

Water Infrastructure Financing

2022 Bonding Request and Federal IIJA Funding

House Capital Investment – February 10, 2022 Jeff Freeman, Executive Director

Water Infrastructure to Protect Water Quality and Public Health

Over time all cities have water infrastructure needs:

- Replace aging infrastructure (pipes and treatment facilities)
- Make system improvements for better service and efficiency
- Upgrade treatment facilities to improve water quality



PFA Programs Open to all Cities

PFA low interest loans available to all cities with projects in fundable range

- 2001: 40 loans, \$214 million, 1.0% average interest rate
- Since inception (1990): over 1000 loans, \$4.4 billion

Targeted grants based on affordability and for treatment upgrades for specific water quality improvements

- 2001: 27 grants, \$56 million
- Total since 1996: over 600 grants, \$719 million

PFA funding follows a stable and predictable process so cities can plan and prepare for their projects

FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Program Administration

Technical: MPCA (wastewater and stormwater), MDH (drinking water)

- Develop Project Priority Lists (PPLs, 5 year project pipeline)
 - Project proposals are ranked based on age and condition, water quality, public health
- Technical and environmental project reviews
- Certify approved projects to PFA for funding
- Financial: PFA
 - Approve annual Intended Use Plans (IUPs)
 - Determine fundable range for projects eligible to apply for loans
 - Application review, set loan terms and conditions
 - Award funds and coordinate with other funding sources
 - Responsible for program requirements and managing revolving fund assets



PFA Water Infrastructure Programs

Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (CWRF/DWRF)

• Low interest loans; principal forgiveness grants based on WIF affordability criteria

Water Infrastructure Funding (WIF) Program

Grants based on affordability criteria for high cost projects

Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) Program

• Grants to help cities upgrade water treatment facilities to improve water quality

Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program

Technical assistance grants and construction loans/grants for unsewered communities



PFA Loan Programs (CWSRF / DWSRF)

State Revolving Fund loan programs are the State's largest source of funding

- Clean Water SRF (wastewater projects, stormwater treatment projects)
- Drinking Water SRF

SRFs supported by annual federal capitalization grants and state match funds

Loan repayments revolve back to support new loans

PFA authorized to sell revenue bonds to generate additional loan funds

- PFA revenue bonds are AAA rated
- PFA bonds backed solely by loan repayments, no state backing



PFA Grant Programs

- Water Infrastructure Funding (WIF) Program
 - Grants based on affordability criteria for projects in disadvantaged communities
 - Up to 80% of project costs, \$5 million max grant
 - Affordability criteria based on average cost per HH (including new project costs, O&M, existing debt service) and community median household income
 - WIF grants are packaged with PFA loans, or with USDA Rural Development grant and loan funds
- Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) Program
 - Grants to upgrade water treatment facilities to improve water quality
 - PSIG grants cover 80% of eligible costs, up to \$7 million maximum grant



Governor's Bonding Recommendations

Total PFA Request: \$200 million

- State Match for State Revolving Fund Programs \$49 million
 - \$20M to match FY23-24 estimated regular federal funds (\$92M)
 - \$29M to match FY22-24 estimated IIJA supplemental funds (\$207M)
 - FY22-24 IIJA funds also include \$173M that doesn't require match
- Water Infrastructure Funding (WIF) Program \$76 million
 - \$45M wastewater, \$31M drinking water
 - Recommend increasing max grant from \$5M to \$8M
- Point Source Implementation Grants (PSIG) \$75 million





Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

IIJA water funding appropriated through State Revolving Funds \$668 million over five years (2022-2026)

- Supplemental funds for existing CWSRF and DWSRF programs
 - 49% to be provided as principal forgiveness grants
 - Requires 10-20% state match
- Lead service line replacement
 - 49% to be provided as principal forgiveness grants
 - No state match
- Emerging contaminants (CW and DW)
 - 100% to be provided as principal forgiveness grants
 - No state match



2022 Federal Funds (estimated)

2022 Federal Funding Allocations (estimated), IIJA and Regular SRF capitalization grants

(\$ in thousands)		Fed Infrastructure Act (IIJA)				Regular Capitalization Grant			
			Required	Mandated			Required	Mandated	
			State	Add. Subsidy			State	Add. Subsidy	
	Appropriation		Match	(PF grant)	Appropriation		Match	(PF grant)	
CWSRF existing program	\$	32,982	10%	49%	\$	29,204	20%	10-20%	
CWSRF emerging contaminants	\$	1,731	-	100%	\$	-	-	-	
DWSRF existing program	\$	27,408	10%	49%	\$	16,792	20%	12-26%	
DWSRF lead service line repl.	\$	43,161	-	49%	\$	-	-	-	
DWSRF emerging contaminants	\$	11,510	-	100%	\$	-	-	-	
2022 total	\$	116,792			\$	45,996			



PFA Funding Process (regular SRF and IIJA)

Project funding follows the existing CWSRF/DWSRF process

- Cities submit project proposals to MPCA/MDH for ranking on PPL
- Request placement on PFA Intended Use Plan (IUP) for the year when the project is planned for construction
 - Requires completion of project planning document or facilities plan
- Projects submit plans and specifications to MPCA/MDH for review
- MPCA/MDH certify approved projects to PFA for funding
- PFA reviews financial application
 - All loan apps are reviewed for WIF affordability criteria
- PFA awards funding when app is complete and as-bid costs submitted



Principal Forgiveness Grants

Federal appropriations (IIJA and regular funds) require a portion of federal funds to be provided as grants that reduce the loan principal

- IIJA supplemental funds for existing CWSRF/DWSRF programs 49%
 - PFA statutes specify principal forgiveness criteria
 - Affordability criteria for disadvantaged communities follow WIF program criteria
 - PF grants also provided for green infrastructure projects (energy, stormwater)
- IIJA funds for lead service line replacement 49%
 - PFA DWSRF statutes authorize use of PF grants for lead service line replacement
 - Recommend change to remove funding limits to provide maximum flexibility to cities
- IIJA funds for emerging contaminants 100%
 - Will require statute change to authorize PF grants and establish criteria



Status of IIJA Funds

Supplemental funds for existing CWSRF/DWSRF programs

- PFA plans to apply for Year 1 IIJA funds as soon as possible based on the 2022
 Intended Use Plans that were approved in October 2021
 - Clean Water: 99 projects, \$394 million requested loans
 - Drinking Water: 95 projects, \$280 million requested loans

Lead Service Line Replacement

- MDH and PFA now taking project proposals for 2023 PPL and IUP
- PFA expects to apply for Year 1 IIJA funds by Fall 2022

Emerging Contaminant Funds

- MDH and MPCA working to determine eligibilities, priorities, funding criteria
- Will require statute changes to authorize use of PF grants

