

## **Detailed Overviews of the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario, and the Improving, Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Programs**

### **Overview of the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program**

The Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program will deliver:

- \$15 million of capital funding for improving wastewater and stormwater discharges into the Lake Ontario basin.
- Funding is for the Lake Ontario basin because it is the most populated area in Ontario and, as a result, the most impacted by wastewater and urban stormwater among the Great Lakes within Canada.
- The funding distribution is based on a guaranteed allocation of \$15 million to 18 eligible municipalities. The amount of funding per municipality was determined using a formula that has a fixed amount (\$500,000) and a variable amount based on the capacity of municipal sewage treatment plants.
- The City of Hamilton’s total eligible allocation under the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program is \$933,678.00 over two years.

#### **Eligibility:**

The City meets the eligibility requirements to receive the funding under the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program as follows:

The City of Hamilton is amongst the 18 municipalities that have large sewage treatment plants in the Lake Ontario basin and discharge over 0.5 milligrams per litre of phosphorus from their wastewater treatment plants and/or have sewage overflows or bypasses. Note: Large sewage treatment plants are defined in the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) as those with capacities of 3.78 million litres per day or more.

#### **Desired Outcomes:**

The desired outcomes of the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program are lower phosphorus discharges from municipal wastewater and stormwater systems, reduced likelihood of sewage overflows and bypasses, and improved quality of stormwater discharges.

**Eligible Projects:**

Eligible projects for the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program should be new projects that are not already underway or are not fully funded projects. Funding will not retroactively cover work already completed. Projects that meet the eligibility requirements of the funding program that have been identified for funding under other grant programs are eligible for funding under the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program to cover expenses that are not covered by the other grant program.

Eligible projects for the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program include, but are not limited to:

- Wastewater treatment optimization through improved process control.
- Minor infrastructure upgrades at sewage treatment plants.
- Correction of sewage and stormwater collection system deficiencies.
- Separation of stormwater from sewage collection systems.
- Stormwater pond clean outs.
- Green stormwater infrastructure installation.

**Eligible Costs:**

Municipalities may spend funds on capital expenses related improving wastewater and stormwater systems. Eligible costs are included in the table below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Eligible Costs</b>
Wastewater Treatment Optimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor infrastructure upgrades, such as instrumentation, pumping, mixers, valves, automation, and chemical addition.</li> <li>• Equipment for enhanced sampling and testing.</li> </ul>
Overflow and Bypass Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Downspout and sump-pump disconnection programs.</li> <li>• Collection system optimization, such as installation of sensors, flow control devices and automation.</li> <li>• Sewer lining and leak repair.</li> <li>• Stormwater separation from combined sewers.</li> </ul>
Stormwater Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase and installation of stormwater management equipment.</li> <li>• Green stormwater infrastructure installation.</li> <li>• Stormwater pond cleanout.</li> <li>• Collection system optimization, such as installation of sensors, flow control devices and automation.</li> <li>• Sewer lining and leak repair.</li> </ul>

### **Ineligible Costs:**

Expenses not directly related to the delivery of the project are not eligible for funding. These ineligible costs include:

- Expenses related to ongoing overhead and core administrative activities of the municipality and/or your project partners (e.g., rent, telephone, internet, utilities).
- Expenses incurred prior to receiving the funding commitment.
- Refundable Harmonized Sales Tax or other refundable expenses.
- Insurance (commercial general liability or other).
- Legal costs including but not limited to litigation.

### **Agreement and Workplan:**

Under the Improving Wastewater and Stormwater Discharges in Lake Ontario Funding Program, municipalities are required to enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario by March 31, 2022. As part of the agreement municipalities will be required to create a workplan that sets out how the funds will be used to make improvements to wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The workplan is required by June 30, 2022 and must include the following:

- A description of each wastewater and stormwater project that will be done using the funding.
- Expected benefits to water quality, including phosphorus reduction.
- The major tasks to complete each project and their timelines.
- The total cost of each project and the amount of funding that will go towards each project.

### **Overview of the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program**

The Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program will deliver:

- \$10 million in funding to provide support for wastewater monitoring and public reporting, to improve transparency around monitoring and public reporting of sewage overflows and bypasses from municipal systems.
- The funding distribution is based on a guaranteed allocation of \$10 million to 20 eligible municipalities. The amount of funding per municipality was determined using a formula that has a fixed amount (\$150,000) and a variable amount based on the capacity of municipal sewage treatment plants.

- The City’s total eligible allocation for the City under the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program is \$885,936.00 over two (2) years.

### **Eligibility:**

The City meets the eligibility requirements to receive the funding under the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program as follows: The City of Hamilton is amongst the top 20 municipalities who have had the largest amount of combined sewer overflow discharges reported through the federal Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER) from 2015-2019.

### **Desired Outcomes:**

The desired outcomes of the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program are to improve monitoring/modelling and real-time public reporting.

### **Eligible Projects:**

Eligible projects for the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program should be new projects that are not already underway or are not fully funded projects. Funding will not retroactively cover work already completed. Projects that meet the eligibility requirements of the funding program that have been identified for funding under other grant programs are eligible for funding under the Improving Monitoring and Public reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program to cover expenses that are not covered by the other grant program.

Eligible projects for the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program include, but are not limited to:

- Purchasing and installation of monitoring devices.
- Purchasing and installation of modelling software/equipment.
- New and/or improved public reporting systems/approaches.

### **Eligible Costs:**

Municipalities may spend funds on capital expenses related monitoring/modelling and public reporting of sewage overflows and bypasses. Eligible costs include:

- Engineering and design work.
- Purchasing of equipment/software (e.g., monitoring devices).

- Installation costs.
- Electrical/internet connections.
- Associated capital costs (e.g., access point).
- Capital upgrading costs (e.g., improved monitoring devices/infrastructure).
- Other capital expenses related to the development and implementation of monitoring/modelling and public reporting of sewage overflows and bypasses.

### **Ineligible Costs:**

Expenses not directly related to the delivery of the project are not eligible for funding.

These ineligible costs include:

- Expenses related to ongoing overhead and core administrative activities of the municipality and/or your project partners (e.g., rent, telephone, internet, utilities).
- Expenses incurred prior to receiving the funding commitment.
- Refundable Harmonized Sales Tax or other refundable expenses
- Insurance (commercial general liability or other).
- Legal costs including but not limited to litigation.

### **Agreement and Workplan:**

Under the Improving Monitoring and Public Reporting of Sewage Overflows and Bypasses Funding Program, municipalities are required to enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario by March 31, 2022. As part of the agreement municipalities will be required to create a workplan that sets out how the funds will be used to make improvements to wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The workplan is required by June 30, 2022 and must include the following:

- Assessment of current state of monitoring/modelling and public reporting infrastructure.
- Assessment of options to improve monitoring/modelling and public reporting infrastructure.
- Selected monitoring and reporting projects that will be undertaken to improve monitoring/modelling and public reporting infrastructure.
- The major tasks to complete the selected monitoring and reporting projects and the timelines.