

STRATEGY:

Funding Approach and Criteria

OBJECTIVE

The SMP will develop new scoring procedures to prioritize funding for water quality projects and system replacement projects. The current scoring procedure for traditional flood damage reduction projects will also need to be modified to reflect the new watershed-based approach. This strategy will consider whether dedicated funding for each category should be implemented.

REASON

One of the sources available to fund the SMP is self-funding (dedicated funding source). The other is alternative financing (outside money); see the External Funding Sources strategy. With regard to self-funding, the sales tax authorized by the Kansas legislature has been a very important funding source, but it is not adequate to provide in a timely fashion desired program elements identified by stakeholders. It is possible that additional funds, above the existing sales tax and potential use of alternative financing, may be necessary. For example, stormwater user fees have become more common nationwide as communities work to fund programs in an equitable manner.

TACTICS

- State-of-the-Practice standards
- Project funding pools
- Develop rating criteria for each project type

IMPACTS

Each strategy is designed to have impacts on multiple gap areas. In addition to closing gaps around project prioritization and funding, the Funding Approach and Criteria strategy will help SMP close gaps associated with:

Watershed-Based Organization: By establishing prioritization and funding structure, this strategy will enable watershed organizations to select and champion projects.

Water Quality: This strategy will enable the prioritization and funding of water quality projects.

Flood Damage Reduction: This strategy will modify the current prioritization methodology to consider more holistic, watershed-wide approaches to flood conditions.

System Management: This strategy will enable the prioritization and funding of system management and/or system replacement projects.

Alternative Funding: Optimizing the prioritization of stormwater projects will allow SMP to most effectively identify and leverage outside funds.

In response to new stormwater-related challenges and opportunities, the Johnson County Public Works & Infrastructure Urban Services Division initiated an update of the initial 2002 Strategic Business Plan of the Stormwater Management Program (SMP). The “State of Practice” in stormwater management, including new approaches and advances, are reflected in the strategies developed for the new 2016 plan. In addition to water quantity and flood damage reduction concerns, the strategies address water quality and regulatory issues as well as a growing trend toward integrated water resource management planning.

