

NYS Department of State Office of Planning and Development
Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (EPF LWRP)
2015 – 2016 Request for Applications RFA #15-LWRP-6

Questions & Answers – June 23, 2015

The responses to questions included herein are official responses by the Department of State to questions submitted by potential applicants and are hereby incorporated into Request for Applications RFA #15-LWRP-6 issued on May 1, 2015. In the event of any conflict between the RFA and these responses, the requirements or information contained in these responses will prevail.

General

Q1: The application deadline is open until July 31, 2015, but many workshops have yet to be held across the State. Can more time be given for the submittal of questions on the RFA?

A1: Yes, through this response document, the deadline for questions is extended to July 8, 2015.

Q2: Is additional information about LWRP grants available in other formats?

A2: The RFA is posted at <http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/rfa-15-lwrp-6/index.html> A PPT and webinar for 2015 EPF LWRP grants can be accessed at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/genericcfa/2015-cfa-materials> When at the webpage, look under Community Development, then just below Department of State.

Eligibility

Q3: I attended the CFA workshop at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. The Town of Glenville submitted an application for Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) planning funding in the 2014 CFA Round IV competition for a Mohawk River Trail Feasibility Study. Is funding for a planning activity, in this case a trail extension feasibility analysis, an eligible activity in this CFA round?

A3: Yes, such an activity would be eligible under Planning or Constructing Land and Water-based Trails. See page 6 of the RFA.

Q4: The Route 11 Corridor Study (in the Cortland County LWRP) was completed with significant public input. The communities are poised to proceed with implementing the recommendations of the study. Specifically, the Village of Homer and Town of Cortlandville are interested in partnering in an application for LWRP funding to create a linear park along the Tioughnioga River. Private property owners have

indicated they would be willing to negotiate the transfer of the property to the Village of Homer once cleanup work is completed (estimated 2017). Other property owners are working with the Village and aware of their desire to create a linear park along the waterfront. Given that it may be difficult to complete environmental review, purchase, and development components within the 3-year timeframe of the grant, would all of the following be eligible under the LWRP for a planning phase:

- 1) Environmental assessments
- 2) Appraisals
- 3) Required legal work to prepare such items as purchase agreements
- 4) Design - For the design work, can we include construction documents?

A4: Eligible activities include project-specific planning, feasibility, design, and/or marketing needed to advance eligible activities, and an eligible village, town, city, or county with the consent and on behalf of one or more villages, towns or cities, currently preparing a LWRP or component, or with an approved LWRP or component could apply for funding for these activities. See page 3 of the RFA. Additionally, subsequent phases of a project, (i.e., Construction) must be on public property, or where a permanent public interest such as conservation easement has been established. See page 11 of the RFA, under VI. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS.

Local Match

Q5: NYC DPR is looking at how feasible it would be to apply for LWRP funding for a Harlem River Watershed Plan (Bronx side). Could you explain what your expectations are for the local match? For example, could the match be existing council member funding for an implementation project in the watershed? While the DOS funding is for a watershed characterization study? This is similar to the Alley Creek Watershed Plan DPR completed.

A5: The scope of the project applied for would have to encompass both project activities, and the source of the local match cannot be any of the items listed in the RFA as ineligible. Additionally, in the case of the Alley Creek Watershed Planning and Restoration, the application was to develop a watershed plan, while at the same time implementing restoration related to other plans, including the NYC Waterfront Revitalization Program. A similar approach could be taken for the Harlem River, or other water bodies or waterways, provided the water body is within New York's coastal zone or a designated inland waterway defined in Executive Law, Article 42, Section 911. Please refer to RFA, VI. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS, beginning on page 11, Eligible Costs and Ineligible Costs. Note that costs that will neither be accepted as the required local match nor reimbursed with grant funds are listed.

Other

Q6: For a planning grant, which would include design and construction documents, is it sufficient to have letters of intent from property owners because the municipality will not have an ownership interest in the properties at this time?

A6: Yes, letters of intent to transfer land ownership are acceptable, and will be accepted through upload via the CFA portal only. Be aware that there is not a question specific to letters of intent or support, so

you will need to upload a combined PDF in response to one of the required attachment questions. However, subsequent phases of a project, (i.e., Construction) must be on public property, or where a permanent public interest, such as a conservation easement, has been established. See page 11 of the RFA, under VI. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS.