



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

July 22, 2022

To: Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC)
From: Brian Frank, Chief Engineer
Re: Proposed Revisions to Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) Implementation Guidance Document

Action Requested: Approval

We are proposing revisions to the SMC Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) Implementation Guidance Document (IGD), which was last revised in February 2010. Most of the revisions are editorial, to make the guidance clearer and more understandable to both SMC staff involved with the WRF program and potential WRF applicants. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed and approved the proposed revised IGD at their meeting on July 21, 2022.

Four noteworthy items in the revised IGD:

1. Increasing the time frame from 60 to 180 days for SMC staff to either initiate a request for project proposals (RFP) or solicit bids from wetland mitigation banks once a WRF account exceeds \$75K (Sec. 2.5). This change will provide more time for SMC staff to develop and distribute an RFP or coordinate with mitigation bank administrators for potential bank credit purchases using accrued WRF funds.
2. Increasing the account threshold referenced above from \$75K to \$125K to more accurately reflect the current average cost for one (1) acre of wetland mitigation credit (Sec. 2.5). This updated threshold amount was suggested and approved by the TAC.
3. Allowing more types of financial assurance for projects (Sec. 4.3). Previous guidance focused on an irrevocable letter of credit (LOC) as the preferred type of financial assurance for a project, but a LOC is not feasible for many public entities such as the Forest Preserve and park districts who may apply for WRF funds.
4. Converting the tables in Appendix B and C to fillable forms to make them easier for applicants to enter the required information for a complete application.

Please contact me at 847-377-7704 or bfrank@lakecountyil.gov if you have any questions.

Attachment: Wetland Restoration Fund Implementation Guidance Document Revision #2 (TAC-Approved)

LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

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