



Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) No. 198
CWSRF Project No. C9-6675-01-70
City of North Tonawanda
Project Name: Manhattan Street Parking Lot-Municipal Rain Garden
Demonstration

DEC Region: 9 County: Niagara

Type of Financing: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Green Innovation Grant Program

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$306,773.00

Recommended GIGP Award Amount: \$276,100.00

Local Share: \$30,673.00

Other Funding Sources: \$0.00

Project Category: Clean Water SRF. Green Wet Weather Infrastructure.

Project Description:

This project involves the installation of rain gardens and bioretention cells at the Manhattan Street parking lot.

Project Summary:

The Manhattan Street Parking Lot Municipal Rain Garden will reduce the largest continuous areas of impervious surface in the City of Tonawanda and construct bioretention cells and rain gardens to capture and infiltrate stormwater. The project will manage an estimated 1,000,000 gallons of stormwater annually in an area where flooding and combined sewer overflows (CSOs), and sewer backups occur. The Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper will use the project as an educational resource. The project is located within a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community covered by an MS4 State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit. The project will improve water quality in both the Niagara River and the Erie Canal.

This project is categorically eligible for GIGP financing in two categories per the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) "Guidance for Award of Recovery Act Funding to State Revolving Funds" and subsequent guidance dated March 2, 2009:

1. Green Wet Weather Infrastructure. Categorically eligible projects "manage and treat stormwater and [...] maintain and restore natural hydrology by infiltrating, evapotranspiring, and capturing and using stormwater" and include "the preservation and restoration of natural landscape features, such as forests, floodplains and wetlands, coupled with policies such as infill and redevelopment that reduce overall imperviousness in a watershed. On the local scale green infrastructure consists of site and neighborhood specific practices such as bioretention, trees, green roofs, porous pavements, and cisterns." Examples in the guidance (pp. 44-45) related to this project include the following:

V.b. "Implementation of water harvesting and reuse programs or projects, where consistent with state and local laws and policies."

V.c. "Implementation of wet weather management systems for parking areas which include: the incremental cost of porous pavement, bioretention, trees, green roofs, and other practices that mimic natural hydrology and reduce effective imperviousness..."

The project is located in Niagara County, which is designated as an economically distressed area of the State.

Funding Summary:

The 10% match will be supplied by the City.

SEQR Findings:

The Corporation has determined that the proposed GIGP grant will finance a project that will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment: (1) DEC has certified that this project is a categorical Exclusion and is in compliance with the SEQRA as a 319 CWA project; (2) no potential large environmental impacts have been identified; and (3) the City of North Tonawanda, acting as lead agency, has issued a negative declaration.

Construction Schedule:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Construction Start</u>	<u>Construction Completion</u>
City of North Tonawanda Manhattan Street Parking Lot-Municipal Rain Garden Demonstration	March 15, 2010	May 14, 2010