



October 2, 2024

Department of Ecology
Water Quality Program
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Dear Grants Manager,

The Clean Water Commission's mission is to work with our community and leadership to improve and protect Clark County watersheds from the impacts of stormwater runoff, point and non-point pollution sources, and other risks to the ecological integrity and quality of our surface water resources. With that in mind, the Clean Water Commission strongly supports Clark County's *Community Based Public Private Partnership (CBP3)* grant proposal, which will enable the Clean Water Division to develop a new model for implementing critical stormwater maintenance in Clark County.

Our understanding is that the Clean Water Division staff have regularly attended Ecology's Community-Based Public-Private Partnership Learning Network series to help them scope a future CBP3 program. Staff have also worked closely with Environmental Incentives and Herrera to complete a Readiness Assessment for CBP3 funding, and more recently completed a Procurement Memo to support development of the new CBP3 program for Clark County – which they affectionately refer to as “Rebuild, Replenish, Routine,” due to the program's focus on:

1. Rebuilding bioretention facilities.
2. Replenishing sparse vegetation.
3. Routinely maintain bioretention.

In addition to participation in Ecology's CBP3 programs, staff have had meetings with reputable CBP3 firms, such as CIS, to learn more about CBP3 program execution. Staff have also hired a local consulting firm to begin developing a bioretention maintenance program through a competitive RFP process in 2024, with the goal that the final bioretention maintenance plan will be shovel-ready to pilot implementation by the time this grant application is funded.

Thank you for taking time to review the Clean Water Commission's letter of support for a future CBP3 program in Clark County. We encourage you to approve this proposal for funding, since it will have a significant and lasting impact not only on our area's water quality, but also on our ability to explore different project delivery models for stormwater maintenance that can result in multiple-benefits for people, fish, and wildlife while also generating social and economic benefits.

Sincerely,

Ted Gathe
Chair, Clean Water Commission
t.gathe.cwc@gmail.com

cc: Devan Rostorfer
Clean Water Commissioners