

Wilmington, Delaware
October 6, 2022

#

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Oliver**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council’s approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Department of Public Works (the “Department”), coordinated with State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (“DNREC”) to submit a Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program (“OSG Program”) 2021 application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), where DNREC, acting as a pass-through entity for the EPA, will administer the grant in the amount of \$421,250.00; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the OSG Program is to address infrastructure needs in municipalities for sanitary sewer overflows, stormwater management, and combined sewer overflows; and

WHEREAS, the City previously worked with developers of two new housing developments at the intersection of 15th Street and Walnut Street that were built by non-profit organizations to aid low income families in order to ensure that the sanitary wastewater and stormwater generated on each property were separated; and

WHEREAS, the Department intends to use the grant funds to improve water quality in the Wilmington watershed by continuing to separate stormwater runoff from sewer overflow after the separated stormwater and sanitary sewer piping reach 15th Street (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with best management practices, the Project will route the runoff through green stormwater infrastructure of rain gardens, subsurface trenches, and bioswales to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of the stormwater prior to discharging into the nearby Brandywine Creek; and

WHEREAS, the Project will not only reduce combined sewer overflow, mitigate the quantity and quality of stormwater discharge into the Brandywine Creek, and create a greenspace that will benefit the local community, but it will also incorporate into the construction a park-like amenity to reinforce the mission of the non-profit organizations Urban Artists Exchange, Urban Bike Project, and Cityfest; and

WHEREAS, matching funds in the amount of twenty percent (20%) of the \$421,250.00 total project cost are required; and

WHEREAS, the matching funds, which amount to \$84,250.00, are provided by previously approved funding; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and appropriate to authorize the grant application for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department's grant application to the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control in the amount of \$421,250.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioner of the Department, or her designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Department of Public Works' grant application to the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control for funds allocated pursuant to the Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program in the amount of \$421,250.00. The funds will be used to reduce combined sewer overflows, mitigate the quantity and quality of stormwater discharge into the Brandywine Creek, and create a greenspace that will benefit the local community.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact to the City, as matching funds required by the grant will be sourced from previously approved funds.