

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize grant agreement awarding \$76,546 to Neighborhoods West Northwest Review Board to provide outreach, technical assistance, and community involvement for watershed projects in Portland's westside sub-watersheds (Ordinance)

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Presenter name: N/A

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The Westside Watershed Resource Center (WWRC) has been providing technical assistance and outreach services for watershed programs and projects and building community in partnership with the Bureau of Environmental Services since 1999. This ordinance approves a continuation of this successful partnership.

The work of the WWRC advances watershed goals identified in the Portland Watershed Management Plan (PWMP) and helps the City meet its obligations under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permit. Specific regulatory stormwater pollution prevention measures this program supports include:

- Natural Systems: Protect and restore natural areas and vegetation that help prevent pollutants from entering into the MS4.
- Public Involvement: Implement public information, education, involvement, and stewardship activities that will raise awareness, foster community stewardship, and promote pollution prevention and stormwater management.

The scope of work of this agreement allows the City to implement cost effective on-the-ground community watershed health projects on private and public properties and includes efficient tracking of program outcomes for regulatory reporting and grant-writing to leverage funds from multiple sources.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

This item is in the BES operating budget and is described in the attached grant agreement, scope of work, and budget. Maximum total costs for Fiscal Year 2022 are \$76,546 to be allocated from the Sewer Systems Operating budget; Cost Object ESDP000023 GL 529000.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The Westside Watershed Resource Center (WWRC) is a community asset to Westside Portland, a part of our City that experiences stormwater management challenges such as steep slopes, open, eroded, and mostly privately-owned drainage ways, and an incomplete City stormwater system. The stormwater challenges on Portland's Westside are often complex, fall under several jurisdictions, and present serious issues to property owners and residents. The WWRC staff member provides watershed health opportunities through stormwater management technical assistance, education/workshops, grant writing and grant management support for community-led watershed projects. The projects include drainage improvements, erosion control, vegetation management, stream enhancements and other local watershed actions, stewardship activities and

