



Colorado Water Conservation Board

## Water Plan

### Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Urban Land Institute
Name of Water Project	Phase 2 of Water Wise Development Initiative
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$384,605.80</b>
Primary Category	\$384,605.80
<i>Conservation &amp; Land Use Planning</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$273,821.80</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$273,821.80
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<i>Gates Family Foundation</i>	\$50,000.00
Total Project Cost	<b>\$708,427.60</b>

### Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Urban Land Institute	
Mailing Address: 2001 L Street, NW, Suite 200 Washington DC 20036	
Organization Contact: Marianne Eppig	
Position/Title: Senior Director, Resilience	Email: marianne.eppig@uli.org
Phone: (216) 509-1498	
Organization Contact - Alternate: Lindsay Brugger	
Position/Title: Vice President, Resilience	Email: lindsay.brugger@uli.org
Phone: 802-279-8794	
Grant Management Contact: Marianne Eppig	
Position/Title: Senior Director, Resilience	Email: marianne.eppig@uli.org
Phone: (216) 509-1498	
Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Lindsay Brugger	
Position/Title: Vice President, Resilience	Email: lindsay.brugger@uli.org
Phone: 802-279-8794	

### Description of Grantee/Applicant

The Urban Land Institute (ULI) is a global research and education nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting its members and others in building more equitable, sustainable, healthy, and resilient communities. It is the oldest and largest network of cross-disciplinary land use experts in the world.

ULI's Urban Resilience program is focused on how buildings, cities, and communities can be more resilient to the impacts of climate change and other environmental vulnerabilities. The Urban Resilience program works with ULI members and others to provide technical assistance, advance knowledge through research, and catalyze the adoption of transformative practices for real estate and land use policy. A central goal is ensuring that efforts to

enhance resilience not only reduce vulnerability to climate impacts, but also strengthen cities overall, enhancing environmental performance, economic opportunity, and social equity.

### Type of Eligible Entity

- ☐ Public (Government)
- ☐ Public (District)
- ☐ Public (Municipality)
- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☒ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

### Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects  
*Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.*
- ☒ Conservation & Land Use Planning  
*Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.*
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities  
*Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.*
- ☐ Watershed Restoration & Recreation  
*Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.*
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply  
*Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.*

### Location of Water Project

Latitude	40.035090
Longitude	-105.281640
Lat Long Flag	Default/Proponent headquarters: If the location cannot be defined with flags above, use location of project proponent headquarters
Water Source	
Basins	Arkansas; Colorado; Gunnison; Metro; Yampa/White/Green; Rio Grande; South Platte; Southwest; Nort...
Counties	
Districts	

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	
Type of Water Project	Education
Scheduled Start Date - Design	5/1/2025

## Scheduled Start Date - Construction

### Description

Building on the success of the first Colorado Water Plan Grant that ULI used to create the Water Wise Development Coalition, ULI is applying for a second grant to continue and expand upon the coalition. Since launching the coalition in January 2023, ULI regularly convenes over 210 cross-sector land use and real estate professionals with public sector decision-makers to advance water-smart built environments and supportive policies. It is free for participants to join the coalition's quarterly virtual meetings, which feature expert presentations and group discussions on implementation of strategies. This first-of-its-kind coalition is unique in its ability to support collaboration between public and private sector land and water use professionals for the implementation of water-wise strategies in built environments.

Coalition participants requested that we engage in the following supportive activities:

- Producing and publishing a study and related educational materials to document the return on investment for water-wise strategies in real estate.
- Piloting roundtable events and other convenings between public and private sector water and land use professionals to advance implementation of water-wise strategies for built environments and supportive policies.
- Engaging in outreach and education opportunities to advance adoption of water wise strategies in built environments.

## Measurable Results

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)

3,000,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning

1,550 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

Other

Over 50 Coloradans regularly participate in the Water Wise Development Coalition. ULI outreach and communications related to the ULI Water Wise Initiative has reached over a 1,500 Coloradans through events and presentations. Coloradans who live in built environments and metro areas that implement water wise strategies supported by our work are impacted by the water savings.

## Water Project Justification

This proposal addresses the land use goal in Colorado's Water Plan that "by 2025, 75 percent of Coloradans will live in communities that have incorporated water-saving actions into land-use planning" (Chapter 6.3.3 Land Use). Land use professionals—such as planners, developers, architects, landscape architects, engineers, builders, investors, underwriters, attorneys, brokers, and property managers—are the people who influence and implement those plans, so it is imperative to educate them about water-saving practices and the business case for using them, provide them with tools and resources to incorporate those practices into their plans and developments, and convene them with policy-makers so that they can work collaboratively to advance this goal. Some land use professionals have voluntarily implemented best practices in water smart development, and we

hope to disseminate those successes widely to make them common practices.

ULI has been a long-time proponent of dense, infill development, since it preserves land and resources such as water, and limits climate change impacts associated with transportation and infrastructure expansion. We will continue to support these best practices in land use, which helps to address the projections of increasing population and decreasing availability of water provided in the Statewide Water Supply Initiative. We are also committed to ensuring Coloradans have access to accurate information and are empowered to participate in stakeholder decision-making processes, as promoted in the Statewide Water Education Action Plan.

#### Related Studies

In 2019, ULI Colorado partnered with the Sonoran Institute and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy to host a forum in which ULI members in Colorado provided feedback on how land use could become more water efficient and how policy could support this. Feedback from this forum informed their updated report "Growing Water Smart: The Water-Land Use Nexus Guidebook" for public sector planners and municipalities. ULI senior director Marianne Eppig has also helped co-facilitate Growing Water Smart Workshop sessions for municipalities in Colorado that are interested in integrating water into land use planning.

Since then, with support from a Colorado Water Plan Grant, ULI convened five focus groups of cross-sector land use, real estate, and water professionals to inform the development of ULI's publication, "Water Wise: Strategies for Drought-Resilient Development," which is publicly available for free at [uli.org/waterwise](http://uli.org/waterwise). The guidance and resources provided in this publication expand upon Growing Water Smart efforts and help to educate private sector land use professionals on water-wise strategies for land use and bring them to the table to support water-wise policymaking.

#### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No Tax Bill of Rights provided