

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

Applicant & Grantee: The Water Connection of the Greenway Foundation

Water Activity Name: Clean River Design Challenge

Water Activity Purpose: Education & Outreach, Nonconsumptive (Environmental and Recreational) - Implementation

County: Denver, El Paso, Jefferson, and Larimer

Drainage Basin: South Platte

Water Source: South Platte River

Amount Requested: \$6,500 Metro Basin Account
\$10,000 Statewide Account
\$16,500 Total Request

Matching Funds: **Basin Account Match = \$6,500**

- 65% of statewide request (meets 10% min)

Applicant & 3rd Party Match = \$86,930 (\$84,880 cash & \$2,500 in-kind)

- 869% of the statewide request (meets 10% min)

Total Match (Basin request & Applicant Match) = \$91,380

- 914% of the statewide request (meets 50% min)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$6,500 from the Metro Basin Account and up to \$10,000 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project: Clean River Design Challenge

Water Activity Summary: If approved, the applicant will use WSRF funds to conduct two Clean River Design Challenges (CRDCs), which is a competition for innovative solutions to urban waterway pollution. These two-semester long competitions are open to undergraduate and graduate students attending Colorado universities and colleges. The competitions are focused on the reduction of E. coli and excess nutrients.

The first semester of the competition is dedicated to research and idea generation, with opportunities for feedback from professionals recruited by the applicant. The second semester focuses on solution design, proof of effectiveness, and evaluation of environmental economic considerations, and development of a conceptual business plan. At the end of the second semester, the teams present their solution in the form of a proposal for a product or service accompanied by a business plan for implementation. A panel of expert judges will select the top three teams to receive a modest cash prize (no

grant funds will be used for cash prizes). The first place team each year will be invited to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business accelerator co-hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN (supported through a CWCB Water Plan grant).

Discussion: This proposal meets the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's goals of maintaining, enhancing and proactively managing water quality for all use classifications as well as helping address the adequacy of domestic and municipal water uses. The proposal also will further advance Colorado's Water Plan healthy watersheds objectives.

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
The Greenway Foundation	\$39,225	\$2,500	\$41,275	Secured
CWCB Water Plan Grant	\$45,655	\$0	\$45,655	Pending
Sub-Total	\$84,880	\$0	\$86,930	
WSRF Metro Basin Account	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500	Secured
WSRF Statewide Account	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	
Sub-Total	\$16,500	\$0	\$16,000	
Total Project Costs	\$101,380	\$2,500	\$103,880	

CWCB Project Manager: Ben Wade



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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)

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.

³Additional 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 Plant Grant, both must be submitted by December 1st deadline for March Board meeting review.

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	The Water Connection of the Greenway Foundation	
Name of Water Activity	Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC)	
Approving Roundtable(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ¹	
Metro Basin Roundtable	\$6,500	
Statewide Account	\$10,000	
Basin Account Request Subtotal	\$6,500	
Basin Account Request Subtotal Approved by Roundtable	\$6,500	
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾	\$10,000	
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)	\$16,500	
Total Project Costs	\$ 101,380	

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

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	The Water Connection of The Greenway Foundation
Mailing Address	1800 Platte Street



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Grantee and Applicant Information	
FEIN	51- 0193575
Grantee's Organization Contact¹	Devon Buckels
Position/Title	Director, The Water Connection
Email	Devon@thewaterconnection.org
Phone	(720) 837-3289
Grant Management Contact²	Lauren Berent
Position/Title	Associate Director
Email	lauren@greenwayfoundation.org
Phone	(303) 743-9720 ext. 850
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>The Greenway Foundation (TGF) advances a sustainable water future, focusing primarily on Colorado and the western United States. TGF protects and revitalizes watersheds, promotes water stewardship, conducts environmental education, stimulates innovative policies and practices while also celebrating the historic, recreational, and environmental roles involving water that flows through our communities. TGF transcends cultural, political, geographic, and disciplinary boundaries, focusing on opportunities and initiatives that bind our communities together, the most vital of which is water. The Water Connection is TGF's water resources arm, fostering civic action and technological innovation for resilient watersheds through a policy, partnerships and economic lens.</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)	
	Study
X	Implementation

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

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	Focus on Front Range, Colorado including Denver, Jefferson, El Paso, and Larimer Counties, but available to entire State
Latitude	N/A
Longitude	N/A

Water Activity Overview
<p>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.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule.</p>

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Water Activity Overview
<p>TWC seeks funding to conduct two Clean River Design Challenges (CRDCs), a competition for innovative solutions to urban waterway pollution. These two-semester long competitions are open to undergraduate and graduate students attending Colorado universities and colleges. The competitions are focused on the reduction of <i>E. coli</i> and excess nutrients. The first semester is dedicated to research and idea generation, with opportunities for feedback from professionals recruited by TWC. The second semester focuses on solution design, proof of effectiveness, evaluation of environmental economic considerations, and development of a conceptual business plan. At the end of semester 2, teams present their solution in the form of a proposal for a product or service accompanied by a business plan for implementation. A panel of expert judges will select the top three teams to receive a modest cash prize. The first place team each year will be invited to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business accelerator co-hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN.</p> <p>WSRF funding will be used to develop and host two successful challenges, producing viable concepts (including a designed prototype if applicable) from an interdisciplinary set of solutions designed to reduce urban waterway pollution.</p>

Measurable Results		
To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRF funds please provide any of the following values.		
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)	
	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)	
	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Undergraduate and graduate students will be exposed to local, real-world water issues. Anticipated student participation, 4-8 teams of 3-6 people.100+ Denver community business leaders and entrepreneurs educated and engaged in water pollution issues and solutions.Strengthen Colorado’s water innovation ecosystem by building bridges between university and professional sectors.Thousands of community members educated through awareness building by CRDC display at 4 Denver-based river cleanup days.11,000+ people learn about innovation in water quality through TGF social media and email newsletters.The entire region would benefit from the development and implementation of new water quality solutions.Thousands introduced to the need for innovation in water quality through media coverage of the competition and results.



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

CRDC addresses key themes in the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) and South Platte / Metro Basin Implementation Plans: maximization of water resources, protection of watersheds, enhancement of water quality, protection of recreational and environmental assets, and promotion of education and innovation. Both plans acknowledge the connection between water supply and water quality. The CRDC supports the State in developing innovative strategies to protect the urban water supply from high impact pollutants, enhancing water quality and protection of important recreational and environmental assets, while promoting education and innovation.

The CWP addresses the State's supply and demand challenges while protecting the health of rivers, streams and watersheds. This project supports achieving this goal by facilitating the removal of two sources of high impact but invisible pollution, *E. coli* and excess nutrients, from the watershed's urban waterways. Watershed health affects water supply – the gap will only grow if our available water is degraded with pollutants.

CRDC has two keys goals: 1) Creating solutions to complex, pervasive water quality problems through the facilitation of innovation, and 2) raising awareness of the extent and impact of urban waterway pollution, the importance of protecting our valuable water resources, and the economic and financial considerations of waterway pollution issues and solutions.

By engaging students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines from multiple universities, TWC is reaching budding professionals who may pursue careers in the water field. In addition, the water sector innovation ecosystem will benefit from a strengthened link between local universities and the business sector.

Through marketing and PR, the CRDC will 1) expose elementary through high school students to the competition's outcomes, 2) reach 11,000+ people through TGF's social media/ email newsletter distribution and the river cleanup days, and 3) reach tens of thousands community members through media coverage of the competition's final presentations and results.

CWP Executive Summary, p. 15: Education, Outreach and Innovation

Colorado's Water Plan sets a measurable objective to significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020. This work is intended to be collaborative and include local partners. As one component of this overall strategy, the CWCB seeks to work with Colorado's innovation community, education and outreach experts, and research institutions to address Colorado's water challenges with innovation and "outside-the-box" creativity.

- The CRDC reaches thousands of people through TGF's social media, email newsletter distribution, and education programs; all of whom will be informed of the issues addressed in the competition. TWC will also reach out to news outlets to obtain media coverage of the competition and final presentations. In addition to reaching the public, by engaging university and college students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, CRDC reaches budding professionals who may not have been exposed to water resources as a discipline, and who may not be aware of career opportunities in the water field.

CWP Executive Summary, p. 16: Watershed Health, Environment and Recreation

The environment and recreation are too critical to Colorado's brand not to have robust objectives; a



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Water Activity Justification

strong Colorado environment is critical to the economy and way of life.

- As we work with students to improve water quality through this competition, multiple key elements of creating a robust Colorado environment will be addressed: maximizing water resources, protecting watersheds, enhancing water quality, protecting recreational and environmental assets, and promoting education and innovation.

The connection between water quality and water quantity is specifically mentioned numerous times through the CWP:

CWP, p. 3-1

“Water quality management” is listed as one of the 16 Water Challenge in the South Platte Basin.

CWP; Goal 1.9.5 on p. 1-27 states:

Goal: Maintain, enhance and proactively manage water quality for all use classifications.

CWP Executive Summary, p. S-1

As part of Governor Hickenlooper’s Executive Order on May 14, 2013, he acknowledged the many water challenges facing the state including “Recognizing that water quantity and quality issues in the state are integrally linked.”

- The South Platte Basin has virtually no additional water sources to develop, so it is critical to maximize the resources that are already available to the region. The CRDC will tackle critical urban water pollution issues and the resulting designs will be for use in an urban environment. By focusing on improving water quality, this competition will be working towards cleaner water for the aquatic ecosystem, recreation and downstream users.

SPBIP Executive Summary, p.8, S.3.7 Water Quality Issues, p.2

A major challenge in the South Platte Basin relates to adequacy of the water quality for domestic and municipal water uses. Major technological innovations are needed for delivery, treatment, and disposal of the waste streams from currently available complex water treatment systems, which results in significant cost to customers, impacts to the environment, and uncertain regulatory permitting processes. Relying exclusively on South Platte River supplies in the face of decreasing water quality will be a major challenge in the South Platte Basin.”

- The CRDC addresses the challenges highlighted in this section by providing a relatively low-cost method for idea generation and innovative solution development to reduce *E. coli* and excess nutrients before they reach water treatment facilities along the South Platte River.

State Water Supply Initiative 2010, pg. ES-41

Recommendation #5. Support meeting Colorado’s non-consumptive water needs by working with Colorado’s water stakeholders to help protect or enhance environmental and recreational values that benefit local and statewide economies.

- The CRDC brings together stakeholders from business, academia, water management, environmental health, and recreation fields to address the challenges created by urban waterway pollution that can impede aquatic recreation and affect habitat quality. Stakeholders from a variety of disciplines participate as advisors and judges of student designs. CRDC design solutions not only improve water quality by removing pollutants from our waterways, they also improve the environmental and recreational attributes of the South Platte. Furthermore, the top-rated design is shared with stakeholders through the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN’s business accelerator program, Trout Tank H2O to further develop tangible solutions and inspire innovation.

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



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Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests	
Basin (only) Account grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3 rd 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.	
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)
The Greenway Foundation	\$39,225 cash
The Greenway Foundation	\$2,500 in-kind
Total Match	\$41,725
If you requested a Waiver to the Basin Account matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.	

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):
Metro Basin	\$6,500
The Greenway Foundation	\$39,225
The Greenway Foundation	2,500
Total Match	\$48,225



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Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests	
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).	

Related Studies
<p>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.</p> <p>The Greenway Foundation (TGF) partnered with Market Perceptions to conduct a survey of Metro Denver residents in 2012, and found that 71% of respondents perceived water pollution as a problem in the area. Increasing Metro Denver resident's understanding of sources, behaviors and activities that contribute to these problems is a critical next step. The survey highlights disconnections between the concern for water quality and common sources of water pollution. This is likely a reason that pollution issues continue to persist in Denver's waterways.</p> <p>The South Platte River and Cherry Creek are tested monthly for water quality. "Recreation" is listed as an allowable use for both streams, however neither stream is deemed safe for recreation when elevated levels of <i>E. coli</i> are found in the water (Water Quality in Denver's Streams: A Story Through Maps, 2020). The primary measure for determining if a water body is suitable for swimming is whether <i>E. coli</i> levels meet health-based standards for recreation. Most of the streams in Denver do not meet those standards. Evaluation of data from DDPHE's sampling efforts indicates that progress toward meeting the 2020 Sustainability Goal of making all streams in Denver safe for swimming has been negligible. Statistical analysis of <i>E. coli</i> data from the South Platte River, Bear Creek, and Cherry Creek reveals that there is too much variation in the data to draw any conclusions about changes in <i>E. coli</i> levels. This lack of progress, even though several new water quality facilities have been installed and thousands of feet of riparian habitat along the South Platte River have been improved, serves as a reminder of how difficult it is to address <i>E. coli</i> in City streams.</p> <p>According to water samples taken in 2019, nitrogen + phosphorus concentrations increase in the South Platte River moving downstream (Water Quality in Denver's Streams: A Story Through Maps, 2020). These excess nutrients, in combination with raising temperatures and slow moving water, can cause algae to bloom out of control. Large blue green or Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), can produce extremely dangerous toxins that can sicken or kill people and animals. Even smaller, less toxic blooms can create harmful imbalances in an aquatic ecosystem.</p> <p>TWC recently assumed the role of program lead for TAP-IN, a CWCB-initiated project intended to engage businesses and entrepreneurs in solving Colorado's water challenges. Through this competition, TWC is establishing synergy between the CRDC and TAP-IN programs, leveraging CWCB funding. The key link is the opportunity provided CRDC first-place winners to participate in the Trout Tank H2O business accelerator program co-led by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Small Business Development Center and TAP-IN. Trout Tank H2O is a 2-month program to create solutions to local water problems, and in turn potentially create jobs and boost the economy.</p>

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



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Previous CWCB Grants

The following is a list of previous CWCB funding awarded to TGF and/or TWC:

- TGF: South Platte River Recreation and Habitat Feasibility Study; Metro Basin RT and Statewide funds; Approved at 9/17/2008 meeting, Contract # C150442
- TGF: South Platte River Recreation and Habitat Improvement Preliminary Design, Metro Basin RT and Statewide funds. Approved at 9/13/2011 meeting, Contract # C150493
- TGF: Denver South Platte River Implementation Project, South Platte Basin & Metro Basin RT, approved at 9/28/2012 meeting, Contract # CTGG1 2015-392
- TGF: Grant-Frontier Park West Bank Riparian Floodplain Design and Construction Project, Metro Basin RT, approved at 9/24/2013 meeting, Contract # CTGG1 2015-1721
- TGF: 8th Ave. to 20th St. In-River Recreation and Environmental Improvements and Floodplain Mitigation, Metro Basin RT and Statewide funds. Approved at 9/12/2014 meeting, Contract # CTGG1 2015
- TWC: Clean River Design Challenge, Approved 7/30/2018, Order Number: POGG1, PDAA, 201900002072
- TWC: Denver One Water Plan. Approved June 29, 2019. Contract #CTGG1 2020-056
- TWC: TAP-IN. Education and Innovation statewide funds. Approved 3/10/2020, Order Number: POGG1, PDAA, 202000002926

PENDING

- Nautilus 2; Metro and South Platte Basin RT; Pending Statewide funds on December 1, 2020; total program budget \$91,900; 65% of other CWCB funding (WSRF) for project.
- CRDCs; Metro Basin Roundtable, Statewide funds, and Colorado Water Plan Grant; Approved 11/12/2020 for Metro Basin, others pending; total program budget \$101,380, WSRF requests 16% overall project budget.

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.

There are no known TABOR issues that would affect this application.



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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Supply Reserve Fund	
<u>Exhibit A - Statement of Work</u>	
Date:	December 1, 2020
Water Activity Name:	Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC)
Grant Recipient:	The Water Connection of The Greenway Foundation
Funding Source:	WSRF Statewide Account Funds
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). WSRF funding requested to develop and host two Clean River Design Challenges, providing innovative solutions to urban waterway pollution. These two-semester long competitions are open to undergraduate and graduate students attending Colorado universities/colleges. Each competition is focused on reduction of <i>E. coli</i> and excess nutrients. One semester is dedicated to research and idea generation, with opportunities for feedback from experts in the field. One on solution design, proof of effectiveness, evaluation of environmental economic considerations, and a conceptual business plan. Teams then present their solution in the form of a proposal for a product or service. Expert judges select the top three teams to receive a modest cash prize. The first place team is invited to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business accelerator co-hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN ¹ .	
Objectives: (List the objectives of the project. (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS).	

¹ TAP-IN is a collaborative initiative designed to bring innovation into the water sector to solve Colorado's water challenges. The Colorado Water Conservation Board, Denver Water, Colorado State University, Office of Economic Development and International Trade, and Open Water Foundation partnered to develop the project in the fall of 2016. With the help of many other partners statewide, TAP-IN launched in April 2017.



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The Water Connection (TWC) works across academic, industrial, environmental and governmental sectors to facilitate and implement tangible, visible projects improving waterways and watershed resiliency. TWC provides resources for demonstration of new products and practices and is a catalyst for innovative and collaborative work. Through collaborative efforts and unique approaches, TWC drives innovative solutions addressing current and future water challenges.

The Objectives:

The overall objective of Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC) is to solve water quality problems through innovation and awareness, using interdisciplinary college and university teams to bring new ideas, solutions and publicity to a variety of water pollution challenges. CRDC prioritizes collaboration and cross-disciplinary teams to expand thinking and innovation. By engaging a variety of approaches, CRDC encourages the exploration of out-of-the box thinking. Throughout the competition, students will encounter real life obstacles, and will need to tap into their creativity to solve them.

CRDC follows best practice in design competitions and will be evaluated against a clear set of criteria. Over the next two years, CRDC will focus on two pollution issues: *E.coli* and excess nutrients. These two types of pollutants were chosen because they enter waterways via similar routes, create poor water quality, and inhibit recreational uses. The solutions devised, which may take the form of a product or service, will be accompanied by a business plan, requiring integration of environmental economic analysis and business strategy, and making the solutions ready to be implemented.

In addition to supporting innovative solutions, CRDC provides an opportunity to promote well-informed community discourse regarding local water issues and solutions at multiple levels. By engaging professional volunteers on judging panels, and presenting the winning design to business leaders and entrepreneurs during Trout Tank H2O and TAP-IN, TWC will engage decision makers who have the skills and resources to increase the potential for solution implementation. Furthermore, through CRDC, TWC will raise awareness among residents and engage community members regarding water pollution issues facing our State.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)

Task 1 - (Name) Competition Planning, Preparation and Promotion

Description of Task:



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<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/>

Tasks

Sub-task: Recruitment of Key Experts

Recruit multiple experts in new topic area of *E. coli* and nutrients. Partnership and collaboration with industry and academic professionals is an essential component of the educational experience for students and greatly increases the viability of the solutions created.

These competitions task students with tackling real-world water pollution issues. For the greatest innovation, these issues and solutions benefit from buy-in and input from multiple perspectives and disciplines. TWC will need to build on our current network of professional experts to incorporate our new topic area of *E. coli* and nutrients, as well as recruit leaders in the business/entrepreneurial space to coach our teams when creating a conceptual business plan for their solution.

Sub-task: Development of Competition Guidelines and Program

Competition materials will need to be created including:

- Competition handbook
- Judging rubric
- Resources on *E. coli* and *nutrients*, their sources, implications, and access to local waterways
- Directory of expert volunteers available for questions

A comprehensive CRDC website will also be created to house all materials and resources. Ideally the website will provide a question and answer feature to facilitate inquiry and problem solving both about the issue at hand, and the timing and format of the competition. Additional resources may also be needed during the course of CRDC and if so, will be added. The website will provide all resources and tools developed and collected to support the competition.

A robust online presence is critical for a program's success, not only in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also to allow the competition to be opened to colleges and universities on the western slope and other parts of the state.

Sub-task: Competition Promotion and Recruitment of Teams

Market to colleges and universities; recruiting 4-8 teams of 3-6 students.

Method/Procedure:



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Tasks

TWC staff will reach out to current professional and academic contacts to determine interest in participating in one or both of the upcoming competitions. In addition, TWC staff will tap into The Greenway Foundation's (TGF's) networks, built over several decades of work, for additional contacts. Since TWC is expanding the scope of the competition (both in terms of water pollutants and adding the business plan element) staff will need to reach out to entities and disciplines previously not worked with. This is a key component of the success of the CRDCs and will take significant due diligence.

TWC will utilize the professional network identified and recruited in Task 1 to collect all the needed and appropriate resources for use by teams as they tackle their pollution issue.

Utilizing experience gained in the first CRDC and best practice in design competitions, and with the aide of recruited experts, TWC staff will develop the competition handbooks and judging rubric.

TWC will also explore website hosting services that are easy to access and maintain, and are reasonably priced.

Promotional materials will be created and circulated to colleges and universities, seeking participation. Networking with professors who have participated in previous CRDC will occur to recruit return participation and outreach to potential new teams.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Comprehensive outreach list of professionals in key fields.
List of specialists and experts recruited to mentor and judge the competitions.

Fully functional website available to professors and student teams by the start of the competition, Fall of 2021.

Roster of participating teams

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

List of specialists and experts recruited to mentor and judge the competitions.

Access to the CRDC website, Fall 2021

Roster of participating teams



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Task 2 - (Name) Clean River Design Challenge, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
Description of Task: Sub-task: Competition Kick-off Media outreach will occur for a kick-off event for CRDC. If in-person is not possible, a virtual kick-off will be the default. Sub-tasks: Team Support, Concept presentations, and Final Design Presentations TWC will host a two-semester challenge where student teams research, create a solution concept, present their idea to a team of experts and get feedback. Then in the second semester, student teams develop their solution complete with a conceptual business plan, and then pitch their solution and plan to a panel of interdisciplinary judges. The panel of judges will select 1 st – 3 rd place winners for cash prizes. A conceptual business plan is a short overview of a new business venture. It is used to expand on an initial business idea; guide more detailed planning, and communicate essential information.
Method/Procedure: August 2021- December 2021: Student teams will research the water pollutant topic. Teams will begin designing a solution with feedback and guidance from volunteer professionals. December 2021: teams will present their final solution concept to a panel of judges for review and final guidance. January 2022- April 2022: Teams will fine-tune their solution ideas and create a conceptual business plan for their solution; April 2022: teams pitch their solution and business plan to a panel of interdisciplinary judges. The panel will select the top three teams and cash prizes will be awarded. Fall 2022: First place team will be invited to join Trout Tank H2O
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task) Media releases and photos of kick-off Photographs and/or video of the end of semester pitch December 2021 Photographs and/or video of the final pitch day April 2022 High-level summary of the concepts put forth during the pitch day Photos of 1 st – 3 rd place winners
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)



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Media releases and photos of kick-off
Photographs and/or video of the final pitch day April 2022
High-level summary of the concepts put forth during the pitch day
Photos of 1st – 3rd place winners

Task 3 - (Name) Wrap up and Facilitation of Winning Design Promotion

Description of Task:

Outreach to Media for PR around the final presentations of CRDC

Outreach to community stakeholders on the need, goals and purpose of CRDC with highlights of the winning solution

The first-place team will be invited to pitch their idea and potentially find resources to turn their solutions into a business that improves urban water quality at Trout Tank H2O, a business accelerator hosted by the Denver Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN.

Although it is not a requirement for the winning team to participate in Trout Tank H2O, it is considered an important aspect to the learning and innovation of CRDC. Therefore, the winning team will be strongly encouraged and supported to participate in this October event

Method/Procedure:

Outreach to media, particularly local news media (TV, radio and newspapers) will be done through press releases to encourage and invite coverage of the final presentations from the CRDC. Media packets will include information of the issues, the original and purpose of the CRDC, the cooperation between Basin Roundtable, Statewide WSRF, and State Water Plan Grants to develop cost effective, efficient solutions to in-stream pollution. Also covered will be the consequences of not removing pollution, and the importance of increasing the public's engagement in keeping pollutants from streets, parks, and waterways.

The Greenway Foundation and The Water Connection will share blogs, emails and newsletter articles with over 11,000 constituents.

The top three winners will be highlighted at two annual Stewardship Events organized by The Greenway Foundation.

The Water Connection will highlight the winning solution during Reception on the River, an event celebrating the past, present and future of our urban waterways.

South Platte River Environmental Education (SPREE) educates thousands of metro Denver



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students each year, aiming to develop a positive relationship between the South Platte River and Denver area youth through school excursions, day camps, weekend events, internships, and summer employment. The issue of urban waterway pollution and programs aimed to address this issue, such as CRDC, its funding partners, purpose and outcomes, will be a topic at some point in each of these activities, educating children, youth and their parents about the issue of trash affecting our waterways and what the work being done to address it.

Trout Tank H2O encourages entrepreneurs from early-stage start-ups to more established companies to pitch their concept. Participation includes:

- 5 sessions including pitch practice, expert panels, and interactive group work
- Introduction to business mentors
- Completing a pitch deck
- Opportunities to pitch in a supportive environment
- Instant feedback and coaching
- Face-to-face meetings with lenders and investors
- Trout Tank H2O Pitch event

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Press release(s) and press coverage

Blog(s)

Photo(s) of winning team presentations

Photos of pitch event and feedback on solution from entrepreneurs and business leaders

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

Press release(s) and press coverage

Blog(s)

Photo(s) of winning team presentations

Photos of pitch event

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)

Task 4 - (Name) Competition Planning, Preparation and Promotion

Description of Task:



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Tasks

Sub-task: Recruitment of Key Experts

Recruit multiple experts in new topic area of excess nutrients. Partnership and collaboration with industry and academic professionals is an essential component of the educational experience for students and greatly increases the viability of the solutions created.

These competitions task students with tackling real-world water pollution issues. For the greatest innovation, these issues and solutions benefit from buy-in and input from multiple perspectives and disciplines. TWC will need to build on our current network of professional experts to incorporate our new topic area of *E.coli* and excess nutrients, as well as recruit leaders in the business/entrepreneurial space to coach our teams when creating a conceptual business plan for their solution.

Sub-task: Development of Competition Guidelines and Program

Competition materials will need to be created including:

- Competition handbook
- Judging rubric
- Resources on excess nutrients, their sources, implications, and access to local waterways
- Directory of expert volunteers available for questions

A comprehensive CRDC website will also be created to house all materials and resources. Ideally the website will provide a question and answer feature to facilitate inquiry and problem solving both about the issue at hand, and the timing and format of the competition. Additional resources may also be needed during the course of CRDC and if so, will be added. The website will provide all resources and tools developed and collected to support the competition.

A robust online presence is critical for a program's success, not only in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also to allow the competition to be opened to colleges and universities on the western slope and other parts of the state.

Sub-task: Competition Promotion and Recruitment of Teams

Market to colleges and universities; recruiting 4-8 teams of 3-6 students.

Method/Procedure:



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Tasks
<p>TWC staff will reach out to current professional and academic contacts to determine interest in participating in one or both of the upcoming competitions. In addition, TWC staff will tap into The Greenway Foundation's (TGF's) networks, built over several decades of work, for additional contacts. Since TWC is expanding the scope of the competition (both in terms of water pollutants and adding the business plan element) staff will need to reach out to entities and disciplines previously not worked with. This is a key component of the success of the CRDCs and will take significant due diligence.</p> <p>TWC will utilize the professional network identified and recruited in Task 1 to collect all the needed and appropriate resources for use by teams as they tackle their pollution issue.</p> <p>Utilizing experience gained in the first CRDC and best practice in design competitions, and with the aide of recruited experts, TWC staff will develop the competition handbooks and judging rubric.</p> <p>TWC will also explore website hosting services that are easy to access and maintain, and are reasonably priced.</p> <p>Promotional materials will be created and circulated to colleges and universities, seeking participation. Networking with professors who have participated in previous CRDC will occur to recruit return participation and outreach to potential new teams.</p>
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)
<p>Comprehensive outreach list of professionals in key fields. List of specialists and experts recruited to mentor and judge the competitions.</p> <p>Fully functional website available to professors and student teams by the start of the competition, Fall of 2021.</p> <p>Roster of participating teams</p>
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)
<p>List of specialists and experts recruited to mentor and judge the competitions.</p> <p>Access to the CRDC website, Fall 2021</p> <p>Roster of participating teams</p>



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Task 5 - (Name) Clean River Design Challenge, Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Description of Task: Sub-task: Competition Kick-off Media outreach will occur for a kick-off event for CRDC. If in-person is not possible, a virtual kick-off will be the default. Sub-tasks: Team Support, Concept presentations, and Final Design Presentations TWC will host a two-semester challenge where student teams research, create a solution concept, present their idea to a team of experts and get feedback. Then in the second semester, student teams develop their solution complete with a conceptual business plan, and then pitch their solution and plan to a panel of interdisciplinary judges. The panel of judges will select 1 st – 3 rd place winners for cash prizes.
Method/Procedure: August 2022- December 2022: Student teams will research the water pollutant topic. Teams will begin designing a solution with feedback and guidance from volunteer professionals. December 2022: teams will present their final solution concept to a panel of judges for review and final guidance. January 2023- April 2023: Teams will fine-tune their solution ideas; Team will create a conceptual business plan for their idea; April 2023: teams pitch their solution and business plan to a panel of interdisciplinary judges. The panel will select the top teams and cash prizes will be awarded. Fall 2023: First place team will be invited to join Trout Tank H2O
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task) Photographs and/or video of the end of semester pitch December 2022 and final pitch day April 2023 High-level summary of the concepts put forth during the pitch day Photos of 1 st – 3 rd place winners
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task) Photographs and/or video of the final pitch day, April 2023 High-level summary of the concepts put forth during the pitch day Photos of 1 st – 3 rd place winners



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Task 6 - (Name) Wrap up and Facilitation of Winning Design Promotion

Description of Task:

Outreach to Media for PR around the final presentations of CRDC

Outreach to community stakeholders on the need, goals and purpose of CRDC with highlights of the winning solution

The first-place team will be invited to pitch their idea and potentially find resources to turn their solutions into a business that improves urban water quality at Trout Tank H2O, a business accelerator hosted by the Denver Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN.

Although it is not a requirement for the winning team to participate in Trout Tank H2O, it is considered an important aspect to the learning and innovation of CRDC. Therefore, the winning team will be strongly encouraged and supported to participate in this October event.

Method/Procedure:

Outreach to media, particularly local news media (TV, radio and newspapers) will be done through press releases to encourage and invite coverage of the final presentations from the CRDC. Media packets will include information of the issues, the original and purpose of the CRDC, the cooperation between Basin Roundtable, Statewide WSRF, and State Water Plan Grants to develop cost effective, efficient solutions to in-stream pollution. Also covered will be the consequences of not removing pollution, and the importance of increasing the public's engagement in keeping pollutants from streets, parks, and waterways.

The Greenway Foundation and the Water Connection will share blogs, emails and newsletter articles with over 11,000 constituents.

The top three winners will be highlighted at two annual Stewardship Events organized by The Greenway Foundation.

The Water Connection will highlight the winning solution during Reception on the River, an event celebrating the past, present and future of our urban waterways.

South Platte River Environmental Education (SPREE) educates thousands of metro Denver students, aiming to develop a positive relationship between the South Platte River and Denver area youth through school excursions, day camps, weekend events, internships, and summer employment. The topic of urban waterway pollution and programs aimed to address this issue, such as CRDC, its funding partners, purpose and outcomes, will be a topic at some point in each of these activities, educating children, youth and their parents about the issue of trash affecting our waterways and what the work being done to address



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it.

Trout Tank H2O encourages entrepreneurs from early-stage start-ups to more established companies to pitch their concept. Participation includes:

- 5 sessions including pitch practice, expert panels, and interactive group work
- Introduction to business mentors
- Completing a pitch deck
- Opportunities to pitch in a supportive environment
- Instant feedback and coaching
- Face-to-face meetings with lenders and investors
- Trout Tank H2O Pitch event

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Press release(s) and press coverage

Blog(s)

Photo(s) of winning team presentations

Photos of pitch event and feedback on solution from entrepreneurs and business leaders

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

Press release(s) and press coverage

Blog(s)

Photo(s) of winning team presentations

Photos of pitch event

Budget and Schedule

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 excel format. A separate excel formatted Budget is required for engineering costs to include rate and unit costs.

Reporting Requirements

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.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the grantee shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the grantee's letterhead that:

- 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.



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Reporting Requirements

Payments

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.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the entire 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.

Performance Requirements

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:

(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-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.

**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 12, 2020****Water Activity Name: Clean River Design Challenge****Grantee Name: The Water Connection of The Greenway Foundation**

Task No. ⁽¹⁾	Description	Start Date ⁽²⁾	End Date	Matching Funds (cash & in-kind) ⁽³⁾	WSRF Funds (Basin & Statewide combined) ⁽³⁾	Total
1	Competition #1 Planning, Preparation and Promotion	Apr-21	Jul-21	\$440	\$7,600	\$8,040
2	2021/2022 Design Competition	August 2021	May 2022	\$10,400	\$7,300	\$17,700
3	Competition Wrap Up and Work with Winning Team	May 2022	October 2022	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
4	Competition #2 Planning, Preparation and Promotion	April 2022	July 2022	\$6,890	\$1,100	\$7,990
5	2022/2023 Design Competition	August 2022	May 2023	\$16,500	\$500	\$17,000
6	Competition Wrap Up and Work with Winning Team	May 2023	October 2023	\$2,495	\$0	\$2,495
Total				\$39,225	\$16,500	\$55,725
7	Grant Administration	April 2021	October 2023	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Total				\$41,725	\$16,500	\$58,225

(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.

• 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

November 18, 2020

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

Re: Metro Roundtable support for WSRF Basin Request from The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation's Clean River Design Challenge

Dear Ben,

At our November 12th meeting, the Metro Roundtable voted to approve a Metro WSRF Basin Grant of \$6,500 for The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation's (TWC/TGF) Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC). The Metro Roundtable also approved TWC/TGF's Statewide WSRF request of \$10,000.

The Clean River Design Challenge is a two-semester competition that will engage university students to create innovative solutions to various water pollution issues. In previous competitions, teams were tasked with removing trash from urban streams. Moving forward, the focus will be shifted toward other types of pollutants such as excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) and *E. coli*. Along with creating solutions, teams will also be responsible for creating a business plan for their product or service. The winning team will have the opportunity to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business pitch accelerator that is hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN Colorado. TWC/TGF will run the CRDC for two years: the first in Fall 2021/Spring 2022, and the second in Fall 2022/Spring 2023.

The CRDC is expected to provide numerous community and environmental benefits:

- Improve water quality in local streams
- Expose the next generation of professionals to a local, real-world environmental issue
- Create a space where innovative ideas and/or businesses can be developed
- Raise awareness about water pollution issues facing rivers and streams in Colorado

Up on review and consideration of TWC/TGF's proposal, the Metro Roundtable unanimously voted to approve the full \$6,500 of Basin WSRF funds requested by the applicant, and to support the Statewide WSRF grant application for \$10,000.

Sincerely,



Barbara Biggs, Chair
Metro Roundtable

A river is more than an
amenity, it is a *treasure*
- Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes



**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

November 20, 2020

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DIRECTOR

Jeff Shoemaker

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Reserve Fund
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO. 80202

Re: WSRF Grant Application
The Water Connection - Applicant
Clean River Design Challenge

Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

In support of the enclosed Water Supply Reserve Fund grant application for the Clean River Design Challenge, The Greenway Foundation hereby offers our commitment to fund \$41,725 in matching costs for this project, pending approval of the grant application submitted by The Water Connection.

This project stands to benefit our waterways throughout the State of Colorado by engaging university students, professionals and the business community in developing solutions for removing and preventing waterway pollution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if you need further information.

Very truly yours,

Jeff Shoemaker
Executive Director

6795 S. Elati St.
Littleton, CO 80120
T 303-795-5925
www.barr-milton.org



Dan DeLaughter, Chairperson
Steve Lundt, Vice-Chairperson
James Boswell, Secretary
Chris Douglass, Treasurer
Amy Conklin, Coordinator

November 24, 2020

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

Re: Barr Milton Watershed Association Support for WSRF State Request and Colorado Water Plan Grant Request for The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation's Clean River Design Challenge

Dear Evaluation Team,

On behalf of the Barr Milton Watershed Association, I am writing this letter in support of the application by The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation for grant funding for their Clean River Design Challenge.

Barr Milton Watershed Association had a meeting with TWC/TGF on September 29th, 2020 to discuss the new direction of their Clean River Design Challenge for the next two years. Together we discussed potential water pollutant issues for the students to focus on, and nutrients and *E. coli* were some of the top potential targets.

The Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC) is a two-semester competition that will engage university students to create innovative solutions to various water pollution issues. In previous competitions, teams were tasked with removing trash from urban streams. Moving forward, the focus will be shifted toward other types of pollutants such as excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) and *E. coli*. Along with creating solutions, teams will also be responsible for creating a business plan for their product or service. The winning team will have the opportunity to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business pitch accelerator that is hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN Colorado. TWC/TGF will run the CRDC for two years: the first in Fall 2021/Spring 2022, and the second in Fall 2022/Spring 2023.

The CRDC is expected to provide numerous community and environmental benefits:

- Improve water quality in local streams
- Expose the next generation of professionals to a local, real-world environmental issue
- Create a space where innovative ideas and/or businesses can be developed
- Raise awareness about water pollution issues facing rivers and streams in Colorado

Barr Milton supports this competition, and is excited to see what the student teams come up with!

November 24, 2020

BMW Letter of Support for Clean River Design Challenge

Page | 2

Sincerely,

Dan DeLaughter

Dan DeLaughter, P.E.

BMW Chairperson

CC: Steve Lundt, BMW, Vice Chairperson
James Boswell, BMW, Secretary
Chris Douglass, BMW, Treasurer
Amy Conklin, BMW, Coordinator



BARR MILTON
Watershed Association

November 30, 2020

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

Re: Letter of support for WSRF and Colorado Water Plan Grant Request for The Water Connection / The Greenway Foundation's Clean River Design Challenge

Dear Evaluation Team,

The Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) supports the application by The Water Connection / The Greenway Foundation (TWC/TGF) for funding for the Clean River Design Challenge.

The Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC) is a two-semester competition that seeks to engage university students to create innovative solutions to water pollution issues. In previous competitions, teams were tasked with removing trash from urban streams. Future challenges will address other types of pollutants such as nutrients and *E. coli*. In addition to developing innovative solutions, teams will create a business plan for their product or service. The winning team will have the opportunity to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business pitch accelerator that is hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN Colorado. TWC/TGF will run the CRDC for two years: the first in Fall 2021/Spring 2022, and the second in Fall 2022/Spring 2023.

The CRDC is expected to provide numerous community and environmental benefits:

- Improve water quality in local streams;
- Expose the next generation of professionals to a local, real-world environmental issues;
- Create a space where innovative ideas and/or businesses can be developed, and;
- Raise awareness about water pollution issues facing rivers and streams in Colorado,

DDPHE supports the CRDC because it has shown itself to be an effective incubator for creative solutions to urban water quality issues. We look forward to working with TWC/TGF staff on development of future challenges and to the exciting solutions that the student teams come up with!

Sincerely,



Jon Novick
Water Quality Program Administrator



William J. "Mickey" Conway, District Manager

November 30, 2020
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Metro Wastewater Reclamation District for WSRF State Request and Colorado Water Plan Grant Request for The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation's Clean River Design Challenge

Dear Evaluation Team,

On behalf of the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, I am writing this letter in support of the application by The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation for grant funding for their Clean River Design Challenge.

Metro Wastewater Reclamation District has provided volunteer professional support for this competition in the past, and is excited for the focus to shift to *E. coli* and nutrients for the next CRDC.

The Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC) is a two-semester competition that will engage university students to create innovative solutions to various water pollution issues. In previous competitions, teams were tasked with removing trash from urban streams. Moving forward, the focus will be shifted toward other types of pollutants such as excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) and *E. coli*. Along with creating solutions, teams will also be responsible for creating a business plan for their product or service. The winning team will have the opportunity to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business pitch accelerator that is hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN Colorado. TWC/TGF will run the CRDC for two years: the first in Fall 2021/Spring 2022, and the second in Fall 2022/Spring 2023.

The CRDC is expected to provide numerous community and environmental benefits:

- Improve water quality in local streams
- Expose the next generation of professionals to a local, real-world environmental issue
- Create a space where innovative ideas and/or businesses can be developed
- Raise awareness about water pollution issues facing rivers and streams in Colorado
-

Metro Wastewater Reclamation District supports this competition, and is excited to see what the student teams come up with!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jordan Parman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jordan Parman
Water Quality Scientist



November 25, 2020

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

**RE: SOUTH PLATTE RENEW SUPPORT FOR WSRF STATE REQUEST AND COLORADO
WATER PLAN GRANT REQUEST FOR THE WATER CONNECTION/THE GREENWAY
FOUNDATION'S CLEAN RIVER DESIGN CHALLENGE**

Dear Evaluation Team,

On behalf of the South Platte Renew, I am writing this letter in support of the application by The Water Connection/The Greenway Foundation (TWC/TGF) for grant funding for their Clean River Design Challenge.

The Clean River Design Challenge (CRDC) is a two-semester competition that will engage university students to create innovative solutions to various water pollution issues. In previous competitions, teams were tasked with removing trash from urban streams. Moving forward, the focus will be shifted toward other types of pollutants such as excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) and *E. coli*. Along with creating solutions, teams will also be responsible for creating a business plan for their product or service. The winning team will have the opportunity to participate in Trout Tank H2O, a business pitch accelerator that is hosted by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and TAP-IN Colorado. TWC/TGF will run the CRDC for two years: the first in the Fall 2021/Spring 2022, and the second in Fall 2022/Spring 2023.

The CRDC is expected to provide numerous community and environmental benefits, including:

- Improve water quality in local streams
- Expose the next generation of professionals to a local, real-world environmental issue
- Create a space where innovative ideas and/or businesses can be developed
- Raise awareness about water pollution issues facing rivers and streams in Colorado

South Platte Renew supports this competition, and is excited to see what the student teams come up with!

Sincerely,

Pieter Van Ry
Director, South Platte Renew

South Platte Renew
2900 S. Platte River Dr., Englewood, CO 80110
P (303) 762-2600 F (303) 762-2620
southplatterenewCO.gov

OWNED BY LITTLETON/ENGLEWOOD