



ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	June 7, 2012
Subject:	Direction to Hold Public Meeting on a Proposed Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) Grant Program Design
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	2012 MN Bonding Bill Subd. 3 "Metropolitan Cities Inflow and Infiltration Grants" and the Council Policy 3-3-1 (Grant/Loan Approval)
Staff Presented/Prepared:	Jason Willett 651-602-1196
Division/Department:	MCES c/o William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

Proposed Action

That the Environment Committee directs staff to hold a formal public meeting to gather input and discuss the proposed grant program design for a \$4 million Infiltration/Inflow Grant Program.

Background

Metro Cities championed inclusion of a grant program in the 2012 state bonding bill for the purpose of providing grants to municipalities for capital improvements to public infrastructure to reduce I/I. A similar grant program for \$3 million was funded from the 2010 state bonding bill and is ongoing. The proposed grant program design that will be presented at the public meeting is expected to be similar to the ongoing program, and will be discussed at the Environment Committee meeting. In addition, MCES staff is meeting with Metro Cities' staff and their invitees on June 19 to discuss their recommendations for any changes. If substantial changes are suggested at the June 19th meeting, those changes will also be discussed at the public meeting.

The following is a tentative schedule for approval of the program grant program design:

- Environment Committee authorization to conduct the public meeting June 12
- Public meeting..... July 10
- Public input (written comment period) ends July 20
- Environment Committee review of public input, and recommendation August 14
- Potential Council approval..... August 29

Rationale

The expected improvements in public infrastructure from these grants will benefit the region because future regional capital spending on sewer system expansion can be avoided (unused capacity in the system can be used as planned to accommodate growth rather than excess I/I).

Funding

The \$4 million appropriation comes from the State bonding bill approved in April 2012. The funding will be disbursed by the state on a reimbursement basis. MCES has included \$1 million of this grant money (as a pass through) in the 2013 budget and plans to include the remaining \$3 million, if awarded, in 2014.

Known Support / Opposition

none