

7.1 Water Quality Improvement Funding

As the final design of the proposed improvements are evaluated, we would encourage the City to investigate the potential funding mechanisms that are available for water quality projects such as stormwater BMPs. There is a wide range of funding mechanisms available to the City for water quality improvement projects. Obvious sources include the Clean Water Act Part 319 funds administered by the US EPA and the North Carolina Cleanwater Management Trust Fund (CWMTF). CWMTF funding can include land acquisition costs, design fees, and construction costs.

Opportunities may be available to cost share with NCDOT. Several NCDOT roadways are located in the watershed including but not limited to Morganton Road, Cliffdale Road, Raeford Road, and Cumberland Road. NCDOT may be interested in cost sharing to fund a BMP that would treat runoff from NCDOT right-of-way in order to satisfy their NPDES permit requirements.

The NCDENR Division of Water Resources offers grants for the following purposes: general navigation, recreational navigation, water management, stream restoration, beach protection, land acquisition and facility development for water-based recreation, and aquatic weed control.

The following projects may be eligible for partial funding, specifically for the water quality treatment components:

- Mary McArthur Elementary School Bioretention Pond and Grass Swale.
- Douglas Byrd High School Bioretention Pond.
- Douglas Byrd Middle School Bioretention Pond.
- Ireland Drive Elementary School Infiltration Basin or Bioretention Pond.
- William H. Owen Elementary School Bioretention Pond.

7.2 Flood Mitigation Funding

FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) is a pre-disaster grant program designed to provide funding to States and communities to help in their efforts to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to building and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In order to be eligible, communities must have completed and approved Flood Mitigation Plans that assess flood risk and identify actions to reduce that risk. Any State agency, participating NFIP community, or local agency is eligible to participate and should contact community officials.

Additional project grant eligibility criteria include a project that is:

- Cost effective.
- Cost beneficial to the National Flood Insurance Fund.
- Technically feasible.
- Physically located in participating NFIP community or must reduce future flood damages in an NFIP community.

A project must also comply with (1) the minimum standards of the NFIP Floodplain Management Regulations, (2) the applicant's Flood Mitigation Plan, and (3) all applicable laws and regulations. The State is the grantee and program administrator for FMA. FEMA distributes FMA funds to States that in turn provide funds to communities. FEMA may provide up to 75% of the total eligible costs. The remaining costs must be provided by a non-Federal source of which no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties.

The following projects may be eligible for partial funding, specifically for the flood mitigation components:

- Raeford Road Culvert.
- Raeford Road Floodplain Bench.
- Coventry Road Culvert and Floodplain Bench.