

## Peoria Stormwater Utility Credit and Grant Program

April 19, 2018 Public Meeting

ICC North Campus

(38 attendees provided names and contact information)

22 Responses received from the 38 attendees

Total	Responses	% of	Thank you for coming. What made you attend today's meeting? (check all that apply)
17	77%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wanted to learn about stormwater utility
16	73%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wanted to learn about available credits
8	36%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wanted to learn about CSOs
6	27%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wanted to learn about upcoming projects

### Were you aware that credits and grants will be available?

14	64%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
7	32%	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

### Which credits or grants interest you? (check all that apply)

#### **Grants**

15	68%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rain Barrel
11	50%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Area Maintenance
13	59%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Infrastructure Grant (Rain Garden & Permeable Pvt)
5	23%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Property Drainage Assistance Program
5	23%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stormwater Infrastructure Investment Grant

#### **CREDITS**

9	41%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rate Reduction (Detention)
7	32%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Volume Reduction (Infiltration)
2	9%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Quality
1	5%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Direct Discharge
3	14%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education
2	9%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation

### Do you plan on applying for grants or credits?

13	59%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
2	9%	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

### How do you like to receive information?

7	32%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail
7	32%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Website
4	18%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
9	41%	<input type="checkbox"/>	e-Alerts
1	5%		Text

### Is there any particular topic around the stormwater utility or the related credits or grants that you'd like to learn more about or gain further clarity?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | It seems that the City hasn't talked with any contractors or landscapers. I want to put in a permeable driveway and asked for quotes from 4 very reputable firms and they didn't know about the programs. Also the rain barrels need to be very nice looking |
| 2 | Would like to see detailed requirements for permeable pavement grant   |

3	Need guidance on finding resources to make improvements
4	I'd like to better understand the grants available. For permeable surges - what is a 1" and 2.6" infiltrate? What is considered a permeable driveway?
5	Wanted to learn my individual cost and how exactly it was determined. We will begin being billed on June 1. How payments to be made setting up payments through bank for deductions will they be on taxes and yearly - 1/4 basis begin in approximately 42 days - most of my friends want to know what my bill will be. The where , when and how payments will be made - Utilityies all have various payment methods (July Aug Sept).
6	How much is the tax going to cost me?
7	I have existing property damage caused by the City storm water erosion and want to learn about repair and prevention options

**Do you have any feedback or ideas for credits or grants?**

1	What about modified french drains? What about Cisterns?
2	Need to focuss on helping businesses reduce their fees - unfairly targeted and will be paying higher fees because they must provide parking for their customers. This fee is unaffordable for small businesses and will drive them away from this area. Need to make definite caps on this fee what's beyond the \$5/1000 sq. ft? It's scary as a landowner to read the general statement of the future increases beyond 2020. What's the cap? Get more Involvement from the business community we are already losing business opportunity to E.P. How will this affect that? Need more tangible measures of success. Citizens need to see public works holding themselves accountable. Reduce CSO runoff to how many? Reduce bacteria levels in the river to what? What is the measurable goal here?
3	Community events to help/educate people on installing rain gardens or green infrastructure

**Email Received from Bridget Burk**

Thank you for your excellent presentation last night at ICC. You were poised, thorough and even demonstrated a sense of humor while explaining this complicated topic. However, unless I missed something, I do not recall you introducing yourself to the room. In the future, please take a moment to introduce yourself and other city employees and / or officials so the public better understands your credentials and what you do for the city. This is not meant as a criticism, I simply think it will also make citizens less hostile once they understand your education and background.

Furthermore, I did not want to take up your time last night after the meeting, but I sincerely hope the city will try to educate local landscape companies about the wisdom and positive impact of rain gardens and use of native plants as I have begged landscapers to incorporate these ideas into projects around our home and have been met with resistance at every turn.

On a related matter, please consider a joint effort with the Journal Star to publish eco-friendly articles explaining this project as well as simply trying to educate people about the harmful, as well as unlawful, effects of such things as tossing animal waste into creeks and / or storm sewer drains (a battle I have fought in my neighborhood for 20 years). Perhaps getting other city employees from public works, code enforcement, parking enforcement as well as the legal department to cheerfully and briefly explain ordinances that the public need to know about would help reduce people's anxiety and resistance to necessary changes.

I do not think Mr. Reeise and I have ever been formally introduced, but our paths have crossed as I have been conducting administrative hearings as an independent contractor for the city related to parking, housing, vehicle impoundments, cannabis, and the exciting Ameren NOTL controversy about five years ago. In my capacity as an administrative hearing officer I am always eager to educate those appearing before me as to the public policy reasons for the rules they are charged with violating and trying to help them understand that the city is not out to get them, but perhaps protect them and their property. From what I can see, you, Mr. Reeise and I share a belief that the role of government is not to oppress people, but rather keep our city safe and functioning in the most responsible and positive way possible. Thank you for that.

Finally, it sounds as though you have a mountain of work to do related to the stormwater utility issue and limited staff. Forgive me for being so bold, but I feel compelled to mention that I have a son who is studying geography (with an emphasis on environmental sustainability) at SIU-C. He has worked at the museum for the last few years and intended to return there this summer. If you could use the assistance of a minimum wage worker I know he'd jump at the chance to get some real world experience. I attended the meeting last night because I want to be an educated citizen, but could not help drawing correlations between what you are trying to do and what I hear him talking about related to his studies at SIU. Please let me know if I may put him in touch with you if your department could use his assistance in a part-time or full-time capacity this summer.

Thank you for all you do for the city.

Sincerely yours,

Bridget Burke