

Resolution 2017-40 - Cover Letter for Lyons Legacy Grant – Wastewater Treatment Plant Advanced Ecological Engineered Systems (AEES)

Subject: CDBG-DR Watershed Resiliency Grant

Background Information:

In an effort to capitalize on an upcoming CDBG-DR grant opportunity, a group of interested local partners has identified the advanced ecological engineered systems as a good fit for the grant guidelines. Volunteers and town staff has had to move quickly to position itself to take advantage of this opportunity for funding and is seeking preliminary support from the Board of Trustees for this grant request. Without the BOT's support at this stage it would be inefficient to put forth the effort that is needed to get the grant submitted on time. The grant deadline is March 24.

When the new wastewater treatment plant (wwtp) was designed, it considered the use of advanced ecological systems to complement the mechanical systems to treat the waste product. There was neither time nor money following the flood to move forward with this option. The current DOLA water resiliency grant offers the opportunity to apply for funding to carry out a portion of the initial plans.

The WWTP is now built to Class B off-site removal standards. By installing natural 'filtering' systems, it could allow the final waste product to go from Class B to Class A, a usable, healthy compost product. The AAES creates multiple resiliency measures, conserving energy, natural resources, reducing greenhouse gas, sinking carbon from bioconversion and creating better water and air quality for those nearby and the whole town. Ecologically designed, neighbors will see only the beauty while restoring feelings of health and improved quality of post-flood eco-social river life, its fish, river activities, surrounding revitalized areas around the WWTP that all adjacent neighborhoods can appreciate. It addresses permeability for run-off from the bordering planned town parking lot.

AEES supports Lyons' Zero Waste ordinance, links to SFC's Hauler ordinance, backyard composting, and Star (funded) program. It fulfills the LESAP, SRCAP, Storm Water and other Watershed Master Plan ratings. Nearby co-housing village, flood-demolished recreational Bohn Park, church, high school and neighborhoods comprise one of seven areas separated by the flood that benefit from AEES biodiverse ecological action items near an industrial facility, adding vision of town as sustainably resilient.

This resolution would allow staff and volunteers to submit an application for consideration of DOLA's watershed resiliency grant.