



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**April 28, 2015**

**Ordinance 18031**

**Proposed No.** 2015-0146.2

**Sponsors** Upthegrove

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing the grant award criteria and  
2 process for the WaterWorks grant program in accordance  
3 with the 2015/2016 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance  
4 17941, Section 110, Proviso P2; and authorizing the release  
5 of \$2,000,000.

6 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

- 7 1. The 2015-2016 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 17941, Section  
8 110, Proviso P2, states that \$2,000,000 of the appropriation for wastewater  
9 treatment shall not be expended or encumbered until the King County  
10 council adopts an ordinance establishing the grant award process and  
11 criteria for the WaterWorks grant program.
- 12 2. The WaterWorks grant program will allocate funding to local and  
13 regional governments, including King County, nonprofit organizations and  
14 community organizations. Businesses, which partner with the county,  
15 nonprofit organizations or community organizations for the purpose of  
16 water quality improvement projects within the King County wastewater  
17 service area, will also be eligible to receive funding.
- 18 3. In accordance with Ordinance 17941, Section 110, Proviso P2,  
19 Attachment A to this ordinance outlines the implementation of the

20 WaterWorks grant program, including the purpose, criteria, eligibility for  
21 funds, staffing and project selection process.

22 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

23 SECTION 1. The WaterWorks Grants Program Implementation

24 Guidelines, which is Attachment A to this ordinance and establishes the grant  
25 award process and criteria for the WaterWorks grant program, is hereby adopted.

26 SECTION 2. The \$2,000,000 currently held in reserve in the 2015/2016

27 Biennial Budget through Ordinance 17941, Section 110, Proviso P2, is hereby

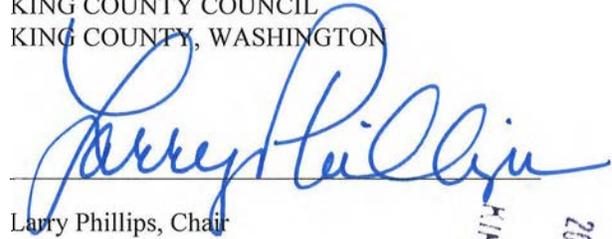
28 released for expenditure on projects that are selected and approved in accordance

29 with Attachment A to this ordinance, and for the grant program's administration  
30 purposes.  
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Ordinance 18031 was introduced on 3/30/2015 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 4/27/2015, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott and Mr. Dembowski  
No: 0  
Excused: 2 - Mr. Dunn and Mr. Upthegrove

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 6 day of MAY, 2015.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

**Attachments:** A. WaterWorks Grant Program, dated April 1, 2015

# WaterWorks Grant Program

## Implementation Guidelines for Project Criteria, Eligibility, Project Selection Process and Administration of Grants

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April 1, 2015

### **Purpose**

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Up to 1.5% of the annual Wastewater Treatment Division operating budget may be allocated by the King County Council for projects to improve water quality in the Wastewater Treatment Division (“WTD”) service area to leverage or complement the water quality mission of King County’s regional wastewater system.

Funding shall be applied to specific water quality improvement activities, programs, or projects located within the King County wastewater treatment service area and meeting the eligibility criteria below. The provision below shall apply to projects that receive funding through the WaterWorks grant program. .

### **Criteria**

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Programs, activities, projects approved for funding must meet the following *eligibility criteria*:

- Create a benefit to or improvement of water quality within WTD’s service area and benefit its ratepayers; and
- Demonstrate that water quality benefits are related to the WTD’s regional water quality responsibilities.

### **Eligibility to apply for WaterWorks Funds**

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The following entities are eligible to be recipients of the WaterWorks grant funding:

- Non-Profit groups (including but not limited to associations, community groups, and educational institutions)
- Cities, counties, and special purpose districts
- Tribes

Any other entity (such as a private business) interested in using WaterWorks grant funding would need to partner with an eligible entity.

## Staffing

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- WTD shall be responsible for administering and staffing the program, utilizing a percentage of program funds to pay for this administration.
- WTD shall develop administrative details of the grants program including development of process, application materials, announcements, review process, grant/contract distribution, tracking, financial accounting, reporting requirements, etc.

## Project Selection Process

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1. WTD staff will prepare and advertise a request for proposals (RFP) and receive applications on an annual basis.
2. A Grant Ranking Committee (“Committee”) will review, rank and recommend projects for funding.
  - a. The Committee will be staffed by WTD.
  - b. The Committee will be made up of nine people appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by Council as follows:
    - Three (3) King County resident representatives from within the King County wastewater service area
    - One (1) water quality technical specialist
    - Three (3) representatives from the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC), one each representing Seattle, participant cities other than Seattle, and participant sewer districts; and
    - Two (2) King County Council representatives.
3. The Committee will make its recommendation to the County Executive based upon the Criteria and the strength of the applicants to demonstrate:
  - a. **Water Quality Benefits.** Project proposals should be explicit regarding the water quality benefits. Examples of project benefits include:
    - Addressing a water quality problem or implementation of a project to maintain water quality
    - Addressing contaminants entering the system, i.e. pollution prevention, source identification, fats/oils/grease, product stewardship, emerging chemicals, etc.
    - Protecting or improving watersheds, streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and tidewaters in the service area.

- Providing education, on the ground improvement projects, programs, research, technology development, or related ideas.
- Building awareness of water quality and environmental protection and promotion of behavioral changes for improved water quality gains/outcomes.

b. **Implementation Strength.** Strong project applicants will demonstrate the following:

- Ability to leverage other funding or in-kind donations
  - Community involvement benefits; i.e. strength and diversity of partnerships and community stewardship.
  - Certainty of success in delivery.
  - Cost effectiveness of the proposal.
  - Clear goals and opportunities, and measureable outcomes
4. The County Executive will confirm the project list or make adjustments.
  5. The County Executive will transmit to the King County Council a project list, including for each project: a summary description of how the project meets the selection criteria and the proposed project grant with an ordinance to approve the grant funding allocation for each project.
  6. WTD will administer the contracts for approved projects.
  7. WTD staff will provide annual briefings (or as requested) to MWPAAC and the Regional Water Quality Committee on the status of the WaterWorks Grant Program including information on the number of proposals received, projects funded in that year, and summary of completion of past projects.