

RESOLUTION TITLE: AUTHORIZE GASTON COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES TO SUBMIT AN ARPA STORMWATER GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE NC DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE, STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS GRANT PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT BIORETENTION CELLS AT H. H. BEAM ELEMENTARY, LOWELL ELEMENTARY, MCADENVILLE ELEMENTARY, AND PAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, Gaston County has need for and intends to construct a project described as <u>Gaston County Schools Stormwater Control Measures</u>; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County Natural Resources intends to request a State grant assistance for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners:

- That <u>Gaston County</u>, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State grant award.
- That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.
- That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the
 project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide
 adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system
 and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.
- That <u>Kim S. Eagle, County Manager</u>, the <u>Authorized Official</u>, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the <u>Applicant</u> with the State of North Carolina for a grant to aid in construction of the project described above.
- That the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a type taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows: NO. DATE M2 **CBrown AFraley BHovis** KJohnson TK igher 2022-304 09/27/2022 AF TK Α Α Α Α Α AB U **DISTRIBUTION:**

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AUTHORIZE GASTON COUNTY **NATURAL RESOURCES** TO SUBMIT **ARPA STORMWATER GRANT APPLICATION FOR** THE NC DIVISION OF **WATER** INFRASTRUCTURE, STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS GRANT PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT BIORETENTION CELLS AT H. H. BEAM ELEMENTARY, LOWELL ELEMENTARY, MCADENVILLE ELEMENTARY, AND PAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS Page 2

• That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 27th day of September, 2022.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Gaston County Board of Commissioners

CERTIFICATION BY RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk to the Board of Gaston County, North Carolina, does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners duly held on the 27th day of September 2022; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of September 2022.



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Infrastructure Fall 2022 Application for Funding



(Last updated: July 2022)

Grants and low-interest loans are available for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure construction, preconstruction planning, and study projects. Low-interest CWSRF loans are available for green projects such as stormwater quality infrastructure and stream restoration projects. The new Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) grants are available for stormwater quality and stormwater quantity infrastructure construction projects, stormwater planning grant, and for developing and implementing a new stormwater utility. Complete this Application for Funding form and submit it along with required additional forms and documents to the Division of Water Infrastructure for consideration.

Fall 2022 application due date is September 30, 2022.

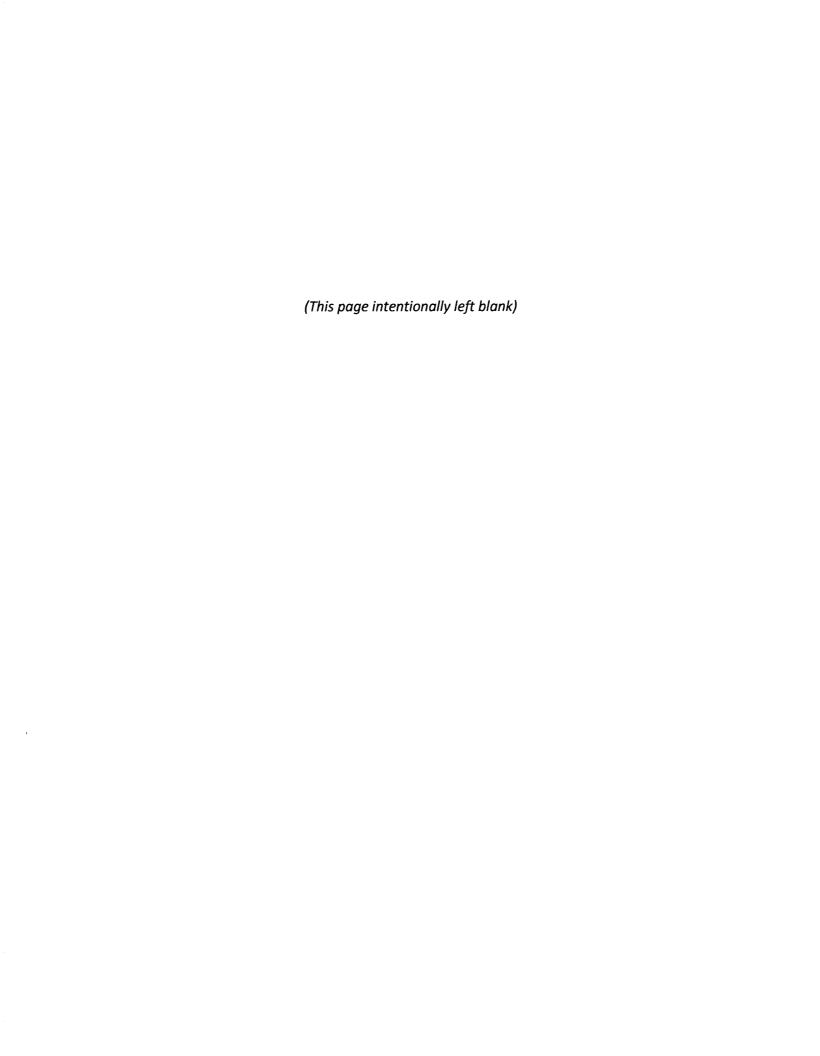
Instructions for Completing the NC DEQ Division of Water infrastructure Application for Funding iowing instructions relate to completing the Application for Funding form for loan and grant funding ns offered by the Division of Water Infrastructure (the Division), attached below. Please follow these leting the form. In some cases, the instructions may refer you to the Division's ection 1 - General information on contains information the Division will need to process your application. Com Applicant Name — Provide the official name of your local government unit (LGU) or utility or organization eligible to apply for funding (e.g., Town of Anytown, Bixby Sanitary District, Carolin County – List the county in which the Anolicant is incated. Unique Entity identifier (UEI) – Use <u>wow, sam sor</u> to find your Unique Entity Identifier number. The UEI replaces the former DUNS number. Make sure your number is up to date and displaying the UEI. Federal Tax ID 8 - Needed for loan and/or grant disbursement purposes PWSID 8 -- Public Water System ID; needed for all drinking water projects. NPDES 8 – National Poliutant Discharge Elimination System permit number; provide if applying for a project involving a <u>wastewater treatment system</u>. Project Name – Enter a project name that is short yet captures the nature of your project. unding Amount Requested – Enter the amount of funding you are requesting. <u>Failure to acouside this</u> oformation will result to an incomplete application, which will not be eligible for consideration. Total Project Cost – Enter the cost of the entire project, including costs that will be covered by other s. Total Project Cost might vary from (but will not be less than) the Funding Ar Funding Type(s) Requested – Check the box(es) that is/are appropriate for the project type for which you are requesting funding. Each association will be evaluated based on the Priority Reting System that associate to the selected funding bose. Asset inventory and Assessment (AIA) grants, Merger/Repionization freeshilby (MRP) grants, and drinking water and wastewater pre-construction planning grants (without construction) must be separate applications from each other and from construction project applications. Drinking water and wastewater construction projects and CWSRF Green Projects may include pre-construction planning costs and do not need a separate presteem requests may intower precure outcome planning cools and do not need a separate pre-construction planning grant (without construction) application. Stormwater construction project stormwater planning grants, and projects to develop and implement a new stormwater utility — funded with Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) grants — must be ns from each other and from all other applications. St hunded from LASII should include final design and permitting and do not need a separa ber planning grant application. CWSRF Green Projects (stream restoration, stormwater Instructions Page 1 of 6

Instructions are enclosed.

∠DEQ [®]	Division	of Water	Infrastr	rueture	
	App	Hication for		ing	
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Application form is attached after the Instructions.

Additional forms required for completing an application are available on the Division of Water Infrastructure's application page.



Instructions for Completing the NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure Application for Funding

(Last updated: July 2022)

The following instructions relate to completing the Application for Funding form for loan and grant funding programs offered by the Division of Water Infrastructure (the Division), attached below. Please follow these directions when completing the form. In some cases, the instructions may refer you to the Division's applications webpage for additional information that may be helpful. Such cases are noted below.

<u>Section 1 – General Information</u>

This section contains information the Division will need to process your application. Complete each blank as directed below.

- Applicant Name Provide the official name of your local government unit (LGU) or utility or organization eligible to apply for funding (e.g., Town of Anytown, Bixby Sanitary District, Carolina Council of Government).
- County List the county in which the Applicant is located.
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Use www.sam.gov to find your Unique Entity Identifier number. The UEI replaces the former DUNS number. Make sure your number is up to date and displaying the UEI.
- Federal Tax ID # Needed for loan and/or grant disbursement purposes.
- PWSID # Public Water System ID; needed for all drinking water projects.
- NPDES # National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number; provide if applying for a
 project involving a wastewater treatment system.
- **Project Name** Enter a project name that is short yet captures the nature of your project.
- Funding Amount Requested Enter the amount of funding you are requesting. <u>Failure to provide this</u> information will result in an incomplete application, which will not be eligible for consideration.
- Total Project Cost Enter the cost of the entire project, including costs that will be covered by other sources. Total Project Cost might vary from (but will not be less than) the Funding Amount Requested.
- Funding Type(s) Requested Check the box(es) that is/are appropriate for the project type for which you are requesting funding. Each application will be evaluated based on the Priority Rating System that applies to the selected funding type. Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) grants, Merger/Regionalization Feasibility (MRF) grants, and drinking water and wastewater pre-construction planning grants (without construction) must be separate applications from each other and from construction project applications. Drinking water and wastewater construction projects and CWSRF Green Projects may include pre-construction planning costs and do not need a separate pre-construction planning grant (without construction) application. Stormwater construction projects, stormwater planning grants, and projects to develop and implement a new stormwater utility all funded with Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) grants must be separate applications from each other and from all other applications. Stormwater construction projects funded from LASII should include final design and permitting and do not need a separate stormwater planning grant application. CWSRF Green Projects (stream restoration, stormwater control

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measures, reclaimed water) construction project applications will be reviewed according to the Priority Rating System for Wastewater Projects, *not* the Priority Rating System for Stormwater Construction.

- Acceptance of Funding Offer (for Construction Projects only) Answer the questions as described below if applying for construction projects. Responses to these questions will determine for which funding program(s) the project is eligible.
 - 1. Answer this question as "Yes" if you are willing to take on funding that contains federal requirements and conditions.
 - 2. The Division may offer a combination of grants (or principal forgiveness) and/or low-interest loans to applicants. Enter the minimum amount you require in grant or principal forgiveness funding to accept any funding offer from the Division for this application. Enter \$0 if you are willing to accept a loan-only offer. If the desired amount of grant funding is available, the Division will offer grant funding up to the full amount for which the applicant is eligible, including above the stated minimum request if applicable. Selecting a lower acceptable amount than what you may be eligible for does not reduce your potential grant offer if funds are available. Selecting too high of an acceptable amount risks the possibility of not being offered any funding if there are insufficient grant funds available to meet your desired minimum. If grant funding cannot be offered to meet your requested minimum, no funding offer (loan or grant) will be made.

For drinking water, wastewater, and CWSRF Green Project construction projects, and drinking water/wastewater pre-construction planning grants, provide a copy of the Affordability Calculator (available on the Division's <u>application page</u>) or handwritten affordability calculations as part of the application package.

3. While American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund grants are available for Distressed and At-Risk drinking water and wastewater utilities, Distressed and At-Risk applicants that have already been awarded a State Revolving Fund loan and/or State Reserve Program loan for a construction project may apply for a grant to replace the loan portion of the existing project. Projects that have already received loan disbursements are not eligible. If the application project is an existing project with an awarded loan but has not yet received disbursements, check this box, provide the amount of the awarded loan, the project name, and the project number, and complete the rest of the application for the construction project. The application will be reviewed among all other applications. The score sheet of the project's previous application that received a loan award is available upon request to assist with completing this application.

Section 2 – Drinking Water and Wastewater System Parameters (not applicable for stormwater projects)

This section contains information related to drinking water and wastewater system parameters, which is used across all programs except for the stormwater funding program (LASII). Please complete all blanks unless otherwise noted.

Residential and Non-Residential Sewer and Water Connections – Follow the guidance found in Line
Item 4.A of the *Priority Rating System Guidance and Form for Division of Water Infrastructure*Construction Funding Programs (Priority Rating System guidance, available on the Division's application
page). For wastewater applications, count only sewer connections. For drinking water applications,
count only drinking water connections. Include only existing connections; do not include number of
new connections resulting from the project.

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• Monthly Sewer and Water Bills per 5,000 gallons – If your system offers it, provide the monthly bills for 5,000 gallons per month of use for both sewer and water. These rates are (1) used to calculate Line Item 3.B operating ratio eligibility via rates to median household income; (2) used to determine points in Line Item 4.B; and (3) used to determine grant or principal forgiveness eligibility for some funding programs. See Line Item 4.B in the Priority Rating System for Drinking Water/Wastewater guidance for more information about what is needed for this parameter.

Sections 3, 4, and 5 - Applicant, Application Preparer, and Engineer Contact Information

Complete this section with all pertinent information. The following bullet points contain specific information.

- Authorized Representative Name This name must match the name listed on the Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant as the Authorized Representative.
- Mailing Addresses Provide the mailing address where the Applicant, Preparer, and Engineer receive mail. For example, if you have a PO Box, provide this information rather than your physical address.

Note: Zip codes between PO Boxes and physical addresses may vary. If using a PO Box to receive mail, use the zip code that matches the PO Box.

• Engineer Contact Information – If your Application Preparer is the same as the Engineer Contact, check the No box. Section 5 may then be left blank. If the answer is Yes, provide the appropriate information.

Section 6 - Project Description

In this section, provide a brief description of the proposed project in a broad level of detail. Include the project purpose and what the project entails. For example: rehabilitation of 2,000 l.f. of sewer, construction of a new well, stream restoration, construction of a new stormwater control measure, conducting an asset inventory and assessment of the water system in the southwestern district, connecting 104 residences in a disadvantaged area to the water system along Orchard St., repair culverts along Main Street to reduce flooding that affect Community Heart Hospital, evaluating the potential for a merger with a neighboring system, developing and implementing a new stormwater utility with a stormwater enterprise fund using LASII grants, etc. Include information such as types of equipment to be included, capacity of equipment, estimates of line length, street names for sewer or waterline or stormwater piping work, and/or neighborhoods or areas where work will occur or benefits will accrue. Descriptions of the work related to the major line items in the Project Budget (Sections 8a, 8b, and 8c) must be included in the project description. For example, if 2,000 l.f. of 4-inch, 3,000 l.f. of 6-inch, 4,000 l.f. of 8-inch pipe, and a stormwater control measure are listed in the project budget, they must be listed in the project description.

For drinking water and wastewater projects, expenses such as pre-construction expenses, rate studies, and training may be included in construction projects. Rate studies and training may also be included with AIA and MRF grant applications. If any of these items are part of the project, please include in the project description and specify how they are directly related to the construction or study project. For training, reimbursement will occur only for registration and mileage costs.

For stormwater projects, if the Applicant is a Council of Government or a nonprofit entity partnering with a Municipality or County, the Applicant must identify the Municipalities and/or Counties that are partners on the project. Describe the project, location of the project work, the beneficiaries of the project, and the nature of the partnership between the Applicant and the Municipalities/Counties, including the roles and

Instructions: Page 3 of 6

responsibilities of all partners and whether there is an agreement between the Municipalities/Counties and the Applicant to conduct this project.

If the project is a regional project that involves two or more partners, such as two or more units of local government, identify all of the partners, describe the project and its location, the beneficiaries of the project, how the project is being co-funded (if applicable), and the nature of the partnership between all partners, including the roles and responsibilities of all partners. Identify whether the partners have interlocal agreement(s) or begun discussions on an agreement for the project.

If your drinking water or wastewater or CDBG-I construction project will add new connections to the water and/or wastewater system (or to a decentralized system owned, operated, and maintained by the public utility), please estimate the number of new connections in this section.

For drinking water, wastewater, CDBG-I, CWSRF Green Projects, and pre-construction planning grants only: check the appropriate box(es) if the project is a result of a study grant (Asset Inventory and Assessment grant and/or Merger/Regionalization Feasibility grant) previously awarded by the Division. If neither is the case, check None of the Above.

<u>Section 7 – Additional Information for Consideration</u>

In some situations, a construction project's purpose might not be listed as eligible for points under Category 1 — Project Purpose of the relevant construction projects' Priority Rating System. In these situations, you may use the Supplemental Guidance for the Ranking of Applications and Providing Additional Information for Consideration found on the Division's application page. Please note the following related to this section:

- This section does not apply to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program.
- Information for this section must fit into the space provided.

Section 8 – Project Budget

Complete the project budget for your project as discussed in Section 8a, Section 8b, and Section 8c.

Complete Section 8a for all construction projects (including stormwater construction) and for drinking water and wastewater pre-construction planning grants. If the project includes related training and/or rate study costs, include those in Section 8b.

Complete Section 8b for Asset Inventory and Assessment grants, Merger/Regionalization Feasibility grants, and training and/or rate study components to drinking water or wastewater projects.

Complete Section 8c for stormwater planning grants from LASII, and for projects to develop and implement a new stormwater utility.

<u>Section 8a – Project Budget for All Construction Projects (including Stormwater) and Pre-Construction Planning Grants Only</u>

Complete the project budget by addressing the categories provided in the table (insert rows as needed). Total the cost amount for each line and provide the total cost amount. Please note the following related to this section:

- Project budget is required for construction projects and pre-construction planning grants.
- If applying only for a pre-construction planning grant (without construction), complete the Engineering Costs and Administration Costs sections of the budget.

Instructions: Page 4 of 6

- If applying for a construction project, include the pre-construction planning costs in the budget. Final
 design and permitting costs are eligible as pre-construction costs for stormwater construction projects.
 You do not need to apply for a separate pre-construction planning grant or stormwater planning grant.
- Note the instructions at the top of Section 8a about separating costs and labeling them to show portions of the project costs that are attributable to certain factors, such as cost components for disadvantaged areas vs. non-disadvantaged areas, stormwater quantity vs. stormwater quality, and replacement/rehabilitation of lead service lines and older water/sewer lines vs. newer lines. This can be done by adding additional lines to the project budget (e.g.: 1) construction of 720 linear feet of waterline extensions in disadvantaged areas, and 2) 300 linear feet of waterline extensions in non-disadvantaged areas). You may also add additional columns for the sole purpose of separating and labeling costs as required at the top of Section 8a.
- If your project will connect residences in disadvantaged areas that voluntarily choose to connect to the
 water or wastewater systems (including for CDBG-I projects), complete the Compensation for
 Connection Fees and System Development Fees line.
- The project budget must be signed and sealed by a properly licensed Professional Engineer (PE). <u>If you</u> do not provide a PE signature and seal on the budget, the application will be incomplete and not considered for funding.

<u>Section 8b – Project Budget for AIA and MRF Grants, and Training and/or Rate Study Components to Drinking Water or Wastewater Projects</u> (Not applicable for Drinking Water/Wastewater Pre-Construction Planning Grants or any type of LASII stormwater projects)

Provide basic aspects of the AIA or MRF study costs. For example, if applying for an AIA grant, some budget items might include the following: (1) mapping of collection system, (2) condition assessment, and (3) grant administration. Note: AIA and MRF applications must be separate applications from each other and from construction projects.

Training and/or rate studies may be components of a drinking water/wastewater construction project, preconstruction planning grant, AIA, and/or MRF project. If so, specify the training and/or rate study costs in this section (and exclude from Section 8a, if applicable). Training and rate studies must be related to the project. Training is limited to \$2,000 per applicant and covers registration and mileage costs for governing board officials and utility staff. Training and/or rate studies for stormwater projects should not be included in this section unless applying for a CWSRF Green Project.

<u>Section 8c – Project Budget for Stormwater Planning Grants (LASII) and Projects to Develop and Implement</u> a New Stormwater Utility (LASII)

List each activity that will be undertaken in the stormwater planning study and/or in the development and implementation of a new stormwater utility (keeping them separate), and provide their associated costs.

Certification by Authorized Representative

The Authorized Representative must read and initial in the space beside each question, or use "N/A".

Completeness Checklist

When putting together the application package, initial to show that the information is in the package, if applicable. <u>Failure to include or properly document an item marked with * will result in the application being incomplete and ineligible for consideration of funding</u>. Forms are available separately on the Division's <u>application page</u>.

Instructions: Page 5 of 6

Submittal Information

- Applications must be submitted electronically no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, September 30.
- Submit the application electronically at: https://edocs.deg.nc.gov/Forms/OPA-ARPA.
- Follow the directions as shown on the form on the website.
- Complete the required fields, almost all of which can be found directly from this Application for Funding form.
- Upload each required document (e.g. completed Application for Funding form, Resolution by
 Governing Body, Narrative to Claim Points, etc.) <u>individually</u>; do <u>not</u> upload a single file with the
 entire application package. Combine all documentation to support the narrative in claiming points into
 one file before uploading. Individual file sizes must be limited to 250 MB.
- Uploading files may take several minutes and may be slow during high volume periods. It is <u>strongly</u> encouraged to submit applications several days before the application due date to avoid technical difficulties.
- Once you have submitted your application online, you should receive a confirmation email.
- Online submittal of the application package is sufficient for all applications except for CDBG-Infrastructure applications. For CDBG-I applications <u>only</u>, please submit a hard copy of the application to the Division in addition to the application submitted online.

Application Signature

The Authorized Representation, who is named in the Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant, must sign the application. An application without this signature is incomplete and will not be eligible for consideration.

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North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Infrastructure Application for Funding



(Last updated: July 2022)

1. General Information			The control of the co	
Applicant Name	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)	
Gaston County		Gaston		
Project Name		Federal Tax ID#	PWSID or NPDES # (if applicable)	
Gaston County Schools Stormwater C	Control Measures			
Applicant Type			Funding Amount Requested	
☐ Municipality☐ County	☐ Non-Profit Water Corp☐ Council of Government		\$909,198	
Water and Sewer District	Partnering with Munici		Total Project Cost	
☐ Water and Sewer Authority	LASII Stormwater Project			
Sanitary District	Other (Specify:)		\$909,198	
Funding Type(s) Requested				
Drinking Water or Wastewater Planni Asset Inventory and Assess	_	Construction Project → □ Drinking V	Votor	
Merger/Regionalization Fea		→ □ Wastewate		
	Grant (without construction)		reen Project: stream restoration,	
Stormwater Planning Grant (La	ASII)		r SCM, reclaimed water	
Develop and Implement a New			rastructure (CDBG-I)	
•	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		r Construction (LASII)	
		CDBG-I only:	l l Nap .	
		LMI Determination Met	hod: LMI Percentage:	
Acceptance of Funding Offer (for C	Construction Projects only)			
These questions will be used to identi	fy the best funding fit. Funding	ng from the American Res	cue Plan Act (ARPA) and CDBG-I is	
available as grants, and principal forg				
 I am willing to accept funding that I will only accept a funding offer 			d as a grant or principal forgiveness.	
Enter \$0 if you are willing to acco			i as a grant or principal torgiveness.	
			rve Program loan, this application	
seeks to replace the \$ lo	an awarded to the Insert Proje		umber) with grant funding. Note: loans	
that have already received dis	bursements are not eligible.			
2. Drinking Water and Wastew	ater System Parameters	(Not applicable for sto	rmwater projects)	
Residential Sewer Co	onnections	Residenti	al Water Connections	
Non-Residential Sewer	Connections	Non-Reside	ntial Water Connections	
Monthly Sewer Bill per	5,000 gallons	Monthly Wa	ter Bill per 5,000 gallons	
Percentag	ge of Utility Bills Collected	d and Rate Increase Po	ercentages	
Year	Percentage of Utility B	sills Collected	Rate Increase Percentage	

3. Applicant Contact Information	
Authorized Representative Name:	Dr. Kim S. Eagle
Authorized Representative Talle:	County Manager
Mailing Address Line 1:	PO Box 1578
Mailing Address Line 1: Mailing Address Line 2:	10 Dox 1376
City:	Gastonia
State:	NC NC
Zip Code:	28053
Physical Address Line 1:	128 W Main Ave.
Physical Address Line 2:	120 William Ave.
Physical Address City:	Gastonia
Physical Address State:	NC
Physical Address Zip Code:	28052
Phone Number:	704-866-3101
Email Address:	Kim.eagle@gastongov.com
4. Application Preparer Contact Information	
Firm Name:	Gaston County
Contact Name:	William Wier, PE
Mailing Address Line 1:	1303 Dallas Cherryville Hwy
Mailing Address Line 2:	2000 2 4.1.4.0 0.101.1
City:	Dallas
State:	NC
Zip Code:	28034
Physical Address Line 1:	1303 Dallas Cherryville Hwy
Physical Address Line 2:	
Physical Address City:	Dallas
Physical Address State:	NC
Physical Address Zip Code:	28034
Phone Number:	704-922-2156
Email Address:	will.wier@gastongov.com
5. Engineer Contact Information	
Is the engineering firm different from the application preparer?	⊠ Yes □ No
Engineering Firm Name:	Robinson & Sawyer, Inc.
Contact Name:	Donald D. Smith, PE
Mailing Address 1:	707 E. Second Ave.
Mailing Address 2:	
City:	Gastonia
State:	NC
Zip Code:	28054
Physical Address Line 1:	707 E. Second Ave.
Physical Address Line 2:	
Physical Address City:	Gastonia
Physical Address State:	NC
Physical Address Zip Code:	28054
Phone Number:	704-864-2201
Email Address:	dsmith@robinson-sawyer.com

6. Project Description (see Instructions)
Install four bioretention cells at four Gaston County Schools, tying into the existing stormwater outfall at each school. Bulldozers, skid steers, backhoes, excavators, dump trucks and logging equipment will be used to clear the area where the SCMs will be located, construct the bioretention cells, and stabilize and landscape the disturbed area upon completion. These four nature-based stormwater control measures will treat approximately 6.0 acres of impervious runoff plus and additional 4.7 acres of pervious runoff from the school properties. There are currently no stormwater control measures at these sites. The schools are all within Gaston County; H. H. Beam Elementary is outside of city limits, Lowell Elementary and McAdenville Elementary are within the Town of McAdenville, and Page Elementary is within the City of Belmont. The outfall for the bioretention cell at H. H. Beam Elementary will tie in to the storm system on Nassau Place adjacent to the school. The outfalls at the other three schools will be on the property and flow through wooded areas until they reach either the South Fork Catawba River (Lowell and McAdenville Elementary) or the mainstem Catawba River (Page Elementary). Approximately 400 feet of 24" concrete pipe, 16 4" precast concrete boxes, 29 cubic yards of rip rap, 28 cubic yards of medium aggregate, 50,500 cubic yards of bioretention media, 1000 square yards of nonwoven geotextile fabric, and 1000 feet of 4" PVC pipe will be required to complete the four bioretention cells. Other items will also be required such as 4" PVC couplings and tees for the underdrain systems and trash racks on the bioretention cell sright in the city of the schools also flow to the South Fork Catawba River which is impaired due to high turbidity. Water quality and quantity will be improved at these sites by implementing nature-based stormwater control measures in the form of bioretention cents which will be involved with this project. Gaston County Natural Resources Department will be construction will be involve

Esti	mated number of new connections served by Drinking Water or Wastewater construction project:
For :	Drinking Water and Wastewater Construction, CDBG-I, CWSRF Green Projects, Pre-Construction Planning Grants:
	The proposed project is a result of an Asset Inventory and Assessment grant previously awarded by the Division.
	The proposed project is a result of a Merger / Regionalization Feasibility Study grant previously awarded by the Division.
	None of the above.
7.	Additional Information for Consideration
	$A = 1^{2} = $

8a. Project Budg	et for All Const	ruction	n Projects and I	Drinking '	Water/	Wastew	ater P	re-Const	ruction	Planning
Grants only.	Do not use for	AIA, M	IRF, Stormwater	Planning	Grant	(LASII),	or Dev	elop and	Impleme	ent a New
Stormwater Utility	(LASII) projects.	75.1 34.		- 404-1		i kaju dje u				- 1871

- 1. Drinking Water/Wastewater: Costs for portions of the project that will fulfill the requirements related to rehabilitating or replacing waterlines, old infrastructure, lead service lines (DW/WW Priority Rating System Line Items 1.C, 1.C.1 or 1.D.1) must be labeled and shown separately to successfully claim points.
- 2. Stormwater: Costs for stormwater quality project components and costs for stormwater quantity project components (Stormwater Priority Rating System Line Items 1.A or 1.C), <u>must be labeled and shown separately to successfully claim points</u>.
- 3. All: Costs for portions of the project that will benefit disadvantaged areas (DW/WW Priority Rating System Line Items 1.E or 4.D, Stormwater Priority Rating System Line Item 4.C) <u>must be labeled and shown separately to successfully claim points</u>.
- 4. Add additional lines as needed.

Division Funding	Other Secured	
Requested	Funding Source(s)	Total Cost Amount
		72.50.30
\$214,050		\$214,050
\$328,328		\$328,328
\$93,425		\$93,425
\$63,580		\$63,580
\$699,383		\$699,383
\$130,000		\$130,000
\$30,000		\$30,000
\$160,000		\$160,000
\$49,815		\$49,815
	\$214,050 \$328,328 \$93,425 \$63,580 \$699,383 \$130,000 \$30,000	Requested Funding Source(s)

Environmental Documentation Preparation (if applicable)		
Legal Costs		
Compensation for Water/Wastewater Connection Fees and System Development Fees that will not be charged after connecting residences in disadvantaged areas (if applicable)		
Project Funding Administration (if applicable)		
Other:		
Administration Subtotal:	\$49,815	\$49,815
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$909,198	\$909,198
A Professional Engineer signature and seal for the estimate <u>mu</u> . the space to the right for the application to be considered comp		

8b. Project Budget for AIA and MRF Grants, and Training and/or Rate Study Components to Wastewater Projects. Do not use for Pre-Construction Planning Grants, or any type of LASII	Stormwater project.
Add additional lines as needed.	
	Division Funding Requested
TOTAL DIVISION FUNDING REQUESTED:	
3c. Project Budget for Stormwater Planning Grant (LASII) and Grant to Develop and Implem	ent a New
Stormwater Utility (LASII). Do not use for any other project type, including stormwater cor	The state of the s
 If the application includes a request for funds to <u>both</u> Develop and Implement a New Stormwater Utility Planning work, <u>the budget shown below must be labeled and shown separately</u>. Add additional lines as needed. 	and other Stormwater
	Division Funding Requested
TOTAL DIVISION FUNDING REQUESTED FOR STORMWATER PLANNING GRANT (LASII):	
TOTAL DIVISION FUNDING REQUESTED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A NEW STORMWATER UTILITY (LASII):	

Certification by Authorized Representative The attached statements and exhibits are hereby made part of this application, and the undersigned representative of the Applicant certifies that the information in this application and the attached statements and exhibits are true, correct, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. By initialing each item and signature at the end of this application, he/she further certifies that: 1. as Authorized Representative, he/she has been authorized to file this application by formal action of the governing body; 2. the governing body agrees to provide for proper short-term and long-term maintenance and operation of the approved project after its completion; the Applicant has substantially complied with or will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations and ordinances as applicable to this project; the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before the completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges which will provide for the adequate and proper operation, maintenance, and administration and repayment of all principal and interest on loans (if applicable) of the project [if not applicable, initial "N/A"]; the Applicant has followed proper accounting and fiscal reporting procedures, as evidenced by the Applicant's most recent audit report, and that the Applicant is in substantial compliance with provision of the general fiscal control laws of the State: the Project Budget for all construction projects and pre-construction planning grants provided in this application form (Section 8a, if applicable) includes all funding requested from all sources of funding proposed for this project; 7. the (Town or County), North Carolina is organized and chartered under the laws of North Carolina, or the special purpose unit of local government is incorporated under the laws of North Carolina. All officials and employees are aware of, and in full compliance with NCGS 14-234, "Public officers or employees benefiting from public contracts; exceptions." (For units of local government only. All others should initial "N/A"); the Applicant acknowledges that all loans and Viable Utility Reserve grants are subject to approval by the Local Government Commission (not applicable for CDBG-I or stormwater projects); the Applicant acknowledges that if the application is for a drinking water or wastewater project and any one of the local government units involved in the project is designated as distressed by the State Water Infrastructure Authority and the Local Government Commission, the local government unit(s) must complete the viable utility requirements in NCGS 159G-45(b) by conducting an asset assessment and rate study, participate in a training program, and develop a short-term and long-term action plan considering infrastructure repair, maintenance, and management, continuing education, and long-term financial management plan. Additional conditions may be imposed on the local government(s) designated as distressed by the State Water Infrastructure Authority and/or the Local Government Commission. (Initial "N/A" if does not apply to project type or all local governments involved in the project). 10. the Applicant acknowledges that, in accordance with G.S. 120-157.2, for local government debt to be issued greater than \$1,000,000, the local government must report to Committee Chairs, Committee Assistant, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly at least 45 days prior to presentation before the Local Government Commission (For units of local government only. All others, and CDBG-I and stormwater (LASII) applicants should initial "N/A"); and 11. if the Applicant receives a grant with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds, the Applicant acknowledges and accepts the following conditions: a) all ARPA project funds must be reimbursed by December 31, 2026; project funds will not be used to pay existing debt or as a match for other federal funds; c) if the project is also funded with other federal funds, the federal requirements of the other funds will apply to the ARPA funds; and

for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

d) for projects receiving ten million dollars or more in ARPA funding: recipients must certify or provide plans and reports meeting federal requirements on reporting on prevailing wage rates, project labor

agreements, and related information as specified in the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance

	Completeness Checklist
claim priority ineligible apr	this application, the following items must be included in the application package to be eligible or to successfully points. Failure to include or properly document an item marked with * will result in an incomplete and olication which will not be considered for funding. Please initial that each item is included in this submittal. If not the project, please initial "N/A".
	Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant with Certification by Recording Officer * †
	Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant to Develop and Implement a Stormwater Utility with a Stormwater Enterprise Fund * † [for 'Develop and Implement a New Stormwater Utility' project only; <u>replaces</u> "Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant with Certification by Recording Officer" above]
	Comprehensive Narrative to Claim Points in the Priority Rating System *
	Documentation to Support the Comprehensive Narratives, including maps or images as needed
	Applicable Priority Rating System Form to Claim Points † [for Construction Projects and Pre-Construction Planning Grants only]
	Affordability Calculator † or handwritten affordability calculations [not applicable to CDBG-I, AIA, MRF, or stormwater projects (LASII)]
	Fund Transfer Certification with appropriate box checked * † [not applicable to CDBG-I or stormwater projects (LASII)]
	Water & Sewer Financial Information Form † [not applicable to stormwater projects (LASII)]
	Commitment of Other Funds Form, Low to Moderate Income Documentation, and Federal Compliance Documents* † [for CDBG-I applications only]
	Stormwater Entity Eligibility Certification Form * † [for stormwater projects (LASII) only]
	Current rate sheets and NC Water & Sewer Rate Form† in effect on application deadline (for <u>both</u> water <u>and</u> sewer if the utility provides both water and sewer, or for water or sewer depending on the utility service) [not applicable to stormwater projects (LASII)]
	Current stormwater fees in effect on application deadline [for stormwater projects (LASII) only if fees apply]
	PE Seal on Project Budget * [for Construction Projects and Pre-Construction Planning Grants only]
* Required in the not be considered	ne application package. Failure to include or properly document will result in an incomplete and ineligible application which will ed for funding.
† Forms and ter	mplates are available separately on the <u>Division's application webpage</u> .

Submittal Information

All application packages must be submitted electronically at https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/OPA-ARPA

See Instructions on completing the form online.

Online submittal of the application package is sufficient for all applications, except for CDBG-Infrastructure applications.

For CDBG-Infrastructure applications <u>only</u>: in addition to submitting the application package electronically at the link above, you must **send one (1) original hard copy*** of the application package to:

Mailing Address[†] (US Postal Service only)

Division of Water Infrastructure 1633 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1633

Physical Address (FedEx, UPS)[‡]

Division of Water Infrastructure – 8th Floor, Archdale Building 512 North Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27604 919.707.9160

- * Provide a hard copy that is <u>bound</u> (e.g., report cover with fasteners, plastic report combs, spiral or 3-ring binders). No paper clips, staples or binder clasps.
- † Please allow two weeks for delivery if mailing via the US Postal Service.
- [‡] For all courier services, please use the physical address, as having a courier deliver to the mailing address will delay package delivery.

Application Signature

Original signature is required for the application.

Application with no signature is incomplete and ineligible for consideration.

	SIGNATUR	E OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENT	ATIVE		
Kim S. Eagle	,	County Manager	,		
TYPED NAME		TYPED TITLE	WAY	DATE	

*** This Entity Eligibility Certification Form <u>MUST</u> be included in the Application Package for Stormwater Funding from LASII ***

Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) Fund Entity Eligibility Certification Form (Stormwater Eligibility Form)

North Carolina General Assembly Session Law 2021-180 Section 12.14 established the Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) fund to provide grants to eligible entities for projects that will improve or create infrastructure for controlling stormwater quantity and quality. Section 12.14.(d) defines an eligible entity as: "a city¹ or county that (i) documents in a form and manner as the Department may specify a stormwater quality or quantity issue and (ii) demonstrates that it would experience a significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance stormwater management activities within its jurisdiction based on income and unemployment data, population trends, and any other data determined relevant by the Department. A regional council of government created pursuant to Part 2 of Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes or a nonprofit entity is also an eligible entity under this section if the regional council of government or nonprofit entity partners with a city or county."

An applicant seeking grant funding from LASII for a stormwater construction project, stormwater planning grant, or to develop and implement a new stormwater utility <u>must</u> document the following items on this LASII Entity Eligibility Certification Form. <u>Failure to adequately document the following items or to certify and include this form in the application package will result in the application being considered ineligible for funding.</u>

1. Document a Stormwater Quality or Stormwater Quantity Issue (Required by Session Law 2021-180 Section 12.14.(d)(i))

A. Provide a narrative that describes the stormwater quality issue and/or stormwater quantity issue, based on historic or projected precipitation, and how the proposed project will be used to address the issue.

Stormwater from H. H. Beam Elementary, Lowell Elementary, McAdenville Elementary, and Page Elementary Schools in Gaston County is currently contributing to water quality and water quantity issues beyond school property due to a lack of Stormwater Control Measures. The outfalls discharge runoff from approximately 6.0 acres of impervious area and 4.7 acres of pervious area across the four schools. Erosion gullies and scouring beyond the outfall have occurred at each school. Due to the age of the schools, stormwater control measures were not required when they were constructed. Three of the four schools discharge to waters that are impaired for turbidity. Discharge from Lowell Elementary and McAdenville Elementary flow to the South Fork Catawba River and Page Elementary discharges toward the mainstem of the Catawba River. H. H. Beam is also within a disadvantaged area and stormwater from it is transporting sediment onto an NCDOT road. Four bioretention cells have been proposed at the schools, one bioretention cell at each site.

The bioretention cells would provide nature-based solutions to the stormwater issues at each school. The sandy media and vegetation in these depressions use infiltration, absorption, and plant uptake to peak flows and treat the stormwater as it flows from the property. Gaston County Schools also currently maintains bioretention cells, so they are familiar with the maintenance involved with these stormwater control measures. Additionally, concerns of citizens over the turbidity in the South Fork Catawba River have led to the formation of the South Fork River

¹ "City" means municipality and includes cities, towns, and villages.

Health Committee which is comprised of local municipalities, other non-profits, and for-profit users of the South
Fork River. Installing these control measures will benefit not just the schools, but the citizens that live
downstream and the ones that utilize the South Fork and mainstem of the Catawba River for recreation.

B. Provide a map and/or narrative that identifies the location of the stormwater quality and/or stormwater quantity issue. The map and/or narrative must show or describe the watershed upstream of the location, and if possible, identify the acreage, percentage of impervious area and land use cover in the watershed upstream of the location. If providing a map, attach the map to this Certification Form.

Maps from Gaston County GIS illustrating the location of the bioretention cells are included.

H. H. Beam Elementary: Bioretention Cell

Impervious Drainage Area: 1.28 Acres

Pervious Drainage Area: 0.79 Acres

• Developed (Current) Curve Number: 84 (open space, buildings, and asphalt)

• Predeveloped Curve Number: 58 (meadow)

Lowell Elementary: Bioretention Cell

Impervious Drainage Area: 1.40 Acres

Pervious Drainage Area: 1.50 Acres

Developed (Current) Curve Number: 79 (open space, buildings, and asphalt)

Predeveloped Curve Number: 55 (woods)

McAdenville Elementary: Bioretention Cell Impervious Drainage Area: 1.36 Acres Pervious Drainage Area: 4.80 Acres • Developed (Current) Curve Number: 68 (open space, buildings, asphalt, woods) Predeveloped Curve Number: 62 (open space, 1000 sf building) Page Elementary: Bioretention Cell • Impervious Drainage Area: 2.38 Acres • Pervious Drainage Area: 0.40 Acres Developed (Current) Curve Number: 93 (open space, buildings, asphalt) Predeveloped Curve Number: 55 (woods) C. If available, provide photographs of the stormwater quality and/or stormwater quantity issue and identification of the amount of rainfall that caused the issue, based on the nearest reliable rain gauge, news articles about the issue, or other information that clearly demonstrates the issue. Attach this information to this Certification Form, if available. AND 2. Demonstrate that the Applicant would Experience a Significant Hardship raising the Revenue Necessary to Finance Stormwater Management Activities within its Jurisdiction. (Required by Session Law 2021-180 Section 12.14.(d)(ii)) Select the method to demonstrate significant hardship below: Applicant Will Rely on Item 2.A: <u>LGU Indicators</u> or <u>Benefits to Disadvantaged Areas</u>, OR Applicant Will Rely on Item 2.B: <u>Develop and Implement a New Stormwater Utility</u> Item 2.A: For applications for Stormwater Construction (LASII) and Stormwater Planning Grants (LASII). Does not apply to applications to Develop and Implement a New Stormwater Utility. An applicant must demonstrate eligibility by meeting either of the two criteria

below (Criterion 1 or Criterion 2):

Criterion 1: At least one (1) of the five (5) five Local Government Unit (LGU) Indicators for the applicant are worse than the state benchmarks shown in the table below. The values for the LGU Indicators for all municipalities and counties in North Carolina are provided in tables on the <u>Division application webpage</u>.

	cal Government Unit licator		State Benchmarks for Fall 2022 Applications	Enter Value of Local Government Unit Indicator of Applicant ^{2,3}
1.	Population Change	<=	4.5%	4.9%
2.	Poverty Rate	>=	14.0%	13.6%
3.	Median Household Income	<=	\$56,642	\$53,474
4.	Unemployment Rate	>=	7.1%	7.8%
5.	Per Capita Appraised Value of Property	<=	\$125,015	\$91,349

OR

Criterion 2: The City or County as a whole does not meet Criterion 1 but is applying for stormwater projects that primarily benefit disadvantaged areas within the City's or County's jurisdiction. To be eligible, 75 percent or more of the project construction costs (as delineated in the Project Budget) must be used to directly benefit disadvantaged areas.

Disadvantaged areas may be subsections or pockets of a City's or County's jurisdiction, rather than the entire City or County. For instance, disadvantaged areas may be census block groups that meet qualifying characteristics. The targeted project area will be determined a "disadvantaged area" based on factors that shall include:

- Median household income, poverty rates, per capita appraised property values of property, and/or employment rates of the targeted project area,
- Additional factors that may qualify the targeted project area as disadvantaged, such as but not limited to demographic, historical, cultural, linguistic, socioeconomic stressors, or costof-living stressors may also be considered.

Use of federal or state-generated maps to demonstrate that a targeted project area is disadvantaged is encouraged. For instance, using screenshots or printouts of NC DEQ's Community Mapping System, labeling and identifying on the map the targeted project area overlapping "Potentially Underserved Block Groups" and/or "Tribal Boundaries" that appear on the online map as shaded areas (these are considered disadvantaged areas).

² If two or more eligible applicants are working together on the proposed project and the collaboration is necessary in order to accomplish the construction project or to accomplish the goals of the study, enter the LGU Indicator values for the most distressed of the municipalities or counties.

³ Please use the Local Government Unit Parameters (which supplies values for population change, poverty rate, median household income, unemployment rate, and property valuation per capita for all cities and counties in North Carolina) available on the <u>Division application webpage</u>.

For Criterion 2, the proposed project is not required to be located within a disadvantaged area, but the project must result in water quality improvements within the disadvantaged area and/or reduce water quantity impacts within the disadvantaged area. Over 75 percent of the project's construction costs must be used to provide these benefits to the disadvantaged areas to qualify under Criterion 2.

For Criterion 2, to document that the direct beneficiaries of the project are disadvantaged, provide:

Α.	A narrative, with or without a map, describing the project location, areas in which project benefits are anticipated, and disadvantaged area(s).
	 <u>Example Map Documentation:</u> Screenshots or printouts of NC DEQ's <u>Community Mapping System</u>, or similar federal or state-generated map, with project location and areas in which project benefits are anticipated overlayed on top of Potentially Underserved Block Groups and/or Tribal Boundaries. Attach screenshots or printouts of maps to this Certification Form.
	 <u>Narrative Documentation</u>: Narrative must sufficiently describe disadvantaged factors of the areas where the project benefits will accrue, including median household income, poverty rates, per capita appraised property values of property, and/or employment rates of the targeted project area. Additional factors that may qualify the benefiting areas as disadvantaged, such as but not limited to demographic, historical, cultural, linguistic, socioeconomic stressors, or cost-of-living stressors.

В.	For Criterion 2, demonstrate that 75 percent or more of the project's construction
	cost (as shown in the Project Budget) will be used to benefit disadvantaged areas.
	Complete the Project Budget in the application and clearly label and shown costs
	that benefit disadvantaged areas separately from other costs.

In this Certification Form, provide the following summary:

Cost Estimated in the Project Budget	Division Funding Requested (Total, from Project Budget)	Portion that Benefits Disadvantaged Areas	Portion that Does Not Benefit Disadvantaged Areas
Construction Costs			
Comprehensive Grading			
Storm Drainage and Structures			
Landscaping		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Contingency (10% of construction			
costs):			
Construction Subtotal:			

C.	For Criterion 2, provide a description of how the proposed project will reduce the impact(s) of the described stormwater quality issue and/or stormwater quantity issue within the disadvantaged area. If the proposed project will address both stormwater
	quality and stormwater quantity issues, provide a separate description for each issue.

▶ <u>Item 2.B</u>: For applications to Develop and Implement a New Stormwater Utility
(LASII). Does not apply to applications for stormwater construction and stormwater
planning grants.

If the city or county does not have a stormwater utility with a Stormwater Enterprise Fund and the project purpose described in Part 1.A of this Entity Eligibility Certification Form is to develop and implement a new Stormwater Utility, the city or county will have met the requirement to demonstrate that there is a significant hardship in raising the revenue necessary to finance stormwater management activities within its jurisdiction. The grant amount for which a city or county will be eligible will be capped at different levels based on the number of LGU Indicators (from Criterion 1) that are worse than the state benchmarks.

For Item 2.B, include a Resolution by the Governing Body stating that the city or county does not currently have a Stormwater Utility with a Stormwater Enterprise Fund, but will develop and implement a stormwater utility and Stormwater Enterprise Fund during the project. See the <u>Division's application webpage</u> for a template resolution. The resolution must be included as part of the application package. Please also attach it to this Certification Form, or provide a statement here that the Resolution for Developing and Implementing a Stormwater Utility with a Stormwater Enterprise Fund is included with the application package.

AND, IF APPLICABLE

3. Documentation that the Applicant is a Regional Council of Government created pursuant to Part 2 of Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes or the Applicant is a Nonprofit Entity, and that the Regional Council of Government or Nonprofit Entity is Partnering with an Eligible City or County.

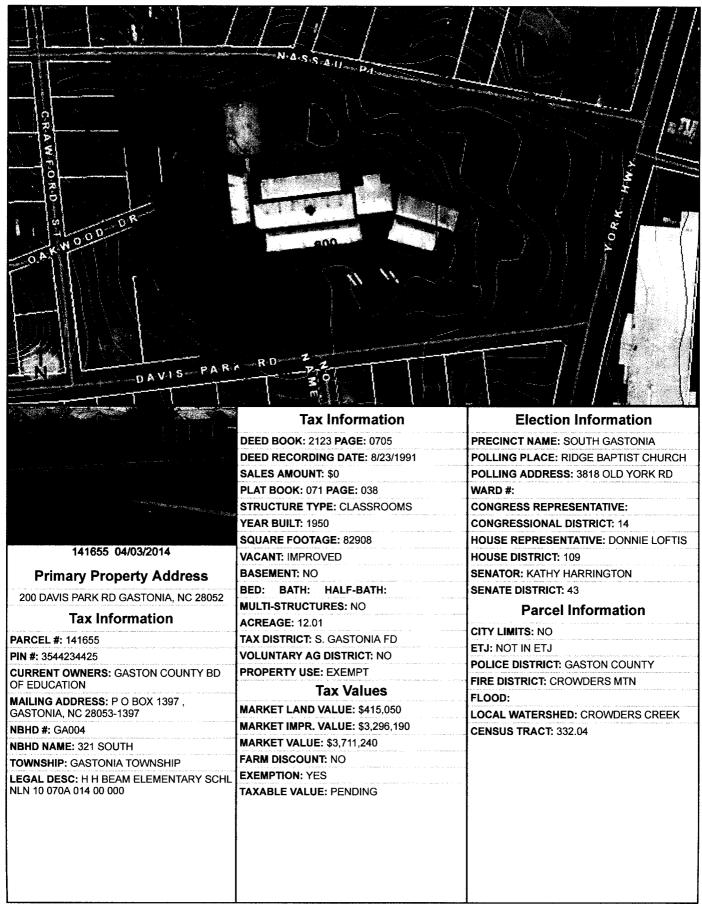
If a	pplicable, provide the following information below:
A.	Name and address of regional council of government or nonprofit entity
B.	Name, title, and contact information for the person with the entity named above that will be the primary contact for this project
C.	Name, title, and contact information for the person with the eligible city or county that will be the primary contact for this project
D.	Copy of the executed instrument used to establish the partnership arrangement between the entity named above and the eligible city or county

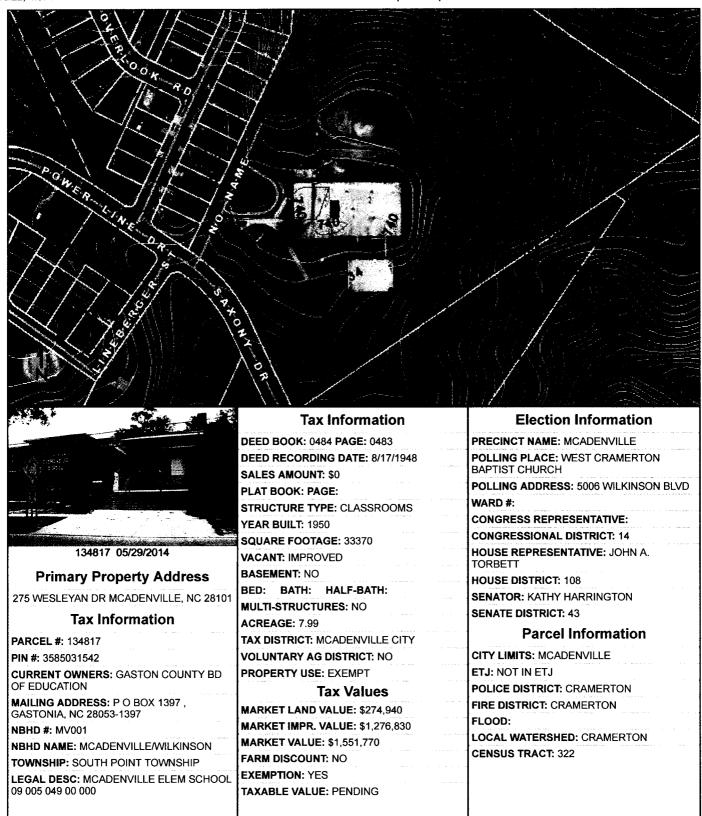
Certification by Authorized Representative

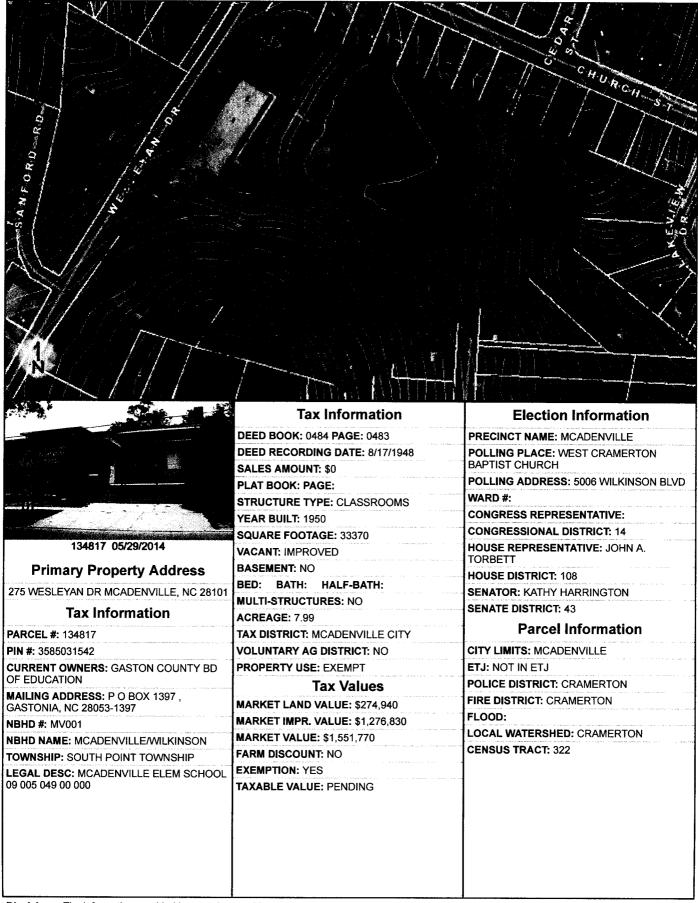
The above statements and all attached exhibits are hereby made part of this LASII Entity Eligibility Certification Form, and the undersigned representative of the Applicant certifies that the information in this Form and the statements and exhibits are true, correct, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

<u>LASII Entity Eligibility Certification Form Signature</u> Please Note: Original signatures are required for each Certification Form

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE		
Kim S. Eagle	, County Manager ,	
TYPED NAME	TYPED TITLE	DATE











Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Natural Resources

Board Action

File #: 22-384

Commissioner Worley - Natural Resources - To (1) Approve a Resolution Authorizing Gaston County Natural Resources to Submit an ARPA Stormwater Grant Application for the NC Division of Water Infrastructure, Stormwater Infrastructure Investments Grant Program to Construct Gaston County Schools Stormwater Control Measures Project; (2) Approve the Acceptance of the Grant Funds (Subject to Grant Award) and Authorize the Necessary FY23 Budget Ordinance Amendments (Approx. \$909,198)

STAFF CONTACT

William Wier, PE - Natural Resources Engineer - 704-922-4181

BUDGET IMPACT

If awarded the grant an increase in federal grant revenues and expenditures of \$909,198.

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

If awarded amends the 2022-2023 annual budget ordinance to recognize, receive, and appropriate an increase to Natural Resources in the amount of \$909,198.

BACKGROUND

The NC Division of Water Infrastructure will award approximately \$82 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for stormwater projects through its competitive funding process from the newly created Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) program. Funds are available for cities, counties, regional councils of government and nonprofit partners for construction and planning projects that will improve or create infrastructure for controlling stormwater quantity and quality.

The Gaston County Schools Stormwater Control Measures Project will design and construct Bioretention Cells at H. H. Beam Elementary, Lowell Elementary, McAdenville Elementary, and Page Elementary Schools. These four nature-based stormwater control measures will treat approximately 6.0 acres of impervious runoff plus an additional 4.7 acres of pervious runoff from the school properties. There are currently no stormwater control measures at these sites. The schools are all within Gaston County, one outside of city limits, two within the Town of McAdenville, and one within the City of Belmont. These bioretention cells will be designed to treat both water quality and water quantity issues that are currently occurring at these sites. Erosion at the outfalls of all four schools have been ongoing issues for years. The sediment laden runoff from three of the schools also flow to the South Fork Catawba River which is impaired due to high turbidity. Water quality and quantity will be improved at these sites by implementing nature-based stormwater control measures in the form of bioretention cells which will reduce the peak flow rates, detain the design storm, and minimize sediment transport.

(Continued on Page 2)

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DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows: NO. DATE M2 **CBrown BHovis** KJohnson TKeigher **AFraley** Vote 2022-304 09/27/2022 AF TK Α Α Α Α U **DISTRIBUTION:**

File #: 22-384

Commissioner Worley - Natural Resources - To (1) Approve a Resolution Authorizing Gaston County Natural Resources to Submit an ARPA Stormwater Grant Application for the NC Division of Water Infrastructure, Stormwater Infrastructure Investments Grant Program to Construct Gaston County Schools Stormwater Control Measures Project; (2) Approve the Acceptance of the Grant Funds (Subject to Grant Award) and Authorize the Necessary FY23 Budget Ordinance Amendments (Approx. \$909,198) Page 2

Approval of this Board Action & Resolution (1) Authorizes the Application and (2) subject to grant award, approves the acceptance of the funds and authorizes the necessary budget transfers to appropriate the funds. The budget transfers will be reported to the Board of Commissioners on the County Manager's monthly Budget Transfers Report. In the event the award amount is less than projected, and a County match is necessary, the grant award will be brought to the Board of Commissioners for acceptance and match approval.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution; Application; Maps