Policy Recommendations Top Lines

All projects, including the Municipal Program must:

● Utilize nature based solutions

● Result in water quality, water supply and community investments improvements

● Achieve quantifiable pollution reduction

● Meet minimum project selection criteria, including the municipal program

Annual “Minimum” Allocations (assumes annual net of $300M)

● 41% will be invested in Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)

● 6% to implement residential retrofit program

● 4% to develop and implement green infrastructure job training curricula and support services, including programs aimed at youth (e.g., Conservation Corps, community colleges), veterans, homeless populations, and other priority communities

● 2% for a Technical Assistance Program (including funding of Watershed Coordinators) so that all communities can effectively compete for funding and successfully develop and implement locally appropriate projects

● 1% for education and outreach to build water literacy for the general public, with an emphasis on underserved low income communities.

Annual “Maximum” Allocations

● 30% total of the Municipal Funds may be spent on operations and maintenance of existing multi-benefit projects.

● No more than 10% of Municipality’s Municipal Funds may be used for Minimum Control Measures (MCMs), such as catch basin cleaning, open channel maintenance, street sweeping, or other programs that are focused solely on water quality improvement above and beyond current programs.

Project Development Process Must Include:

● A sustained community engagement plan
● Technical Assistance Program which includes Watershed Coordinators in each Watershed Area

● Project selection criteria that achieves water quality, water supply and community investments

● A formal, specific O&M plan, developed in conjunction with initial project design, reviewed periodically, and that includes a tracking system to ensure completion of the prescribed work

Jobs – Projects must be built and maintained by a trained local workforce utilizing

● A robust Workforce Development Program for project construction and maintenance

● Community Workforce Agreements and Local/Targeted Hire for project construction

● Funding and public sector responsibility for high standard project maintenance;

● A “green infrastructure maintenance” certified workforce

Governance

● A Technical Assistance Committee (rather than a Technical Committee) that includes the Watershed Coordinator and others with appropriate expertise, must be established for each Watershed Area to help provide guidance to communities in developing and submitting project applications.

● Equal representation for the Watershed Area Steering Committee and Regional Oversight Committee for: 1) Cities/Unincorporated Areas, 2) Community Stakeholders and 3) Public Agencies.

● The Watershed Area Steering Committee(s) must be responsible for scoring projects and making funding recommendations.

● The new members to be added to both the Watershed Area Steering Committees and Regional Oversight Committee are: local school board member, local municipal park departments, social justice NGOs, environmental NGOs, health NGOs, labor, business, and locally designated at large NGO/CBO.