

**Water Supply Reserve Fund
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 10-11, 2021
Consent Agenda Item 2(i)**

Applicant & Grantee: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf
Water Activity Purpose: Education & Outreach, Municipal/Industrial - Study
County: Statewide
Drainage Basin: Statewide
Water Source: N/A
Amount Requested: \$12,500 Metro Basin Account
\$12,500 South Platte Basin Account
\$25,000 Total Request

Matching Funds: **Basin Account Match** = \$446,381 (\$358,406 cash & \$87,975 in-kind)
• 94.6% of total project costs (meets 25% min)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$12,500 from the Metro Basin Account, and up to \$12,500 from the South Platte Basin Account to help fund the project: Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf

Water Activity Summary: The requested WSRF funds will support the applicant’s proposal designed to enable large-scale turf replacement projects that otherwise face an economic barrier to implementation. Project results and information - developed working with South Platte and Metro region project partners - will be applicable and disseminated to communities and others throughout these basins and Colorado more broadly.

The applicant proposes to achieve their goals by: (1) undertaking research and analysis on a suite of finance mechanisms that can be utilized to fund large turf replacement projects; (2) working with partner communities in the South Platte and Metro regions to undertake research and analysis on specific potential pilot projects that include estimated water savings and associated implementation and maintenance costs based on acreage of turf converted, and also conducting a community-wide non-essential turf assessment to give each partner community estimates for potential savings; (3) working with partner communities to identify implementation challenges and pathways, including any legal, policy, and other barriers that may arise with turf projects and related financing; (4) sharing project results with other communities looking to implement similar projects through targeted education and outreach activities, including the importance of landscape

professional certification and water efficient land use codes; and (5) if requested, supporting partner communities in pursuing state and federal loans or grants to further their turf replacement efforts.

Discussion: The project will help advance the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan’s by addressing an identifiable water gap, focus on maintaining leadership in water conservation, increased water efficiency and reaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation. The proposal will also further advance Colorado’s Water Plan conservation measurable objective.

Issues/Additional Needs: No issues or additional needs have been identified.

Eligibility Requirements: The application meets requirements of all eligibility components.

Evaluation Criteria: Staff has determined this activity satisfies the Evaluation Criteria.

Funding Sources/Match	Cash	In-Kind	Total	Status
Western Resource Advocates	\$115,657	\$0	\$115,657	Secured
CWCB Water Plan Grant	\$259,887	\$0	\$259,887	Pending
Water Now Alliance	\$0	\$76,645	\$76,645	Secured
Resource Central	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000	Secured
University of Colorado - Denver	\$0	\$4,330	\$4,330	Secured
Northern Colorado Conservancy District	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	Secured
Additional Funders	\$21,359	\$0	\$21,359	Pending
Sub Total Matching Funds	\$406,903	\$87,975	\$494,878	
WSRF Metro Basin Account	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500	Secured
WSRF South Platte Basin Account	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500	Secured
Sub Total WSRF Funds	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	
Total Project Costs	\$431,903	\$87,975	\$519,878	

CWCB Project Manager: Kevin Reidy



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Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Reserve Fund
Grant Application

Instructions

All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#).

To receive funding from the WSRF, a proposed water activity must be recommended for approval by a Roundtable(s) **AND** the approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. The CWCB meets bimonthly.

If you have questions, please contact the WSRF Grant Program Manager (for all Roundtables) or your Roundtable Liaison:

Ben Wade ben.wade@state.co.us 303-866-3441 x3238 (office)	Sam Stein Sam.stein@state.co.us 303-866-3441(office)
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WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required)

- YES NO This request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable.
 - YES NO I have read and understand the [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#).
 - YES NO Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the [Standard Contract](#).¹
- Application Documents included:**
- YES NO Exhibit A: Statement of Work² (*Word – see Template*)
 - YES NO Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule² (*Excel Spreadsheet – see Template*)
 - YES NO Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3rd Party Commitments²
 - YES NO Map²
 - YES NO Photos/Drawings/Reports
 - YES NO Letters of Support
- Contracting Documents³**
- YES NO Detailed/Itemized Budget³ (*Excel Spreadsheet – see Template*)
 - YES NO Certificate of Insurance⁴ (*General, Auto, & Workers’ Comp.*)
 - YES NO Certificate of Good Standing⁽⁴⁾
 - YES NO W-9 Form⁴
 - YES NO Independent Contractor Form⁴ (*If applicant is individual, not company/organization*)
 - YES NO Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form⁴

¹Click “Grant Agreements”. For reference only/do not fill out or submit/required for contracting
² Required with application if applicable.
³ Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.
⁴ Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.



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Schedule		
CWCB Meeting	Application Submittal Dates	Type of Request
January	October 1	Basin Account
March	December 1	Basin/Statewide Account/Water Plan Grant Match ¹
May	February 1	Basin Account
July	April 1	Basin Account
September	June 1	Basin/Statewide Account
November	August 1	Basin Account

¹ If either the basin or statewide match includes matching funds from a pending Water Plan Grant, both must be submitted by December 1st deadline for March Board meeting review.

Water Activity Summary	
Name of Applicant	Western Resource Advocates
Name of Water Activity	Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf
Approving Roundtable(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ¹
Metro Roundtable	\$12,500
South Platte Basin Roundtable	\$12,500
Basin Account Request Subtotal	\$25,000
Basin Account Request Subtotal Approved by Roundtable	\$25,000
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾	\$0
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)	\$25,000
Total Project Costs	\$519,878

¹ Please indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Western Resource Advocates (WRA)
Mailing Address	2260 Baseline Rd. Boulder, CO, 80302



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Grantee and Applicant Information	
FEIN	84-1113831
Grantee's Organization Contact¹	Rick Trilsch
Position/Title	Vice President of Finance and Administration
Email	rick.trilsch@westernresources.org
Phone	720-763-3723
Grant Management Contact²	Laura Belanger
Position/Title	Senior Water Resource Engineer and Policy Analyst
Email	Laura.belanger@westernresources.org
Phone	
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

¹ Person with signatory authority

² Person responsible for creating reimbursement invoices (Invoice for Services) and corresponding with CWCB staff.

Description of Grantee
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
<p>For more than 30 years, Western Resource Advocate's mission has been to protect the West's land, air, and water to ensure vibrant communities exist in balance with nature. Our team of economists, engineers, attorneys, and policy experts work with partners and stakeholders across the Interior West to address climate change and craft innovative solutions to the most pressing conservation issues in our seven-state region.</p> <p>Western Resource Advocates will serve as is the grantee for the proposed project. Our Project Team also includes the WaterNow Alliance, Headwaters Corporation, Ecoscape Environmental Design, Resource Central, and the University of Colorado, Denver Department of Planning and Design.</p>

Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public (Government): municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public (Districts): authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises



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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
X	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes

Type of Water Activity (check one)	
X	Study
	Implementation

Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)	
	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)	
	Agricultural	
X	Municipal/Industrial	
	Needs Assessment	
X	Education & Outreach	
	Other	Explain:

Location of Water Activity	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	This project has broad statewide applicability. Specific case studies for pilot turf replacement projects and economic analyses will involve several partner communities in the South Platte Basin and Metro regions. The financing mechanisms research and broad educational outreach will be tailored to reach—and be appropriate for—communities around the state (i.e., both western and eastern slopes).
Latitude	
Longitude	

Water Activity Overview
Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the WSRF funding will be used for specifically (e.g. studies, permitting, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the activity. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, area of habitat improvements. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.



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Water Activity Overview

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule.

The requested WSRF funds will support our project designed to enable large-scale turf replacement projects that otherwise face an economic barrier to implementation. Project results and information – developed working with South Platte and Metro region project partners – will be applicable and disseminated to communities and others throughout these basins and Colorado more broadly.

We will achieve this by: (1) undertaking research and analysis on a suite of finance mechanisms that can be utilized to fund large turf replacement projects; (2) working with partner communities in the South Platte and Metro regions to undertake research and analysis on specific potential pilot projects that include estimated water savings and associated implementation and maintenance costs based on acreage of turf converted, and also conducting a community-wide non-essential turf assessment to give each partner community estimates for potential savings; (3) working with partner communities to identify implementation challenges and pathways, including any legal, policy, and other barriers that may arise with turf projects and related financing; (4) sharing project results with other communities looking to implement similar projects through targeted education and outreach activities, including the importance of landscape professional certification and water efficient land use codes; and (5) if requested, supporting partner communities in pursuing state and federal loans or grants to further their turf replacement efforts.

Measurable Results

To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRF funds please provide any of the following values.

		New Storage Created (acre-feet)
X		New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
		Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
		Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
The project will help meet Colorado’s Water Plan goal of conserving 400,000 acre-feet/year		Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)
		Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
		Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
X	Other	Explain: ~1,200,000 million Coloradans live within the four communities interested in partnering on this project

Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of [Colorado’s Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the respective [roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan](#) ⁽¹⁾. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).

For applications that include a request for funds from the Statewide Account, the proposed water activity shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado’s Water Plan criteria for state support (CWP,



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Water Activity Justification

Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44; (Also listed pp. 4-5 in [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#)).

This project will help meet the conservation goals and measurable outcomes identified in the BIPs, meets an identified need, demonstrates a commitment to collaboration, addresses an identified water gap, demonstrates sustainability, and is designed to establish fiscal feasibility of turf replacement projects. It is identified as part of the no- and low-regrets scenario planning process. The project is sustainable and helps meet CWP conservation goals, avoids adverse environmental impacts, and maximizes the use of water resources.

Colorado's Water Plan, Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI), and nearly all of the BIPs emphasize the role of improved water efficiency and water conservation as important components to reduce the municipal and industrial (M&I) gap. The role of outdoor landscapes and irrigation, including turf retrofits, is specifically called out in many instances.

[Colorado's Water Plan \(CWP\)](#) recognizes that "[w]ater conservation activities and water reuse will play an important role in balancing the need for additional water supply with strategies to lessen that need" (CWP p.6-59). Table 5-1 (CWCB p. 5-8) includes the conservation strategy "[l]andscape transformation of some high-water requirement turf to low-water requirement plantings." Examples of "best efforts" of conservation to date include:

- turf conversion by Aurora Water, Castle Rock and Denver Water (CWP p. 6-62);
- the IBCC goal to "[r]educe Colorado's 2050 municipal water demands by 400,000 acre-feet statewide" (CWP p. 6-65); and
- the State Agency Conservation action that "[t]he CWCB will provide grants and technical support to state agencies for the installation of high-efficiency toilets and urinals, replacement of turf grass with plants that use less water, and improvement of cooling towers." (CWP p. 6-113).

Regarding potential funding resources, the Water Plan includes "[i]nvestigate the use of conservation tax credits as a potential funding source. This could support efficient outdoor irrigation systems and replacement of residential outdoor turf with plants that use less water." (CWP p. 9-17). Section 6.3.1. Municipal Conservation includes, among others, actions to:

- adopt conservation incentives, support water management activities for all water providers;
- explore incentives for outdoor water conservation measures, water conservation education and outreach;
- strengthen partnerships; and
- explore expanding conservation funding (CWP p. 6-73).

"Conservation: Colorado's Water Plan sets a measurable objective to achieve 400,000 acre-feet of municipal and industrial water conservation by 2050", noting "Colorado must address projected gaps between future water needs and available water provisions from both the supply side and the demand side. Every acre-foot of conserved water used to meet new demands is an acre-foot of water that does not need to come from existing uses." (CWP p. 10-5). While the range of AF has been provided as part of the Technical Update, WRA's project aims to build towards meeting this deliverable. WRA's proposed project does not require permitting to be implemented, but conforms to the [CWP framework](#) (CWP p.9-43 to 9-44).

[SWSI 2010](#) says "[p]roviding an adequate water supply for Colorado's citizens, agriculture, and the environment will involve implementing a mix of local water projects and processes, conservation, reuse, agricultural transfers, and the development new water supplies, all of which should be pursued concurrently" (SWSI p.1-1). It includes the Landscape conservation savings and measure "[l]andscape transformation of some high-water requirement turf to low water requirement plantings" (SWSI p. 7-9). SWSI identifies 2050 conservation savings of between 154,000 acre-feet for passive conservation to 615,300 acre-feet for high levels of conservation, including turf replacement.

The [South Platte BIP \(SPBIP\)](#) includes a solution to "[m]aintain leadership in conservation and reuse and implement additional measures to reduce water consumption rates" (SPBIP p.S-12), and calls for "enhancing water use efficiencies (conservation and reuse)" (SPBIP p. S-10). The SPBIP's vision for meeting the east slope municipal gap includes "[r]eaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation and reuse" (SPBIP p.1-20). The SPBIP includes 415,000 acre-feet of conservation savings between 2000 and 2050 (SPBIP Table 4-9, p.4-22). Water efficiency and conservation is a prominent theme throughout the South Platte BIP.

The [Arkansas BIP](#) lists Landscape Management as a key component of Local Conservation Planning, stating "[a] noteworthy component of landscape management involves providing incentives and rebates to customers to either upgrade existing automated sprinkler systems and/or remove turf grass in favor of native plant materials and/or Xeric plantings" (Ark BIP p.192).

The [Colorado BIP](#) theme four is to "[e]ncourage a high level of basin-wide conservation" stating "[a]lthough many stakeholders within the Basin have begun to embrace the importance of conservation, more conservation, efficiency and reuse efforts are needed" (COBIP p. 16). An example of how water providers are accomplishing this includes "[a]doption of plans that require more xeriscaping, using plants that don't require irrigation, and reducing irrigation of remaining turf" (CO BIP p. 60).

The [Gunnison BIP](#) Principle 5 is "[w]ater conservation, demand management, and land use planning that incorporates water supply factors should be equitably employed statewide" with an Implementation Step to "[p]romote programs that encourage drought tolerant vegetation and discourage lawn irrigation" (Gun BIP p. 43). Regarding the development of new Colorado River supplies, the BIP includes a criterion that "[e]ntities should first reach high levels of municipal and industrial water conservation as defined in SWSI 2010 prior to further development of Colorado River System water" (Gun BIP p. 42).



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Water Activity Justification
<p>The <u>Southwest BIP</u> includes a goal to “[p]romote wise and efficient water use through implementation of municipal conservation strategies to reduce overall future water needs” (SWBIP Table 1, p. 14). It also states “[t]he Roundtable continues to firmly believe that conservation and reuse must be a major means to reduce demand and address future gaps and that no TMD should proceed unless high level conservation goals are achieved” (SWBIP p.102). “Recognizing that municipal demand is one of the driving forces behind agricultural dry-up and that outdoor urban irrigation is one of the highest consumptive uses of municipal water. The Roundtable agrees that before it will consider a new TMD, outdoor irrigation by water providers using agricultural buy-up and dry-up and/or pursuing a TMD should meet the higher goal of 70/30 ratio of inside to outside use of municipal water by the year 2030” (SWBIP p. 2).</p> <p>The <u>Yampa White Green BIP</u> states that “[w]ater conservation efforts are also included as an important component of meeting municipal demands in the basin” with a related process to “[e]ncourage municipal entities to meet some future municipal water needs through water conservation and efficiency” (YWG BIP p. 1-10).</p> <p>The <u>North Platte BIP</u> includes a goal to “[s]upport the equitable statewide application of municipal water conservation” (NPBIP p. 18) with a related process to “[s]upport the use of state funding to provide incentives for reaching municipal conservation and efficiency standards” (NPBIP p. 25). “The NPBRT supports a wide variety of water conservation methods including municipal conservation programs, strategic growth and development, and landscape limitations” (NPBIP p. 25).</p>

¹ Access Basin Implementation Plans or Education Action Plans from Basin drop down menu.

Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests	
<p>Basin (only) Account grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a letter of commitment as described in the 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines (submitted on the contributing entity’s letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.</p>	
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)
Colorado Water Plan Conservation Grant – (Pending)	\$259,887 (cash)
WaterNow Alliance (WNA) – (committed)	\$76,645 (in-kind)
Resource Central (committed)	7,000 (in-kind)
University of Colorado, Denver Department of Planning and Design, University of Colorado (committed)	\$4,330 (in-kind)
Northern Colorado Conservancy District (committed)	\$10,000 (cash)
Western Resource Advocates (WRA) existing funders’ project support (committed)	\$115,657 (cash)
WRA is applying to several funders to secure the remaining \$21,359 of matching cash funds needed for this project. We are in conversations with these entities and will be applying for funds by the end of 2020, or by March of 2021, in accordance with their application due dates. However, because we are still discussing this project and potential applications with funders we are unable to list them at this time.	\$21,359 (cash)
Total Match	\$494,878
<p>(In part due to unanticipated changes in grant application due dates, some of our matching funding is in process. We respectfully request that, if the Roundtable votes to approve our grant request, it be contingent on us successfully securing matching funds, including a Colorado Water Plan Grant. Additionally, if the full amount of matching funds is not secured,</p>	



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Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests

we will work with the CWCB and supporting roundtable(s) on a modified scope that meets project objectives.)	
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Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests

Statewide Account grant requests require a 50% match as described in the [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#). At least of 10% of the required Statewide Account Grant request match shall be cash from Basin Account funds whether that is from one or multiple basins; and the remaining 40% of the required match may be provided from any source, including other grants, cash from the Basin Account, or any combination of cash, in-kind services, or in-kind materials.and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment**. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):
Total Match	\$
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).	

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

- Brombaugh, R., and J. Figuerora, 2015, *Tapping the Power of the Market: Energy Savings, Water Conservation, and New Revenue Streams through Performance Contracting in the Colorado River Basin States*, McKinstry and Western Resource Advocates.
- Blanchard, Jennie C. Nolon, 2018, *Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners*. Prepared by Land Use Law Center for Western Resource Advocates.
- Koehler, C. and C. Koch, 2019, *Innovation in Action: 21st Century Water Infrastructure Solutions*. WaterNow Alliance



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Previous CWCB Grants

List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order

- 1) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Tap Fee Workshop Series in Colorado (2016)
Approving RT: n/a
CWCB board meeting date: n/a, it was approved through the Water Efficiency Grant Fund
PO: POGGI PDAA 20170000000000000044
Percentage of CWCB funding: 75%

- 2) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Best Practices for Water Meter Retrofit Projects Financed by State Performance Contracts in Colorado (2017)
Approving RT: n/a
CWCB board meeting date: n/a, it was approved through the Water Efficiency Grant Fund
PO: POGGI PDAA,201700000000000000521
Percentage of CWCB funding:33%

- 3) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Conservation-Oriented Tap Fees: Guide & Workshop
Approving RT: n/a
CWCB board meeting date: May 2018
PO: POGG1 PDAA,201900000019
Percentage of CWCB funding: 44%

- 4) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Best Practices for Water Meter Retrofit Projects Financed by State Performance Contracts in Colorado
Approving RT: n/a
PO: POGG1 PDAA,201900000020
Percentage of CWCB funding: 34%

- 5) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance
Approving RT: n/a
CWCB board meeting date: November 2019
PO: POGG1 PDAA,201900000019
Percentage of CWCB funding: 44%

- 6) Applicant Name: Western Resource Advocates
Water Activity Name: Removing barriers: building capacity to implement critical water conservation and efficiency programs
Approving RT: n/a
CWCB board meeting date: November 2019
PO: POGG1 PDAA,202000002583
Percentage of CWCB funding: 46%



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Tax Payer Bill of Rights

The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

N/A



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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Supply Reserve Fund	
<u>Exhibit A - Statement of Work</u>	
Date:	11.01.2020
Water Activity Name:	Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf
Grant Recipient:	Western Resource Advocates
Funding Source:	Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtable Basin WSRF Grants
Water Activity Overview: (Please provide brief description of the proposed water activity (no more than 200 words). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRF funding will be used for. (PLEASE DEFINE ALL ACRONYMS).)	
<p>The requested WSRF funds will support our project designed to enable large-scale turf replacement projects that otherwise face an economic barrier to implementation. Project results and information - developed working with South Platte and Metro region project partners - will be applicable and disseminated to communities and others throughout these basins and Colorado more broadly.</p> <p>Our project team (described below under “Objectives”) will achieve this by: (1) undertaking research and analysis on a suite of finance mechanisms that can be utilized to fund large turf replacement projects; (2) working with partner communities to undertake research and analysis on specific potential pilot projects that include estimated water savings and associated implementation and maintenance costs based on acreage of turf converted, and also conducting a community-wide non-essential turf assessment so each partner community will have estimates for potential savings; (3) working with the partner communities to identify implementation challenges and pathways, including any legal, policy, and other barriers that may arise with partner communities turf projects and related financing; (4) sharing the report results with other communities looking to implement similar projects through targeted education and outreach activities, including the importance of landscape professional certification and water efficient land use codes; and (5) if requested, supporting partner communities in pursuing state and federal loans or grants to further their turf replacement efforts.</p>	
Objectives: (List the objectives of the project. (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS).)	
<p>The primary objective of this project is to work with communities to develop case studies and analyses of a wide variety of finance mechanisms that can be utilized to advance the implementation of large-scale non-essential turf replacement programs to help meet the conservation measurable objectives identified in the Water Plan. We define non-essential turf as irrigated, non-native turf that receives little, if any, use (i.e. the only person who walks on those areas is the person maintaining the turf).</p> <p>Specific objectives of the work include analyzing a suite of finance mechanisms available to communities to implement such projects, as well as to provide a more detailed and targeted analyses of the potential water and cost savings that can be achieved through the application of such approaches. Additional support will be provided to project partners to overcome implementation challenges and ensure pathways for success are identified. This may include, but is not limited to, conducting focus groups, convening stakeholders, educating elected officials, and identifying policy hurdles and solutions.</p> <p>The objective of the education and outreach is to share the information developed through this project broadly with communities across Colorado to encourage the implementation of large-scale programs. Further, the information will be used to replicate such approaches in new developments to</p>	



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support integrated water and land use planning strategies in Colorado communities. This will include education on landscape professional certification and water-efficient landscape regulations, both of which are essential for the water savings from turf replacement projects to be sustained indefinitely.

Objectives will be achieved by Western Resource Advocates and the many experts on our project team, which include:

WaterNow Alliance (WaterNow or WNA) - WaterNow is a nationwide network of local water decision-makers dedicated to expanding sustainable, affordable and climate resilient water strategies in their communities. WaterNow provides water leaders with resources, direct technical assistance, and policy advocacy to advance innovative and environmentally sustainable management of water resources.

Headwaters Corporation - Headwaters Corporation specializes in water resources planning, which currently includes the management of Endangered species recovery projects, municipal water conservation studies, and water resource economics. Dr. George Oamek, who has 35 years of experience focused upon the economics of municipal and agricultural water supplies will be on our project team.

Ecoscape Environmental Design - Since 2000 Ecoscape has strived to be a leading force in the sustainable landscaping movement. A complete design, build, and maintenance company, Ecoscape cultivates their passion of working the land by nurturing and educating their clients to be good stewards of the land and the ecosystems that surround us.

Resource Central - Founded in 1976, Resource Central's programs in water, energy, and waste have helped more than 600,000 people improve their homes, conserve natural resources, and save money. Resource Central is determined to make conservation so simple that people don't even realize they're doing it.

Department of Planning and Design, University of Colorado, Denver (DU) - The Department houses the only accredited graduate Architecture and Planning programs in the state. It also houses programs in Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, and Historic Preservation. Austin Troy is Chair of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and is an expert in GIS and remote sensing and their application to planning and urban sustainability issues, including water use.



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Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)
Task 1 - Large-scale turf replacement finance mechanisms white paper
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>The project team will produce a white paper synthesizing research conducted to date in Colorado and nationwide identifying finance mechanisms most applicable to large-scale turf replacement projects. We will identify potential finance mechanisms through an in-depth literature review, speaking with communities, querying our network, and previous research and analysis conducted by the project team. Financing mechanisms to be reviewed may include, <i>but are not limited to</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water provider, district, or other self-funded through rates/contract pricing/incentives 2. Performance contracts 3. Municipal bonds, including green bonds 4. Environmental impact bonds 5. Water leasing [self-funded upfront costs paid back through leasing conserved water] 6. Developer funded retrofits to offset raw water requirements for new developments 7. Customer funded (e.g., Parks Department, HOA) 8. State and federal loan and grant programs 9. Various incentives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tax incentives 2. Municipal enterprise incentives 3. County incentives 4. Improvement grants <p>If a finance mechanism has been utilized in a community (both in Colorado and around the country), we will identify any lessons learned by speaking with those communities. Large-scale turf replacement, unlike conventional water infrastructure, can require partnering with private entities – businesses, residences, institutions, etc. This raises a unique set of key issues around financing, which the white paper will discuss at a high level, including legal, regulatory, and other implementation challenges.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Literature review of potential financing mechanisms and related legal, accounting, and policy challenges and strategies. The project team will review white papers, academic literature, government reports/documents, and other related literature from around the nation. 2. Query our network and partners through direct outreach (e.g., WaterNow’s Tap into Resilience Toolkit, Alliance for Water Efficiency, AWWA Water Efficiency National ICI Survey). 3. Integrate work previously conducted by the project team. For example, WRA has extensive experience with performance contracting and has a working relationship with the Colorado Energy Office who oversees the state’s performance contracting program. Also, WaterNow recently issued a major white paper examining public financing mechanisms and related challenges associated with implementation of large-scale distributed water use efficiency. <p>Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates and the WaterNow Alliance.</p>



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Tasks
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)
White paper describing finance mechanisms appropriate to support large-scale non-essential turf replacement projects, their relative merits and limitations, and related legal, policy and other strategies for implementing these financing approaches.
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)
A White paper describing finance mechanisms appropriate to support large-scale non-essential turf replacement projects, their relative merits and limitations, and related legal, policy and other strategies for implementing these financing approaches, will be delivered to the CWCB.

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)
Task 2 - Partner community pilot turf replacement case studies and non-essential turf analysis
Description of Task:
<p>There are three goals for this task:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Secure Community Partners</u>: Identify up to four communities interested in partnering to explore the feasibility of one or more turf replacement finance mechanisms. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A) The project team will develop list of potential partner communities that are interested in large-scale, non-essential turf replacement based on our existing work and relationships. We will secure commitments to participate in parcel-specific case studies and community-wide non-essential turf analysis. Ideally, these communities will also participate in subsequent (outside the scope of this project) scalable phase II pilot implementation projects. We have already had initial conversations with several potentially interested communities including the City of Westminster, the City of Broomfield, the City of Aurora, the City of Greeley, as well as the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. B) We will focus on communities with large public, commercial, institutional, HOA, and similar properties with significant areas of turf that could be replaced with native grasses and/or other waterwise landscaping without impacting the area's use. Targeted outreach will be conducted with the communities' governing boards, city council members, utility executive management, and/or relevant water and community development staff members to explore their current turf replacement programs and existing goals, challenges, resource needs, and other barriers to the implementation of such. The project team will work with the communities to identify and secure buy-in for project participation for at least one parcel-specific landscape in each for financing and water savings case studies. Where possible, we will prioritize high visibility areas to help instill a conservation ethic in the community. 2. <u>Develop Parcel-Specific Case Studies - Working with partner communities</u>, identify potential parcels for pilot turf replacement projects, ideally in highly visible areas. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A) Once a community has agreed to partner, the project team will work with them to identify potential large parcels for pilot turf replacement projects. This could include individual large parcels or multiple smaller parcels owned or managed by the same entity. Once



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Tasks

those parcels are identified and buy-in from the parcel owner/manager is secured, the project team will develop case studies of each project. This will include mapping and completing audits of existing landscaping and irrigation systems, identifying landscape alternatives and associated irrigation system modifications, estimating costs and potential water and financial savings to the utility and property owner. Once the case studies are completed, the partnering communities and/or property owners will be encouraged to implement the project in a subsequent Phase II of this project. If the finance mechanism of most interest to the community requires policy updates (e.g., new ordinance or regulation), the project team will work with those communities to pursue those changes in Task 3. If the community is seeking additional funding for implementation, the Project team will provide assistance in pursuing state or federal grants or loans (see Task 5).

B) Specifically, each case study will include the following:

- i. With input from partner communities and parcel owner/managers, develop site-appropriate low- and no-supplemental irrigation water landscape alternatives for pilot parcels. Landscape alternatives may also include urban forests and/or urban agriculture which can have many potential community benefits.
- ii. Life cycle cost estimates of alternative landscape retrofits, irrigation system modifications, and ongoing maintenance.
- iii. Water use and cost estimates and comparisons under current conditions and with turf replacement and qualitative documentation of other benefits, such as local food production in urban gardens
- iv. An economic analysis consisting of one or more of the following metrics: benefit-cost analysis, net present value, payback period, internal rate of return, or any other metric.
- v. Growing communities, calculation of the benefits will be based upon the cost of other representative new water supply alternatives. For built-out communities, benefits will be based upon the estimated replacement value of their water supply portfolio, on a per acre-foot basis.

3. Conduct Community-Wide Non-Essential Turf Assessments - Working with partner communities, conduct a community-wide analysis to estimate potential acreage of non-essential turf and associated water and financial savings estimates.

- A) In addition to the parcel-specific case studies described above, the project team will work with the communities to estimate the total acreage within each community of non-essential turf that could be replaced with more waterwise landscapes. This will be accomplished by developing a mapping toolbox using existing, publicly available imagery data (e.g., USGS National Atlas).
- B) The mapping toolbox will include regional turf evapotranspiration (ET) data and allow for communities to input more local water use data. Once the amount of acreage is estimated, we will also estimate the potential water savings and associated financial costs and savings through reduced or eliminated irrigation. A qualitative analysis of future scenario(s) will be developed including the implications of future water rates, potential stormwater impacts, staff resource needs, and higher ET rates resulting from climate



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Tasks

change. Providing the communities with high-level estimates of the amount of water that could be saved will help with long-term water supply planning.

- C) We will also compare costs of water supplies, that could be made available through turf replacement, with high level cost estimates for equivalent volumes of new supply from other sources. Additionally, the project team will analyze three 20-year lifecycle scenarios comparing one-time and ongoing costs and water use: a) water efficient landscape installed from the start and left in place for 20 years, b) non-essential turf installed and then replaced in 10 years with water efficient landscaping, and c) non-essential turf installed and left in place for 20 years.

Method/Procedure:

- Secure partner community commitment to the project, which may include a memorandum of understanding (MOU). Community agreements may include commitments for things such as providing water usage and rate information, assistance identifying non-essential turf areas, reaching out to parcel owners/managers, providing input on financing mechanisms, identifying implementation next steps, and allowing project information to be shared broadly, among other things.
- Regular meetings with water utility/community staff.
- Work closely with partner communities to select the turf replacement finance mechanism options of greatest interest to them based on the white paper analysis.
- Develop case studies evaluating potential finance mechanisms including pilot project specific landscaping alternatives, economic analyses, and potential water savings.
- Review case studies with partner communities and pilot parcel owner/manager to select and pursue financing/funding for a subsequent phase II (beyond scope of this project proposal).
- Develop turf identification and water use mapping and analysis toolbox. This will include the identification of large irrigated turf parcels located on commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) developments. When appropriate, conduct additional screening for areas where turf is unnecessary.
- Working with partner communities, use regional turf ET estimates and/or select and compile more localized ET water use data appropriate for parcel analysis. Also develop future ET estimates under climate change. Input all ET data into mapping toolbox and estimate savings from reduced or eliminated irrigation on those parcels.
- Estimate one-time costs and impacts to O&M costs for reduced or eliminated irrigation on those parcels.

Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates, WaterNow Alliance, Ecoscape Environmental Design, Headwaters Corporation, Resource Central, and the DU Department of Planning and Design.



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Tasks
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list identifying up to four communities engaged and willing to partner on large turf replacement projects, including signed MOUs if appropriate. • Partner community case study report, which will include detailed descriptions of the following (to be utilized in Task 4): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot non-essential turf replacement projects; • Community wide estimates of potential non-essential turf that could be replaced, associated water savings and cost estimates; and • Cost per acre-foot estimates of other new water supply options compared to turf replacement costs
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <p>A document listing the communities engaged and willing to partner on a project will be provided to the CWCB.</p> <p>A report detailing partner community case studies, will be provided to the CWCB.</p>

Tasks
<p>Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)</p>
<p>Task 3 – Identifying implementation challenges and pathways to success</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project team will work with partner communities to identify and evaluate potential legal, policy, and other implementation challenges that may arise in connection with partner communities' turf projects and related financing. If requested, we will help partner communities that have chosen such a finance mechanism to explore, identify, and pursue implementation pathways for creating and adopting any required new or modified policies, ordinances, or regulations. While we do not anticipate all communities to need this assistance, if needed we will prioritize assistance based on each communities' specific needs and staff capacity. Implementation assistance will also include identifying specific enabling conditions required for the finance mechanisms and turf replacement project to be successful. Enabling conditions may include political will, cost of raw water, availability of surface water supplies, and support from specific boards and commissions. Implementation pathways will be further identified through engagement with elected officials, relevant boards, committees, and commissions, and other stakeholder groups.



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Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings with water utility/community staff. • Select potential financing options with partner communities for their particular turf replacement interests. • If requested and appropriate, convene one or more workshops or focus groups to explore implementation challenges, address municipal/utility questions, and determine specific enabling conditions needed. • Where necessary, work closely with partner communities to pursue changes necessary for implementation. This could include ordinance updates, land use code modifications, or working with a relevant board or commission. <p>Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates, WaterNow Alliance, Headwaters Corporation, and Resource Central.</p>
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting notes and attendance lists from any workshops/focus groups. • Summary memo for one to two partnering communities detailing the implementation pathway for any policies required for large scale turf replacement. • If appropriate (and the community chooses to do so during this grant period), a memo detailing successful implementation of any policies required for the finance mechanism.
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <p>Summary memo detailing implementation pathways, will be submitted to the CWCB.</p> <p>Summary memo of successful implementation of policies required for finance mechanisms, will be provided to the CWCB.</p> <p>A report detailing partner community case studies, will be provided to the CWCB.</p>

Tasks
<p>Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)</p>
<p>Task 4 - Local and Colorado-wide education and outreach</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>This task includes partner, community-level, Front Range, and broader statewide education and outreach to inform and encourage wide-spread, non-essential turf replacement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local community education and outreach <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We will work assist partner communities in identifying opportunities for local community education to utilize the project to help further instill a conservation ethic. We will work closely with our partners to evaluate and develop plans to educate water planners, water utility staff, landscapers, other decision-makers, and the broader community about the project and to encourage more wide-spread non-essential turf



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Tasks

replacement. Our partnership with Northern Water will also provide opportunities to share project information broadly among the many communities they deliver water to.

2. Statewide education and outreach

a. We will share project findings, including the case study report from Task 2, broadly throughout Colorado to encourage other communities to evaluate and pursue turf replacement projects. This will be accomplished through a range of methods that may include, among other things: one-on-one meetings, workshops, webinars, conference sessions, basin roundtable presentations, social and traditional media, email, and targeted association newsletters. These outreach efforts will be focused on stakeholders throughout Colorado.

3. Landscape professional certification and water efficient land use codes

a. Throughout both education and outreach efforts the project team will also focus on conveying the importance—and encouraging the implementation—of the following two related and critical components, as they will help ensure water savings associated with more waterwise landscaping are encouraged and sustained.

1. Landscape professional certification: We will inform communities about the importance having landscape professionals who are knowledgeable about water efficient landscapes and irrigation systems, as well as how those professionals can obtain the training and certification to do so. Knowledgeable and certified landscape professionals can improve the water efficiency of existing landscapes, but they can also ensure that any turf replacement projects are designed, installed, and maintained correctly. If a turf replacement project is done by someone who does not utilize water efficiency best practices (e.g., weather-based irrigation controllers, soil amendment), the full water savings may not be achievable. We will encourage and work with communities who are interested in landscape professional certification, including providing support in bringing a training program to that community if necessary. For example, WaterNow is an EPA-certified Professional Certifying Organization (PCO) for training landscape professionals in the Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) certification program and has a well-developed QWEL program in Colorado. One of our project partners, Northern Water, is also currently investigating facilitating QWEL training and certification, and is exploring the possibility of becoming a PCO.

2. Water efficient landscaping and irrigation system regulations: The project team will also discuss the importance and benefits of having water-efficient landscape and irrigation system regulations. Many communities have older land use codes that have become dated and do not require or encourage water efficient landscapes in new developments. While the focus of this project is replacing non-essential turf, it is important to help communities understand the importance of preventing non-essential turf from being installed in new developments. Avoiding high water use landscaping in the first place is easier and more cost effective. The project team has experience helping communities update their landscape regulations and can provide that information to interested communities.

This task will be initiated during the project but will continue after this project has ended.



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Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop local-level and statewide education and outreach strategies identifying target meetings, workshops, webinars, conferences, basin roundtables, media outlets, association meetings and newsletters, among other opportunities. • Initiate statewide education and outreach strategies, developing materials as needed (outreach and education will continue beyond the timeframe of this grant.) • Work with communities interested in landscape professional certification and provide them with relevant information about certification programs. • Work with communities interested in updating their land use code to require or encourage more water-efficient landscaping. <p>Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates and the WaterNow Alliance</p>
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local-level, Front Range, and statewide education and outreach strategy document with list of outreach activities completed by the end of the project as well as upcoming outreach that has been scheduled. • A list of communities interested in landscape professional certification training programs and/or land use code updates and a summary of any progress made towards adoption.
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <p>A document listing education and outreach activities, will be provided to the CWCB. A document detailing community interested in landscape professional certification training programs and/or land use code updates and a summary of any progress made towards adoption, will be provided to the CWCB.</p>

Tasks
<p>Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)</p>
<p>Task 5 - Partner Community Financing Assistance</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Should resources be required to implement pilot projects and/or large-scale turf replacement programs beyond any non-grant or loan finance mechanisms identified earlier in the project, if requested, we will assist our partner communities in pursuing funding through the Bureau of Reclamation’s WaterSMART program, CWCB grant programs, and/or other state and federal programs. Project team members have well-established programs for providing this support to utilities and communities in Colorado.</p>



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Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once partner communities have made initial decisions about the scope and scale of their respective turf replacement programs and/or pilot projects, the project team will explore WaterSMART and/or other viable state and federal funding options if requested. This could include individual applications or possibly a group application to the extent allowable under the particular grant/loan programs involved. If the partnering communities decide to proceed, the we will provide technical assistance at the level required. This may include but is not limited to: explaining program requirements, facilitating calls with program staff, drafting and assisting with application(s), etc. <p>Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates and the WaterNow Alliance</p>
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorandum reporting on the partner communities' decision-making process in seeking federal and/or state assistance, and steps taken to support them in these processes.
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <p>A memorandum reporting on the partner communities' decision-making process in seeking federal and/or state assistance, and steps taken to support them in these processes, will be provided to the CWCB.</p>

Tasks
<p>Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)</p>
<p>Task 6 - Project management, invoicing, and reporting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Western Resource Advocates (WRA) will be responsible for ensuring all project work is being completed in an efficient manner and consistent with the project budget. WRA will manage the project team and coordinate work with partner communities. We will work with subcontractors on our team to ensure all project invoicing and reporting (including six-month Progress Reports and a Final Report) are consistent with CWCB requirements.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRA will manage contractors and coordination with partner communities Project team contractors will provide invoices to WRA for review and approval WRA will develop and submit project invoices to the CWCB and will pay contractors WRA will provide the CWCB with a Progress Report every six months WRA will provide the CWCB, Metro and South Plate Basin Roundtables with a Final Report at the end of the project, including the Financing Mechanisms White Paper, Case Studies, and Memorandum on actions taken to pursue funding <p>Project team members involved in this task: Western Resource Advocates and the WaterNow Alliance</p>



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Tasks
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRA will provide the CWCB with a Progress Report every six months • WRA will provide the CWCB and Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtable with a Final Report at the end of the project, including the Financing Mechanisms White Paper, Case Studies, and Memorandum on actions taken to pursue funding
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRA will provide the CWCB with a Progress Report every six months • WRA will provide the CWCB with a Final Report at the end of the project, including the Financing Mechanisms White Paper, Case Studies, and Memorandum on actions taken to pursue funding

Budget and Schedule
<p>Exhibit B - Budget and Schedule: This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in <u>excel format</u>. A separate <u>excel formatted</u> Budget is required for engineering costs to include rate and unit costs.</p>

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The grantee shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory progress reports have been submitted.</p>
<p>Final Report: At completion of the project, the grantee shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the grantee's letterhead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the project and how the project was completed. • Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome. • Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled. • Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Payments
<p>Payment will be made based on actual expenditures, must include invoices for all work completed and must be on grantee's letterhead. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.</p> <p>The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the <u>entire</u> water activity budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the water activity and purchase order or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to CWCB within 90 days of the expiration of a purchase order or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from CWCB.</p>

Performance Requirements
<p>Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:</p> <p>A) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-</p>



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Performance Requirements

kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the final deliverable is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the final deliverable has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

B) Accountability: Per the Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per the Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.

C) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.

(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.

Last Update: December 17, 2019



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund

EXHIBIT B - BUDGET AND SCHEDULE - Direct & Indirect (Administrative) Costs

Date: November 30, 2020

Water Activity Name: Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf

Grantee Name: Western Resource Advocates

<u>Task No.</u> ⁽¹⁾	<u>Description</u>	<u>Start Date</u> ⁽²⁾	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Water Plan Conservation Grant</u>	<u>Matching Funds (cash & in-kind)</u> ⁽³⁾	<u>WSRF Funds (Basin & Statewide combined)</u> ⁽³⁾	<u>Total</u>
1	Whitepaper of potential finance mechanisms	May-21	Dec-21	\$45,383	\$43,377	\$4,366	\$93,125
2	Partner community pilot turf replacement case studies and non-essential turf analysis	May-21	Aug-22	\$121,660	\$67,028	\$11,703	\$200,391
3	Implementation challenges and pathways	Jul-21	May-23	\$46,490	\$46,909	\$4,472	\$97,871
4	Local and Colorado-wide education and outreach	Sep-21	May-23	\$28,262	\$13,210	\$2,719	\$44,191
5	Grant application support	Aug-21	May-23	\$502	\$38,230	\$48	\$38,780
6	Project management	May-21	May-23	\$17,590	\$26,238	\$1,692	\$45,520
Total				\$259,887	\$234,992	\$25,000	\$519,878

(1) The single task that include costs for Grant Administration must provide a labor breakdown (see Indirect Costs tab below) where the total WSRF Grant contribution towards that task does not exceed 15% of the total WSRF Grant amount.

(2) Round values up to the nearest hundred dollars.

(3) We have secured \$213,633 in matching funds and will be applying to several funders by the end of 2020 or early 2021 for the remaining \$21,359 in cash funds for this project.

- Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget may be required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the entire water activity budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of the CWCB staff project manager. Once the Final Report has been accepted, the final payment has been issued, the water activity and purchase order (PO) or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to the CWCB with 90 days of the expiration of the PO or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from the CWCB.

- Additionally, the applicant shall provide a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of contract execution

THE COLORADO BASIN ROUNDTABLE
C/O P.O. BOX 1120
GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO
81602

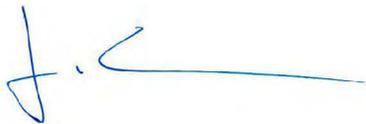
October 15, 2020

Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Kevin.reidy@state.co.us

Dear Kevin:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously on September 28, 2020 to support Western Resource Advocates' project *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf*. This project is designed to accelerate the large-scale removal of existing non-essential turf by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities, as well as to prevent the installation of new non-essential turf. Western Resource Advocates is requesting \$25,000 of Metro Basin WSRF funds and a Water Plan Conservation Grant of \$264,000.

This project will advance the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan's (BIP) themes to "Encourage a High Level of Basinwide Conservation across all uses" and "Develop Local Water Conscious Land Use Strategies". The project will have statewide application and will include a strong focus on Front Range communities which will help advance the CBRT's interest in ensuring that "All Colorado River users need to assess in-basin solutions that use high conservation measures, reuse, land use and best-practice agricultural transfer methods before considering projects that increase diversions from the Colorado River Basin" [BIP p. 18]. The project will help meet state and individual communities' conservation goals through outdoor water savings by converting non-essential turf to lower water use landscaping. Therefore, we support this cross-basin effort to facilitate large-scale turf removal in Colorado.



Jason V. Turner
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable

November 16, 2020

Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Metro Roundtable support for WSRF Basin and Water Plan Grants for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf* project

Dear Kevin,

At our November 12th meeting, the Metro Roundtable voted to approve a Metro WSRF Basin Grant of \$12,500 and to support a Water Plan Grant for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) project which is designed to enable the replacement of existing large-scale non-essential turf with lower water use landscaping by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities. The project will also work with communities to minimize the installation of new non-essential turf. As part of the project, WRA will evaluate finance mechanism options and develop water use, cost, and other data to evaluate and incentivize turf replacement projects. The overarching goal of the project is to reduce the amount of water used to irrigate non-essential turf throughout Colorado.

WRA's WSRF application fully meets the Metro Roundtable WSRF Guidelines and WSRF Grant Program Criteria. We also believe it meets the Water Plan Guidelines. The project will help advance the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's focus on maintaining leadership in water conservation and reaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation. It will also further advance Colorado's Water Plan conservation measurable objective.

Upon review and consideration of WRA's proposal, the Metro Roundtable unanimously voted to approve the full \$12,500 of Basin WSRF funds requested by the applicant and to support their Water Plan Grant application.

Sincerely,



Barbara Biggs, Chair
Metro Roundtable

November 23, 2020

Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: South Platte Roundtable support for WSRF Basin Funds for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf* project

Dear Ben,

The South Platte Roundtable underwent an evaluation and approval process and voted to support Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) project which is designed to enable the replacement of existing large-scale non-essential turf with lower water use landscaping by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities. The project will also work with communities to minimize the installation of new non-essential turf. As part of the project, WRA will evaluate finance mechanism options and develop water use, cost, and other data to evaluate and incentivize turf replacement projects. The overarching goal of the project is to reduce the amount of water used to irrigate non-essential turf throughout Colorado.

WRA's WSRF application fully meets the South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF Guidelines and WSRF Grant Program Criteria. The project will help advance the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's focus on maintaining leadership in water conservation and reaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation. It will also further advance Colorado's Water Plan conservation measurable objective.

Upon review and consideration of WRA's proposal, the South Platte Basin Roundtable unanimously voted to approve the full \$12,500 of Basin WSRF funds requested by the applicant at the November 10, 2020 Roundtable meeting.

Sincerely,



Garrett Varra, Chair
South Platte Basin Roundtable



Letters of Matching 3rd Party Commitments

Western Resource Advocates (WRA) is providing a cash match of \$115,657. We have secured commitments of \$87,975 from our project partners through in-kind matches, a commitment of a \$10,000 cash match from the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, and \$25,000 from the Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtables (\$12,500 each) as described below. Additionally, we are in the process of securing additional commitments further explained below.

Committed Matching Funds

funds have been committed by the following organizations. Attached below this cover letter are the signed letters of commitment from:

- Metro Basin Roundtable
- South Platte Basin Roundtable
- WaterNow Alliance
- Department of Planning and Design, University of Colorado – Denver
- Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
- Resource Central

Pending

WRA will be applying to several other funders to secure the remaining \$21,359 of matching cash funds needed for this project. We are in conversations with these entities and will be applying for funds by the end of 2020 or early 2021, in accordance with their application due dates. However, because we are still discussing this project and potential applications with funders we are unable to list them at this time.

November 16, 2020

Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Metro Roundtable support for WSRF Basin and Water Plan Grants for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf* project

Dear Kevin,

At our November 12th meeting, the Metro Roundtable voted to approve a Metro WSRF Basin Grant of \$12,500 and to support a Water Plan Grant for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) project which is designed to enable the replacement of existing large-scale non-essential turf with lower water use landscaping by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities. The project will also work with communities to minimize the installation of new non-essential turf. As part of the project, WRA will evaluate finance mechanism options and develop water use, cost, and other data to evaluate and incentivize turf replacement projects. The overarching goal of the project is to reduce the amount of water used to irrigate non-essential turf throughout Colorado.

WRA's WSRF application fully meets the Metro Roundtable WSRF Guidelines and WSRF Grant Program Criteria. We also believe it meets the Water Plan Guidelines. The project will help advance the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's focus on maintaining leadership in water conservation and reaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation. It will also further advance Colorado's Water Plan conservation measurable objective.

Upon review and consideration of WRA's proposal, the Metro Roundtable unanimously voted to approve the full \$12,500 of Basin WSRF funds requested by the applicant and to support their Water Plan Grant application.

Sincerely,



Barbara Biggs, Chair
Metro Roundtable

November 23, 2020

Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: South Platte Roundtable support for WSRF Basin Funds for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf* project

Dear Ben,

The South Platte Roundtable underwent an evaluation and approval process and voted to support Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) project which is designed to enable the replacement of existing large-scale non-essential turf with lower water use landscaping by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities. The project will also work with communities to minimize the installation of new non-essential turf. As part of the project, WRA will evaluate finance mechanism options and develop water use, cost, and other data to evaluate and incentivize turf replacement projects. The overarching goal of the project is to reduce the amount of water used to irrigate non-essential turf throughout Colorado.

WRA's WSRF application fully meets the South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF Guidelines and WSRF Grant Program Criteria. The project will help advance the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's focus on maintaining leadership in water conservation and reaching enhanced levels of municipal conservation. It will also further advance Colorado's Water Plan conservation measurable objective.

Upon review and consideration of WRA's proposal, the South Platte Basin Roundtable unanimously voted to approve the full \$12,500 of Basin WSRF funds requested by the applicant at the November 10, 2020 Roundtable meeting.

Sincerely,



Garrett Varra, Chair
South Platte Basin Roundtable



November 10, 2020

Rick Trilsch
Vice President of Finance and Administration
Western Resource Advocates
2260 Baseline Road, Suite 200
Boulder, CO 80302

Subject: Letter of In-Kind Match Commitment for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf* Project.

Dear Mr. Trilsch,

On behalf of the Water Now Alliance, a project of Multiplier, I am pleased to affirm our support of and involvement in Western Resource Advocates' multi-pronged project to enable large-scale replacement of turf that isn't being utilized with more appropriate and water efficient landscaping. This project will provide important financing information and support for communities, will work closely with several pilot communities for case studies and will help share information with towns and cities and others throughout the state. To this end, the Water Now Alliance will commit \$76,645 in in-kind matching funds towards this important project.

We look forward to working with you, project partners, Colorado communities and others on this project that will help Colorado achieve its conservation goals.

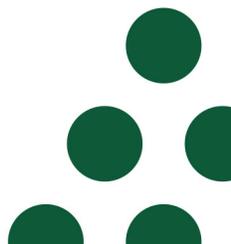
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 415-458-3665 or kvetka@multiplier.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kvetka Smith".

Kvetka Smith
Grants and Contracts Director

People. Planet. Possibilities.



October 30, 2020

Rick Trilsch
Vice President of Finance and Administration
Western Resource Advocates
2260 Baseline Road, Suite 200
Boulder, CO 80302

Subject: Letter of In-Kind Match Commitment for Western Resource Advocates' Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf Project

Dear Mr. Trilsch,

On behalf of the University of Colorado Denver, Department of Planning and Design, I am pleased to affirm our support of and involvement in Western Resource Advocates' multi-pronged project to enable large-scale replacement of turf that isn't being utilized with more appropriate and water efficient landscaping. This project will provide important financing information and support for communities, will work closely with several pilot communities for case studies and will help share information with towns and cities and others throughout the state. To this end, the University of Colorado will commit \$4,330 in in-kind matching funds towards this important project.

We look forward to working with you, project partners, Colorado communities and others on this project that will help Colorado achieve its conservation goals.

If you need any additional information please contact me at austin.troy@ucdenver.edu or 303-315-1006.

Sincerely,

Austin Troy
Professor
Chair of the Department of Planning and Design



Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

220 Water Avenue Berthoud, Colorado 80513
Phone 1-800-369-7246 • www.northernwater.org

November 23, 2020

Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Letter of Support for Western Resource Advocates Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2020

Dear Kevin Reidy:

Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern Water) is pleased to provide a letter of support for Western Resource Advocates (WRA) Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Plan Grant application for the project, "Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf". We fully support WRA's efforts to help determine financing formats and identify barriers and opportunities to large-scale turf replacement projects in Colorado. The project will develop and disseminate valuable statewide technical resources and will also tailor community-specific aspects of the project to the needs of the partner communities. WRA possesses the professional and technical expertise to accomplish these objectives. Further, WRA has pulled together a strong Project Team with the appropriate skill sets to successfully complete the overall project. For example, WRA would partner with WaterNOW Alliance to leverage their resources, experience, and personnel on the project, as well as landscape entities that practice transitions to ensure real-world applicability.

Northern Water has collaborated with WRA in a variety of ways including helping facilitate workshops, WRA presenting at our annual stakeholder meetings, and sharing resources important to our allottees. We intend to partner on this project, and believe they are the right organization to successfully collaborate with relevant stakeholders. We will support and facilitate their education and outreach capabilities to ensure this project proves beneficial to communities throughout Colorado. Northern Water commits to \$10,000 sponsorship if this grant is approved.

As described throughout Colorado's Water Plan, there is a strong need for growing communities to become more water efficient and irrigated non-native turf parcels represent a prime opportunity to use our water resources more efficiently. The efforts of WRA and the Project Team can help Colorado communities identify ways to pilot and scale projects. We see immense value in this, and Northern Water is looking forward to how it will help us understand and implement best practices when it comes to replacing unused turf in our communities.

Sincerely,

Frank Kinder
Water Efficiency Program Manger
Northern Water



2639 Spruce Street
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 999-3820
ResourceCentral.org

November 25, 2020

Rick Trilsch
Vice President of Finance and Administration
Western Resource Advocates
2260 Baseline Road, Suite 200
Boulder, CO 80302

Subject: Letter of In-Kind Match Commitment for Western Resource Advocates' *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf Project*

Dear Mr. Trilsch,

On behalf of Resource Central, I am pleased to affirm our support of and involvement in Western Resource Advocates' multi-pronged project to enable large-scale replacement of turf that isn't being utilized with more appropriate and water efficient landscaping. This project will provide important financing information and support for communities, will work closely with several pilot communities for case studies and will help share information with towns and cities and others throughout the state. To this end, Resource Central will commit \$7,000 in in-kind matching funds towards this important project.

We look forward to working with you, project partners, Colorado communities and others on this project that will help Colorado achieve its conservation goals.

If you need any additional information please contact me at klarson@resourcecentral.org or 303-999-3820x214.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Larson".

Kate Larson
Program Director: Water & Energy



Letters of Support

Western Resource Advocates is pleased to submit the following letters of support.

Attached

- Colorado Basin Roundtable
 - City of Westminster
 - City of Greeley
 - City of Broomfield
 - City of Aurora
-

THE COLORADO BASIN ROUNDTABLE
C/O P.O. BOX 1120
GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO
81602

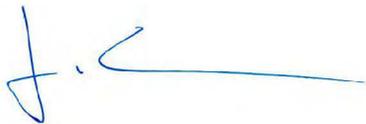
October 15, 2020

Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Kevin.reidy@state.co.us

Dear Kevin:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously on September 28, 2020 to support Western Resource Advocates' project *Enabling Large-Scale Replacement of Non-Essential Turf*. This project is designed to accelerate the large-scale removal of existing non-essential turf by identifying and piloting various finance mechanisms available to Colorado communities, as well as to prevent the installation of new non-essential turf. Western Resource Advocates is requesting \$25,000 of Metro Basin WSRF funds and a Water Plan Conservation Grant of \$264,000.

This project will advance the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan's (BIP) themes to "Encourage a High Level of Basinwide Conservation across all uses" and "Develop Local Water Conscious Land Use Strategies". The project will have statewide application and will include a strong focus on Front Range communities which will help advance the CBRT's interest in ensuring that "All Colorado River users need to assess in-basin solutions that use high conservation measures, reuse, land use and best-practice agricultural transfer methods before considering projects that increase diversions from the Colorado River Basin" [BIP p. 18]. The project will help meet state and individual communities' conservation goals through outdoor water savings by converting non-essential turf to lower water use landscaping. Therefore, we support this cross-basin effort to facilitate large-scale turf removal in Colorado.



Jason V. Turner
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable



WESTMINSTER

October 23, 2020

Mr. Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St.
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Letter of Support for Western Resource Advocates' Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2020

Dear Kevin,

The City of Westminster is pleased to provide a letter of support for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Plan Grant application for "Finance Mechanisms for the Replacement of Large Scale Non-Essential Turf". We fully support WRA's efforts to help communities overcome financing and other barriers to large-scale turf removal projects in Colorado. The project will develop and disseminate valuable statewide resources. They will also tailor community-specific aspects of the project to the needs of the partner communities they will work with. WRA possess the professional and technical expertise to accomplish their objectives. Further, they have pulled together a strong Project Team with the appropriate skill-sets and expertise to successfully complete the overall project. The City actively works with both WRA and WaterNow Alliance (WNA) and greatly appreciates both of their resources, experience, and personnel that they will bring to the project.

As described throughout Colorado's Water Plan, there is a strong need for all communities to become more water efficient, and irrigated non-native turf parcels represent a prime opportunity to use our water resources more efficiently. We fully support the efforts of WRA and the Project Team to help Colorado communities identify ways to pilot and scale turf replacement projects. We see immense value in this and the City of Westminster is looking forward to how it will help us further implement large turf removal projects that our Parks, Recreation, and Libraries Department has already undertaken.

Sincerely,

Drew Beckwith
Water Resources Analyst
City of Westminster
dbeckwith@cityofwestminster.us
303-658-2386



November 3, 2020

Mr. Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St.,
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Letter of Support for Western Resource Advocates' Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2020

Dear Kevin,

City of Greeley Water and Sewer Department is pleased to provide a letter of support for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Plan Grant application for their project, "Finance Mechanisms for the Replacement of Large Scale Non-Essential Turf". We fully support WRA's efforts to help communities overcome financing and other barriers to large-scale turf removal projects in Colorado. The project will develop and disseminate valuable statewide resources. They will also tailor community-specific aspects of the project to the needs of the partner communities they will work with. WRA possess the professional and technical expertise to accomplish their objectives. Further, they have pulled together a strong Project Team with the appropriate skill-sets and expertise to successfully complete the overall project. For example, we have worked with WaterNow Alliance (WNA) and greatly appreciate their resources, experience, and personnel they will bring to the project.

The city of Greeley has just begun a turf replacement program within the city in the last couple of years. Greeley did a pilot project in 2018-19 with a small number of homes and has rolled out a larger program 2020. Judging from the number of people that are interested in the 2021 program, we will again reach our maximum number of participants. This program is not only a conservation measure, but also a drought measure by helping the customer create an attractive xeric space that will be more resilient in years of drought. Although, it will take a few years of establishment and we don't have a lot of data yet, we hope to find that this program can not only assist the customer in removing turf and replacing it with more sustainable landscapes but also provide long term water savings. This program has a couple of side benefits in that it is providing technical and financial resources to customers who have been wanting to do this. It is a good face to face opportunity to help the customer with other conservation programs and create a good working relationship with them. As the cost of delivering water continues to escalate, it is important to offers ways to help the residents/customers save and this is a popular program.

As described throughout Colorado's Water Plan, there is a strong need for growing communities to become more water efficient and irrigated non-native turf parcels represent a prime opportunity to use our water resources more efficiently. We fully support the efforts of WRA and the Project Team to help Colorado communities identify ways to pilot and scale turf replacement projects. We see immense value in this and

Greeley is looking forward to how it will help us understand and implement best practices when it comes to replacing unused turf in our community.

Sincerely,



Sean Chambers
Director of Water & Sewer
City of Greeley
Sean.chambers@greeleygov.com
970-350-9815



PUBLIC WORKS: WATER RESOURCES

4395 W. 144th Ave. • Broomfield, CO 80023 • 303.464.5600 • www.Broomfield.org/Water

November 20th, 2020

Mr. Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St.,
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Letter of Support for Western Resource Advocates' Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2020

Dear Kevin,

The City and County of Broomfield is pleased to provide a letter of support for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Plan Grant application for their project, "Finance Mechanisms for the Replacement of Large Scale Non-Essential Turf".

Broomfield supports WRA's efforts to help communities overcome financing and other barriers to large-scale turf removal projects in Colorado. We believe the project will help develop valuable statewide resources, as well as tailor community-specific aspects of the project to the needs of the partner communities they will work with. WRA possesses the professional and technical expertise to accomplish their objectives. Further, they have pulled together a strong Project Team with the appropriate skill-sets and expertise to successfully complete the overall project.

As described throughout Colorado's Water Plan, there is a strong need for growing communities to become more water efficient. Broomfield is committed to water efficiency and recognizes irrigated non-native turf parcels represent a prime opportunity to use our water resources more efficiently. Additionally, Broomfield's City Council has identified water as a foundational priority and encourages projects that promote water conservation and an ethos of sustainable water use throughout the community. For these reasons we fully support the efforts of WRA and the Project Team to help Colorado communities identify ways to pilot and scale turf replacement projects. We see immense value in this and the City and County of Broomfield is looking forward to how it will help us understand and implement best practices when it comes to replacing unused turf in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Messner".

Erin Messner
Water Resources Manager



Water Conservation
15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Ste. 3228
Aurora, Colorado 80012
303.739.7195

11/17/20

Mr. Kevin Reidy
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St.,
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Letter of Support for Western Resource Advocates' Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2020

Dear Kevin,

Aurora Water is pleased to provide a letter of support for Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Plan Grant application for their project, "Finance Mechanisms for the Replacement of Large Scale Non-Essential Turf". We fully support WRA's efforts to help communities overcome financing and other barriers to large-scale turf removal projects in Colorado. The project will develop and disseminate valuable statewide resources. They will also tailor community-specific aspects of the project to the needs of the partner communities they will work with. WRA possess the professional and technical expertise to accomplish their objectives. Further, they have pulled together a strong Project Team with the appropriate skill-sets and expertise to successfully complete the overall project.

WRA is a recognized leader in water sustainability projects and resources in Colorado and we have appreciated their work in the state water plan, water-energy nexus and integrating water and land use planning.

As described throughout Colorado's Water Plan, there is a strong need for growing communities to become more water efficient and irrigated non-native turf parcels represent a prime opportunity to use our water resources more efficiently. We fully support the efforts of WRA and the Project Team to help Colorado communities identify ways to pilot and scale turf replacement projects. We see immense value in this and Aurora Water is looking forward to how it will help us understand and implement best practices when it comes to replacing unused turf in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim York".

Tim York
Water Conservation Supervisor
Aurora Water