as they arise. Q3

Subtask 7.3: Utilize MORPC's existing network and committee structure to promote the GreenSpot program and encourage membership. Q3-4

Subtask 7.4: Collect sign-ups at meetings and events, develop social media plans, and engage in other outreach opportunities to promote GreenSpot membership. Q3-Q4

Deliverable(s): 100 GreenSpot sign-ups, and social media posts

Riverfest: \$2,000

Task 8: Riverfest Planning to Include Several Activities.

Subtask 8.1: Develop, organize, and host in-person Riverfest by partnering with the Greater Columbus Arts Festival, Priscilla Tyson Arts Center, and others. Provide co-creation art spaces for the public to express their water story as well as showcase water art installations. Riverfest will take place at the Columbus Arts Festival in June, where MORPC will distribute educational information about water and offer free paddling opportunities to the public via Metro Parks. Q1- Q2.

Subtask 8.2: Facilitate and host a water panel discussion on June 3, in conjunction with the Priscilla Tyson Arts Center. Q2

Subtask 8.3: Facilitate meetings to review partner needs including logistics and set-up (i.e., water sports equipment delivery and storage, art installation). Q2-Q3

Subtask 8.4: Partner with agencies and organizations to enhance the public engagement component of the event. (i.e. Columbus Department of Public Utilities – GreenSpot Program, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District). Q1-Q2.

Subtask 8.5: In coordination with partners, develop communication plan that includes social media strategy, newsletters, video content and presentations. Engage partners in communications plan and provide content and graphics so they can promote to their networks through digital media. Q1-Q2.

Subtask 8.6: Identify staff volunteers to assist event participants to safely access paddling opportunities on the day of the event, educate the public on how to keep Central Ohio water clean, and actively educate the public on partner programming. Q3

Subtask 8.7: Recruit volunteers from partners and MORPC team, and host training. Q3.

Subtask 8.8: Execute plan and host the event during the targeted time frame. Q2-Q3

Deliverable(s): Riverfest promoted and hosted; Communications plan; Implementation of educational campaign; Provide engagement results in quarterly report to DPU.

Summit on Sustainability: \$1.000

Task 9: Develop and host a water resource focused breakout session for the Summit on Sustainability.

Subtask 9.1: Identify list of potential speakers and topics that support and complement the Summit's theme. Q2

Subtask 9.2: Send speaker requests and coordinate with confirmed speakers to develop presentations. Q3

Subtask 9.3: Confirm session outline, day of logistics, and speaker expectations. Q4

Subtask 9.4: Facilitate day of Break-Out Session logistics as needed including but not limited to speaker needs, room set up, etc. Q4

Deliverable(s): Breakout session promoted and hosted; Provide DPU with number of attendees, breakout agenda, and list of attendees.