



Water Table Funding Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, September 13th, 2023
Meeting Summary

Subcommittee Purpose

The goal of the Funding Subcommittee is to elevate existing and/or new sources of funding, access to that funding, and ways that funding is administered, to improve impact on water quality projects and communities in need in the Delaware Watershed. The subcommittee can achieve this through relationship building, information sharing, and exploring ways to improve funding outcomes. In particular, the intention is for this work to result in increased capacity to address water quality issues that plague under-resourced communities in the region, bolster local capacity to pursue this work, and make meaningful and lasting infrastructure improvements.

September Meeting Summary

The intention of the September meeting was to use a logic model framework to help the group identify what our mission statement is, and the key impacts, outcomes, and activities the group would like to achieve throughout the course of Phase II. After going over ideas proposed from the July meeting (listed below) we placed each of the ideas within the logic model and then spent the rest of the meeting workshopping potential impacts and outcomes.

Recap of Ideas from 7/12/23 Meeting:

1. RASCL Program
2. Emerging Contaminants Projects
3. Investments in Underserved Communities
4. Less Complex Funding Structures for GSI
5. CIP for Water Infrastructure
6. Empowering Community Driven Projects
7. Share Information on Funding Sources = Appx B of [Accessing Funding Study](#)

After analyzing individual logic models that subcommittee members filled out on their own, common themes in each category were:

Mission Statement (Draft): *Develop a funding model to get more funding into the Delaware River Watershed that values underserved/ disadvantaged communities and encourages them to advocate for their communities in respect to the water resources of the basin.*

Impacts (Draft):

1. Provide communities with sufficient funding for projects to create cleaner waters that are integral to the health and well being of citizens and natural ecosystems in the Delaware River Basin.
2. Increase financial support for underserved communities to improve their water quality and system management to ensure a healthy community.

Outcomes (Draft):

1. Ensure adequate use of all existing funding within the watershed.
2. Nonprofits work together toward the same goals, including the strategic selection of project sites (source water protection areas).
3. Increased Investment in Underserved Communities
 - a. Short Term: Community organizations/liaisons who can connect to funding for water projects
4. Empower Community Driven Projects
 - a. Short Term: Create a network of community leaders
5. Regional CIP for water Infrastructure
 - a. Short Term: Stormwater Project List

Strategies/Activities (Draft):

1. Establish a RASCL Program/ Jersey Water Works
2. Lower barrier to entry - ARPA was a good model
 - a. DE - Grant assistance program (GAP)
3. Create technical hub that can provide support with nearly no barrier to entry
4. Identify specific locations and projects of greatest relative impact on Water Quality
5. Channel new funding through existing sources to accelerate investments
6. Invest in significant research in tracking bacterial contamination in urban centers of the estuary to provide more safe recreation.

Next Steps

Please note that the mission statement, impacts, outcomes, and activities are all in draft form and are concepts that we will continue to refine together as a group. We will continue to solicit feedback from the Subcommittee and refine the logic model further. If you have additional thoughts or edits, please pass them along to Emily Goldstein at egoldstein@dvrpc.org.

Attachments

1. **September Meeting Agenda**
2. **Slides from the September Funding Subcommittee Meeting**