

Request for Proposals

Technical Assistance Now Available to Integrate Low Impact Development into Local Regulations

The Puget Sound Partnership (Partnership) is soliciting proposals from cities, towns and counties interested in and committed to integrating low impact development (LID) into their regulations and development standards.

The Partnership has contracted with AHBL, a private engineering and architecture firm, to provide free direct technical assistance to up to four local governments. A team of AHBL staff will review existing local regulations and development standards, and develop draft revised regulations, new ordinances, and other recommendations for local government managers and elected officials to consider for adoption. *Local governments that receive this assistance are expected to forward recommendations provided to their elected officials for consideration of adoption. Only local governments committed to integrating LID into their regulations are encouraged to apply for this assistance.* Assistance is expected to be provided November 2008 – May 2009. The AHBL team will deliver draft regulatory language changes, new ordinances, engineering designs and other recommendations in electronic and hard copy format to the local governments selected.

Local government match is not required; however local governments must demonstrate in their proposals a commitment to work with AHBL staff during the project timeline and forward recommendations provided to their elected officials for consideration of adoption. Local governments selected to receive assistance will be expected to form a team of staff from key departments (planning, public works, roads, and fire and safety), attend approximately two meetings with the AHBL team, direct AHBL staff to regulations that should be reviewed and revised, and provide comment on draft materials provided. Local governments selected will be expected to designate one staff lead to communicate with AHBL and Partnership staff, invite other staff to meetings, and help coordinate staff comments on draft materials. Local governments selected will be required to provide annual reports for 2009 and 2010 describing their progress in adopting recommendations into code, and in using LID techniques in projects.

Partnership staff will be available throughout the process, attend meetings, provide input on draft materials, and be available to participate, as requested by the local government, during the deliberation and adoption process.

The upcoming Partnership Action Agenda (scheduled to be released December 1st) will likely identify polluted stormwater runoff as one of the biggest threats to Puget Sound. The LID approach and various LID techniques offer great promise to help our region manage stormwater runoff far more effectively. This project helps further implementation of LID in the region by removing local regulatory hurdles to the use of LID. This project also helps implement an immediate action called for in *Sound Health, Sound Future*, December 2006 (pp.51-53), the Puget Sound Partnership's first set of recommendations to Governor Gregoire regarding

recovery of the Sound by 2020. To guide the use of LID in the Sound, the Partnership's and WSU Pierce County Extension's *Low Impact Development Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound* is available at http://www.psp.wa.gov/our_work/stormwater/lid/lid_manual.htm. This project is funded through an enhancement from the Washington State legislature to the Puget Sound Partnership.

Proposals should be no more than 3 pages in length (not including support letters) and include:

1. Local government contact information, including staff designated as local lead.
2. Description of how specifically your government is interested in integrating LID into your regulations (i.e., do you want to allow and encourage LID? Require it? What type of development do you want to see greater use of LID: Residential? Commercial? In municipal rights of way?)
3. Description of your commitment to adopting recommendations provided, including estimated timeline for bringing recommendations before your elected officials.
4. Description of the local resources that would be protected through greater use of LID.
5. Description of regulations and standards that are anticipated to need review and revision.
6. Summary of any current LID regulations and practices used in the jurisdiction.
7. Statement of staff capacity to work with AHBL staff, review draft products, present recommendations to your elected officials for consideration, and implement recommendations once adopted.
8. Statement of readiness to proceed.
9. Letters of support from the directors of the public works and planning departments.

Letters of support from elected officials that demonstrate intent to adopt and implement recommendations provided by this project are encouraged, and strengthen proposals. Letters of support from development organizations or associations and community groups are encouraged.

Partnership staff will evaluate proposals according to how well they address the information requested above. Interviews may be scheduled to help with final selections. Assistance will be provided to the local governments that receive the highest scores.

Only proposals from cities, towns and counties located within the Puget Sound basin will be considered. Local governments that received this assistance from the Puget Sound Action Team in 2005-06 and from the Partnership during the first half of 2008 are not eligible to receive assistance, as the Partnership wishes to provide assistance to additional local governments.

Proposals should be received by the Partnership no later than **COB October 23, 2008**. Proposals received after this date will not be considered. Proposals should be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment to Helen Fox at the Partnership at Helen.fox@psp.wa.gov or mailed to: Puget Sound Partnership, P.O. Box 40900, Olympia, WA. 98504. If you have questions about this request, please contact Helen Fox at the Partnership at (360) 725-5457.