



City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk
90 West Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215-9015
columbuscitycouncil.org

Legislation Text

File #: 1064-2020, **Version:** 1

This legislation is required of the City in order to execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) agreement with the Ohio EPA and the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA). Created in 2000, the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) counters the loss of ecological function and biological diversity that jeopardizes the health of Ohio's water resources. This program uses interest monies from WPCLF "Sponsor" Project loans to fund both preservation and restoration of aquatic habitat to accomplish this goal.

The WRRSP projects, identified in Section 1 as the Appalachia Ohio Alliance Big Darby Creek Conservation Corridor Scioto River Flyway Initiative Project (Carter and Confluence Properties) and the Fleming Bend Protection and Restoration Project - Scioto River Flyway Corridor Initiative. Both projects were designated by the Department of Public Utilities for sponsorship through a WRRSP Sponsorship Letter of Intent, dated April 23, 2020 for funding approval for Program Year 2020 through the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Program. The designated Sewerage and Drainage Division Projects, identified in Section 2., will serve as the Sponsor Projects for the Appalachia Ohio Alliance projects. Both projects are listed on the Ohio EPA 2020 WRRSP Project Priority List as an Intended Project for funding in 2020. The sponsoring Sewerage and Drainage Division Projects are also listed on the Intended Projects List for Ohio EPA funding through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) in 2020. The City may elect to sponsor both WRRSP projects under one or both of the projects identified in Section 2.

FISCAL IMPACT: The City will save money by receiving an interest rate discount on the WPCLF Loan financing the Division of Sewerage and Drainage's Sponsor Project.

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) Agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority; and to designate a Division of Sewerage and Drainage Project as the Sponsor Project for the WRRSP.

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Director of Public Utilities submitted a Sponsorship Letter of Intent to the Ohio EPA Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance expressing the City's intent to sponsor a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) Project for Program Year 2020 funding, and thereby designated two Division of Sewerage and Drainage Capital Improvements Project as the potential WRRSP Sponsor Projects for the WRRSPs; and

WHEREAS, the City, as a WRRSP Sponsor, will save money by receiving an interest rate discount on the WPCLF Sponsor Project Loan which will reduce its total loan repayments below that which would be required without sponsoring the WRRSP; and

WHEREAS, this legislation must be approved by City Council and a certified copy must be submitted to the Ohio EPA in order to enter into the WRRSP Agreement with the Ohio EPA and the Ohio Water Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities to authorize the Director to execute a WRRSP Agreement with the Ohio EPA and Ohio OWDA; **now, therefore**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Utilities is hereby authorized to execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor

Program Agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority, for the following projects:

Appalachia Ohio Alliance Big Darby Creek Conservation Corridor Scioto River Flyway Initiative Project (Carter and Confluence Properties); \$2,258,000

Appalachia Ohio Alliance Fleming Bend Protection and Restoration Project - Scioto River Flyway Corridor Initiative; \$2,611,000

SECTION 2. That the Director of Public Utilities is hereby authorized to designate the following Division of Sewerage and Drainage Projects as the Sponsor Projects for the WRRSP project as herein described in Section 1 of this Ordinance. One of the projects below may sponsor both projects. The WRRSP Sponsor Projects are as follows:

Lower Olentangy Tunnel; CIP No. 650724-100000; WPCLF No. CS390274-0362

Central College Subtrunk Extension Phase 3; CIP No. 650003-100000; WPCLF No. CS390274-0376

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.