

**Amended Responsiveness Summary
for the
Federal Fiscal Year 2020 / State Fiscal Year 2022 Draft Documents**

This document provides details regarding comments received, actions taken by Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration (MWQFA) in response to those comments, and any other changes/corrections made by MWQFA to the following draft documents that were available for a 30-day comment period in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act:

Project Priority Lists (PPLs) show all applications received in ranked order from highest to lowest score. The two Draft FFY 2020/State FY 2022 PPLs were developed using applications received from potential borrowers through the solicitation efforts undertaken in December 2019 through January 2020 for both the WQRLF and the DWRLF. Projects were rated and ranked based on public health and water quality benefits, consistent with two EPA-approved Project Priority Systems. With the exception of nonpoint source projects, projects for which loan funds are ultimately provided must be consistent with Smart Growth, local land use plans, and County Water and Sewerage plans; additionally, drinking water systems must have the financial, managerial, and technical capacity to maintain Safe Drinking Water Act compliance.

- Draft FFY 2020/State FY 2022 Clean Water PPL
- Draft FFY 2020/State FY 2022 Drinking Water PPL

Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund (WQRLF) Intended Use Plan (IUP) Document and Table 1:

The Draft FFY 2020 WQRLF IUP described how the annual Federal capitalization grant, matching State funds, and “recycled funds” (funds that return to the Revolving Loan Fund for new loans from loan repayments) will be used for the design and construction of water quality capital projects pursuant to Title Six of the Clean Water Act. A Federal grant of \$38.435 million has been allotted for the Maryland WQRLF, which must be matched by \$7.687 million (20%) in State funds. Including other funds (such as loan repayments, investment earnings, and sale of revenue bonds), the total capital funding for projects was \$176,823,133. The Draft FFY 2020 WQRLF Table 1 lists the projects that ranked high enough for FFY 2020 WQRLF consideration.

- Draft FFY 2020 WQRLF IUP Document
- Draft FFY 2020 WQRLF IUP Table 1

Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWRLF) IUP Document and Table 1:

The Draft FFY 2020 DWRLF IUP described how the annual Federal capitalization grant, matching State funds, and “recycled funds” (funds that return to the Revolving Loan Fund for new loans from loan repayments) will be used for the design and construction of drinking water capital projects to implement the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. A Federal grant of \$20.170 million has been allotted for the Maryland DWRLF, which must be matched by \$4.034 million (20%) in State funds. Including other funds (such as loan repayments, investment earnings, and sale of revenue bonds) and less \$5.4459 million for three set-aside programs, the total capital funding for projects was \$57,698,539. The Draft FFY 2020 DWRLF Table 1 lists the projects that ranked high enough for FFY 2020 DWRLF consideration.

- Draft FFY 2020 DWRLF IUP Document
- Draft FFY 2020 DWRLF IUP Table 1

The aforementioned draft documents, notice of the 30-day public comment period, and instructions for submitting comments were posted on MWQFA's webpage from May 27, 2020 thru the close of business on June 25, 2020. Also on May 27, 2020, MWQFA sent a notification email and the draft documents to a contact list of over 1,000 individuals, including applicants who submitted an FFY 2020/State FY 2022 Financial Assistance Application. MWQFA did not hold a public hearing, due to COVID-19 concerns.

Comments Received

The Department received one comment during the comment period:

Madeline Shaw (Town of Emmitsburg) requested that MWQFA revisit the scoring of the Emmitsburg North Seton Ave and DePaul Water Street Water Main Replacement project (rank 29/30 points), believing that the project should have also been awarded 15 points for “a project that replaces/improves a deteriorating transmission/distribution water mains...” and 5 points for “a project that provides a water audit for the previous year for small public water systems...,” which would increase the project score from 30 to 50 points.

MWQFA Response: The project in question should have been awarded points in those categories; therefore, the score will be corrected to 50 points, ranking the project rank 22.

Changes Made Subsequent to the Public Comment Period

Per request from Paul Mantello (Town of Boonsboro), MWQFA included \$150,000 loan for the Keedysville Springhouse Weir Wall Repair & Renovation (rank 5/95 points) on the FFY20 DWRLF IUP Table 1, which increased the total capital funding for projects to \$57,848,539.

Attachments

Comments received by email from Town of Emmitsburg and Town of Boonsboro.

Copies of all records pertaining to this public process are available at the offices of MDE, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland 21230. Inquiries may be made to Elaine Dietz at (410) 537-3908 or elaine.dietz@maryland.gov.



Elaine Dietz -MDE- <elaine.dietz@maryland.gov>

RE: Apply by 1/31/20 for Capital Project Funding from MDE

Madeline Shaw <MShaw@emmitsburgmd.gov>
To: Elaine Dietz -MDE- <elaine.dietz@maryland.gov>

Tue, Jun 16, 2020 at 10:17 AM

Good morning Elaine,

I believe we should have also been awarded the following points for the waterline projects:

- III.d. (infrastructure replacement/improvement). 15 points for “a project that replaces/improves a deteriorating transmission/distribution water mains...”
- V.b. (water conservation and other beneficial practices). 5 points for “a project that provides a water audit for the previous year for small public water systems...”

With the above we should be at 50 points instead of 30 for the project. Please let me know if I need to submit an official letter requesting these modifications?



Madeline Shaw / Town Clerk

Town of Emmitsburg | www.emmitsburgmd.gov

300A South Seton Ave. Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Tel: (301) 600-6302 | Fax: (301) 600-6313

From: Elaine Dietz -MDE- [mailto:elaine.dietz@maryland.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 10:12 AM

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TOWN OF BOONSBORO

21 NORTH MAIN STREET ♦ BOONSBORO, MARYLAND 21713

WWW.TOWN.BOONSBORO.MD.US ♦ 301-432-5141

Jeffrey K. Fretwell, Director
Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230.

Re: Request for MWQFA Loan Funding

Dear Mr. Fretwell,

On behalf of the Towns of Keedysville and Boonsboro, I am writing to formally request loan funding for the repair and renovation of our shared water system's critical infrastructure. In October 2019, erosion of the creek bed at the Keedysville Spring water source, immediately below the weir wall, created a bypass for water to flow under the wall without pooling properly and allow for pumping into the system. Losing the Keedysville Spring water source would have been catastrophic for both towns and would have resulted in shortages, equipment damage, and below-minimum fire flow pressure/capacity. With a no-interest, 1-year bridge loan from the Hagerstown – Washington County Industrial Foundation, we were able to quickly repair the weir wall and renovate the pool banks. The Towns are requesting a long-term, low-interest loan of approximately \$150,000 from MWQFA to relieve our debt to the Industrial Foundation and secure long-term financing.

Thank you for your consideration. Please call/email with any questions/comments.

Sincerely,



Paul Mantello, Town Manager
Town of Boonsboro