

Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as "project") funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Water Storage Projects
Conservation, Land Use Planning
Engagement & Innovation Activities
Agricultural Projects
Environmental & Recreation
Projects

Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to

waterplan.grants@state.co.us

in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Western Resource Advocates	
Name of Water Project	Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$79,690
Other Funding Sources <u>Babbitt Center</u>		\$80,000
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$
Total Project Cost		\$159,690

Last Updated: November 2018

Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Western Resource Advocates (WRA)
Mailing Address	2260 Baseline Rd., Boulder, CO 80302
FEIN	84-1113831
Organization Contact	Rick Trilsch
Position/Title	Vice President of Finance and Administration
Email	rick.trilsch@westernresources.org
Phone	720-763-3723
Grant Management Contact	Amelia Nuding
Position/Title	Senior Water Resources Analyst
Email	amelia.nuding@westernresources.org
Phone	720-763-3749
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Description of Grantee/Applicant	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>Founded in 1989, Western Resource Advocates (WRA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the West's land, air, and water to ensure that vibrant communities exist in balance with nature. We use law, science, and economics to craft innovative solutions to the most pressing conservation issues in the region.</p> <p>WRA will be partnering with WaterNow Alliance (WNA), a nationwide network of local water decision-makers dedicated to expanding sustainable, affordable and climate resilient water strategies in their communities. WNA provides water leaders with resources, direct technical assistance, and policy advocacy to advance innovative and environmentally sustainable management of water resources.</p>	



Last Updated: November 2018

Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	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.
	Public (Districts): Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
	Private Incorporated: Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
✓	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
	Construction
	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
✓	Other

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	Water Storage - 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. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
✓	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task 1 – Outreach to Colorado Communities • Task 2 – Direct Assistance to Colorado Communities • Task 3 – Lessons Learned from Colorado Communities • Task 4 – Broad Educational Outreach
	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>

Last Updated: November 2018

	Other	Explain:

Location of Water Project	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	The outreach and direct assistance portions of this project will be targeted at communities along the Front Range. The broad educational outreach will be targeted to community staff and elected officials from around the state (i.e., both western and eastern slopes). Similarly, the lessons learned portion will be applicable to communities throughout the entire state.
Latitude	
Longitude	

Water Project Overview
<p>Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. 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, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. 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, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>

Last Updated: November 2018

The requested funds will help Western Resource Advocates and WaterNow Alliance to support communities throughout the Front Range in implementing specific policies and programs that integrate water and land use planning, resulting in increased water efficiency, improved planning, and help those communities—and the state more broadly—reduce their vulnerability to climate change impacts. Increased water and land use integration helps achieve Colorado's Water Plan land use objective and allows communities to utilize existing water supplies efficiently despite future climate variability and change.

WRA/WNA will provide support by (1) using our prior research and network to identify and contact 10-15 Front Range communities and learn about their water and land use planning needs, (2) providing direct technical assistance to 5-10 communities to support adoption of integration policies or practices, (3) synthesizing lessons learned from this engagement, including needs, barriers, solutions, and enabling conditions, and (4) conducting one or more workshops/webinars to educate planners, utility staff, decision-makers, and other relevant staff on the value of, techniques for, and resources that support integrated planning.

Expected outcomes include more Coloradoans living in communities that integrate water and land use planning, greater capacity for local governments to advance integration, and additional water conservation by Front Range communities.

Measurable Results

To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:

	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)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms
Between ~200,000 and ~400,000 current Coloradoans depending on the number of communities we assist.	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning

Last Updated: November 2018

Also, we expect ~50 utility staff, planners, and decision-maker participants in our workshop/webinar.		
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	
	Other	Explain:

Water Project Justification

Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the applicable Roundtable [Basin Implementation Plan](#) and [Education Action Plan](#). 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).

The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)

Western Resource Advocates (WRA) and WaterNow Alliance (WNA) are proposing a project specifically designed to advance Colorado's Water Plan land use measurable objective, "that by 2025, 75 percent of Coloradans will live in communities that have incorporated water-saving actions into land-use planning" (CWP, Section 10.2, pp. 10-5). We will do this by providing direct assistance to communities and by organizing broad, educational outreach efforts to local decision makers on the topic of water and land use integration. WRA and WNA have the expertise, networks, and experience to support cooperation and integration at the local government scale, which is one of the strategies identified in the Statewide Water Supply Initiative. This project also supports the South Platte's Basin Implementation Plan's calls for additional analysis on integration by documenting lessons learned from the outreach and assistance we will be providing. Our outreach will specifically target decision-makers and elected officials, which is noted as a key technique to further water and land use integration in both the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan. The following provides more detail on how this project supports the goals of each of these statewide/basin plans and initiatives.

Background

Land use planning can make a significant difference in the water "footprint" of Colorado's growing population. One of the primary causes of the projected gap between Colorado's future water supply and demand is the projected population growth from 5.2 million people to as many as 9.2 million by 2050. How this growth occurs is of utmost importance in managing future water supply and demand. As noted throughout Colorado's Water Plan, the Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan, integrating water with land use planning is essential to ensuring that any future growth occurs as water-efficiently as possible. This could help to reduce per capita water demand and build community resilience in the face of climate change. In addition, integrating water efficiency into new developments is significantly more cost effective than retrofitting developments in the future.

The proposed project supports water-smart growth by directly assisting communities facing significant population growth. Through previous interactions with Colorado communities, WRA and WNA have learned that many do not have the requisite staff capacity, expertise, information and/or political support to develop and implement integration initiatives that advance water efficient development. This project will help to overcome these challenges, increase awareness of the issues, and provide

Last Updated: November 2018

essential education about the tools and practices for integration through our workshop/webinar. The “Lessons Learned” document will help other Colorado entities – including the CWCB, Sonoran Institute, WRA, WNA and others – better target and tailor our efforts in years to come.

Colorado’s Water Plan

WRA/WNA’s proposed project, “Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance” fits squarely in the CWP’s water and land use goals and measurable objectives. CWP, Section 10.2 provides: “by 2025, 75 percent of Coloradans will live in communities that have incorporated water-saving actions into land-use planning.”

WRA/WNA will increase the number of communities that will have incorporated water-saving actions into land use planning through our direct community assistance. In addition, our workshop/webinar will provide education and tools to help even more communities get started on integrated planning.

As noted in the CWP, “[l]and-use patterns affect how much water a community uses. Land-use tools, such as higher-density developments or tap-fee incentives for water-efficient developments, save water by increasing the efficiency of water distribution systems, limiting lawn size, and installing efficient indoor fixtures and appliances” (CWP Chapter 5, pp. 5-9).

WRA published a guidebook (*Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners* [link](#)) with dozens of land use tools and case studies, and we will provide this guidebook as a resources and use the appropriate tools to help communities.

The Land Use critical goal of the CWP states that integration of land use and water planning should “[i]nitiate the use of local land use tools, where appropriate, to reduce water demands for municipalities, and the need to urbanize agricultural lands” (CWP Section 10.3, pp. 10-10). To achieve that goal, the critical action outlined in the CWP is “[t]hrough voluntary trainings for local governments, encourage the incorporation of best management practices in land use for water demand management, water efficiency, and water conservation” (ibid).

WRA/WNA will conduct a workshop/webinar to educate and train local elected officials, water and planning staff about the benefits, challenges, tools and techniques related to integrated water and land use planning.

The Land Use section of the CWP (Section 6.3.3) states: “1. *Encourage the use of local development tools: Through voluntary trainings in 2016, the CWCB and DOLA will encourage local governments to incorporate best management practices for water demand management, water efficiency, and water conservation into land-use decisions*” (CWP Section 6.3.3, pp. 6-89).

WRA/WNA will provide voluntary trainings to local governments through our workshop/webinar, and by directly assisting local communities apply many of the planning and development tools identified by the CWCB. For example, we have expertise in incorporating a water element into comprehensive plans, landscape best practices, water budget and rate structures, and conservation-oriented system development charges (i.e., tap fees). Importantly, because WRA/WNA’s direct assistance will be sustained over the grant period, communities, where appropriate, will be supported from concept and design phases through implementation.

WRA/WNA will aim to provide direct assistance to a variety of communities with a diversity of institutional arrangements (i.e., municipal vs. independent or special district water providers,

Last Updated: November 2018

and communities with multiple water providers) so that the lessons learned from this project will be widely applicable statewide.

“3. Incorporation of land-use practices into water conservation plans: Over the next 18 months, the CWCB, through partnerships, will develop new guidance for water conservation plans that requires the incorporation of land-use practices. This is an addition to C.R.S. 37-60-126” (CWP Section 6.3.3, pp. 6-89).

WRA/WNA’s direct assistance to local communities can also include the integration of land use policies/planning objectives into water conservation plans. If this is of interest to a community, WNA/WRA will utilize the CWCB’s “Best Practices for Implementing Water Conservation and Demand Management Through Land Use Planning Efforts Addendum”, in addition to WNA/WRA’s own expertise, to help those community’s incorporate land use into their conservation plans.

*“4. Strengthen partnerships: To be successful in integrating land-use and water planning, the CWCB will need to partner with many different agencies and groups. Within the next year, the CWCB will establish meetings with various agencies to map out ways in which the CWCB and other agencies can work together on these issues...Non-governmental organizations, such as Keystone Center, Alliance for Water Efficiency, **Western Resource Advocates**, American Planning Association, and economic development councils, can advance land-use and water integration innovation and research” [emphasis added] (CWP Section 6.3.3, pp. 6-90).*

CWCB and the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) have partnered to create the Water and Land Use Planning Alliance - a consortium of NGOs, municipalities, utilities, academics, and state agencies - and both WRA and WNA are active participants. We will leverage the expertise and connections within this group to garner feedback on the extensive research WRA/WNA has completed on Front Range communities water and land use integration needs, get assistance connecting with communities, inform the questions we ask, and identify relevant resources.

In addition, WRA/WNA has previously, and continues to, partner with additional key groups identified by the CWCB, including water providers, Colorado Municipal League, and DOLA (CWP Section 10.2, pp. 10-5). We will continue to collaborate with this network of partners to advance integration of land use and water planning.

Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI)

One of the identified strategies in SWSI to address the projected Municipal and Industrial (M&I) gap is to “[e]ncourage cooperation between water supply planners and land use planners” (SWSI Section 7.1, pp. 7-2). Later in the section, it is noted that, “this [cooperation] should take place at the local government level with encouragement and support from the state” (SWSI Section 7.2.3, pp. 7-13).

While integration resources and tools have been developed in response to the SWSI strategy, many communities have still not fully committed to implementing these integration solutions, often because of a lack of capacity among staff. WRA/WNA have the capacity, expertise and networks to support communities in advancing this strategy and ultimately achieve the CWP 2025 measurable land use objective. WRA has developed resources for local utilities/planners, including “Integrating Water Efficiency Into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners”, which provides detailed descriptions of actions those land use planners can take to cooperate with water providers. WNA has a strong and active network of 48 Colorado members in the Front Range who will be instrumental in supporting integrated

Last Updated: November 2018

water and land use planning initiatives that come before their governing board and who can also direct their utility staff and planners to explore various integrated strategies. A priority for WNA/WRA's direct assistance and broader outreach initiative will be to bring together both water and land use planners to encourage the cooperation necessary as identified in SWSI.

South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (BIP)

The South Platte BIP discusses the importance of conservation in closing the M&I gap, but also notes that existing (and more traditional) conservation efforts may be reaching diminishing returns. One of the identified areas where additional savings could be seen, however, is through land use planning, which the BIP acknowledges, *"has the potential to promote densification, growth management, and comprehensive plans to include considerations for impact fees and firm yield"* (SB BIP Section 4.3.1.7, pp. 4-23). This section concludes with *"[t]he Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtables support ongoing statewide education to address these factors"* (ibid).

WRA/WNA will provide education through our workshop/webinar and direct community assistance on land use and water integration techniques, which includes densification and inclusion of a water element in comprehensive plans.

In the Implementation Strategies section, the BIP discusses the roles of water departments, water utilities, and local governments as they relate to land use planning. This section notes that the *"primary responsibility held by water utilities is to provide for water needs within communities. Coordinating or integrating the land use and water planning process is a relatively new area being explored for reducing municipal water use. Increasing awareness of limited future water supply opportunities and the potential impacts of climate change helps to spur this integration of planning"* (SB BIP Section 5.2.1.2, pp. 5-5). In addition, the South Platte BIP also specifically recognizes the benefits of training opportunities provided to communities such as the Land Use Leadership Alliance Training Program (LULA), which WRA developed.

WRA/WNA recognizes that integrated planning is new to many communities. For that reason, we aim to educate, assist and promote the efforts other communities have already taken to help communities overcome any barriers they face. Though our workshop/webinar and guidebook we will highlight the actions of leading communities to serve as an example to other communities.

The BIP concludes with the recommendations for *"further investigation into options for increased coordination between water utilities and land use planners to better plan for water efficient growth"* (SB BIP Section 6.5, pp. 6-16).

WRA/WNA will work with communities with a variety of water management structures (i.e., municipal vs. independent or special district water providers, and communities with multiple water providers) so that the lessons learned from this project will be widely applicable statewide.

It should be noted that the proposed statement of work in Exhibit A discusses the geographic scope for the targeted communities being the Front Range, which includes the Arkansas Basin. WRA expects the majority of communities engaged for this project will be located in the South Platte and Metro Basins, but acknowledge that some could be located in the Arkansas Basin.

South Platte Basin Roundtable Education Action Plan

This project will also advance the goals of the South Platte Basin Education Action Plan (EAP) which is intended to provide general outreach and education on the scope and purpose of the CWP and BIP, as

Last Updated: November 2018

well as specific solutions to water supply planning the South Platte Basin. One of the primary priorities for the EAP includes specifically targeting this outreach and education on local decision-makers and elected officials (SB BRT EAP Section II).

In the broad educational outreach component of the proposed project, WRA/WNA will conduct a workshop and/or webinar(s) to educate local decision-makers on the value of, and techniques for, water and land use planning integration. WRA and WNA are very experienced at developing accessible and engaging workshop curriculum for local water decision makers with a key focus on successful utility case studies and interactive small group exercises. While this educational outreach will include communities from around the state, it is expected that many participants will be from the South Platte Basin specifically, thereby helping to implement the Education Action Plan.

Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project

This project meets all of the Criteria for State Support listed in Colorado's Water Plan as detailed below.

Does the project proponent demonstrate a commitment to collaboration?

Yes. The proposed project is grounded in a commitment to collaboration not only with the communities themselves but other Colorado NGOs and related stakeholders as demonstrated by the following elements:

- Direct assistance to Colorado communities will provide multiple avenues (e.g., workshops, stakeholder meetings) for bringing together different agencies/departments within a community to support their collaboration.
- The lessons learned component will include collaborating with the CWCB and the Water and Land Use Planning Alliance to ensure the Lessons Learned document is salient and useful.
- The broad educational outreach component will support peer-to-peer learning through presentation by CO municipal leaders in integrated water and land use planning and interactive small group exercises.
- The entire project will be executed by both WRA and WNA, supported by periodic check-ins with input from the Water and Land Use Planning Alliance for advice and ideas.

Does the project proponent address an identified water gap?

Yes. The project will help address the projected M&I gap of 204,000-310,000 AF identified in the South Platte Basin, by significantly advancing the integration of land use and water planning which, when properly executed, is recognized as a key strategy to reduce water demands.

- As one component to addressing the projected M&I gap, the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) recommends to "[b]etter coordinate water and land use planning to improve water use efficiency." (SB BIP Section S.5.2, pp. S-13).
- One of the primary drivers for the M&I gap is population growth, which means addressing demand in new development is critical for reducing this gap. Because integrating water and land use planning in new development can significantly reduce new demands, this project supports individual communities in contributing to an overall reduction in the projected M&I gap.
- Additionally, land use policies to be potentially implemented in communities supported by WRA/WNA, such as landscaping codes, can help drive down overall and per capita demand, again helping to address the overall M&I gap.

Does the project proponent demonstrate sustainability?

Last Updated: November 2018

Yes. The objective of this project is to support cities to grow more sustainably and to develop community resiliency in the face of population growth and climate change. By doing so, communities reduce their need for new water supplies and protect other water users including the environment and agricultural users. This project:

- helps to avoid adverse impacts to environmental and recreational interests, and may support these interests by reducing water demand;
- helps to avoid adverse impacts on agricultural and rural communities, and may support these interests by reducing water demand and the pressure to transfer water supplies;
- provides local governments with best practices, techniques, and tools necessary to integrate water and land use planning, which reduces vulnerability to drought and climate change; and
- reduces the overall risk of non-compliance with interstate compacts by reducing the need for additional supplies with new development.

Does the project proponent establish the fiscal and technical feasibility of the project?

Yes. WRA/WNA have the technical expertise and experience to successfully carry out this project, and the requested grant funds will allow us to fully achieve the stated project objectives.

- WRA/WNA have been providing direct assistance on integrated water and land use planning to Front Range communities since 2018. The results of our community outreach has led to direct engagement with five communities which included helping to develop a graywater ordinance, providing extensive research related to water demands in new developments, and conducting informational presentations to city councils. Accordingly, this project builds upon and extends that successful framework.
- WRA has been engaged with water and land use integration work more broadly since 2013. This has included developing and facilitating the Land Use Leadership Alliance training program (LULA), publishing the "Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners", and organizing and facilitating several workshops, including a Colorado Municipal League sponsored water and land use workshop for decision-makers, and conservation-oriented system development charges (i.e. tap fees) workshops for Front Range communities.
- WNA has also provided technical assistance to communities through its successful Project Accelerator program since 2017. For example, WaterNow worked with the City of Thornton to develop an incentive program for water efficient new home development and is currently working with the City of Golden and WRA to implement a laundry-to-landscape graywater ordinance and demonstration project.
- Integrating water and land use planning in new development is more cost-effective than redevelopment and retrofitting landscapes and fixtures after construction is complete. Accordingly, this project will help communities be fiscally efficient in reducing water demands.
- This project leverages existing funding resources and achieves the recommended 50% match.
- This project saves water and land use planners time in researching, developing and implementing techniques/tools, especially in communities that are limited in technical and staff capacity.
- This project is ready to proceed upon receipt of funding.

Last Updated: November 2018

Related Studies

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

There are a few related studies to this project:

1. Castle, A. Rugland, E. Best Practices for Implementing Water Conservation and Demand Management Through Land Use Planning Efforts. Addendum to 2012 Guidance. Prepared by Getches-Wilkinson Center, University of Colorado and Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy for Colorado Water Conservation Board. 2019. [Link](#)
2. Jennie C. Nolon Blanchard, *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 (2018). [Link](#)
3. Nuding, A., Cristiano, T., Rheem, A. *A Guide to Designing Conservation Oriented Water System Development Charges*. Western Resource Advocates and Raftelis. 2018. [Link](#)
4. Stoker, P., Pivo, G. Howe, C., Elmer, V., Stoicof, A., Kavkewitz, J., Grigg, N. *Joining-Up Urban Water Management with Urban Planning and Design*. The Water Research Foundation. 2018. [Link](#)

This project is complementary to two other CWCB programs:

1. This project will assist in the development and implementation of some of the concepts presented on the Colorado's Water Plan [webpage](#) entitled "Integrating Water & Land Use Planning". The numerous resources on this page are practical and robust, yet communities may not know about them, and they often lack the expertise and capacity to put them into practice. Our outreach efforts will make more communities aware of these resources, and the assistance we can provide will help implement these concepts.
2. This project is also complementary to the Sonoran Institute's Growing Water Smart workshops, which are funded by a Water Plan grant. The three-day workshops require a commitment from a

Last Updated: November 2018

community at the outset. To supplement the reach of this existing work, our approach is intended to raise awareness among decision makers in communities that likely wouldn't apply to the Growing Water Smart workshops, and also help communities that are ready to advance one or more policies that will save water over the long-run. Our efforts will increase the total number of communities who receive assistance with their land use and water integration efforts.

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

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; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.

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: POGGI, PDAA, 2019000000019
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: POGGI, PDAA, 2019000000020



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Department of Natural Resources

Last Updated: November 2018

Percentage of CWCB funding: 34%

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

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

N/A

Submittal Checklist

X I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the [Standard Contract](#).

Exhibit A

X	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
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X	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾
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Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)

X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
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Exhibit C

Map (if applicable)⁽¹⁾

Photos/Drawings/Reports

X	Letters of Support (Optional)
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X	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
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X	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
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X	W-9 ⁽²⁾
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Independent Contractor Form⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)

Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY

Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application⁽¹⁾

Last Updated: November 2018

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.

Last Updated: November 2018

ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Introduction & Purpose

Colorado's Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado's water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado's water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Application Questions

*The grant fund request is referred to as "project" in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?
Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?
Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?

Last Updated: November 2018

Overview (answer for both tracks)
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?
What research, evidence, and data support your project?
Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.

Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado's Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

Engagement Track
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado's Water Plan to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys."
Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado's Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).

Last Updated: November 2018

Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable's PEPO Education Action Plans.

Innovation Track
Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.
Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado's innovation community to help solve our state's water challenges.
Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.

Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A	

Statement Of Work	
Date:	July 29 st , 2019
Name of Grantee:	Western Resource Advocates (WRA)
Name of Water Project:	Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance
Funding Source:	Colorado Water Plan – Conservation and Land Use
Water Project Overview:	
<p>The requested CWP Grant funds will support education on, and adoption and implementation of, integrated water and land use practices and policies in communities throughout Colorado.</p> <p>WNA/WRA will do this by (1) using our prior community research to identify and reach out to targeted Front Range communities to learn more about their water and land use planning needs and objectives, and to offer hands-on support, (2) providing direct assistance to between 5 and 10 interested communities to support adoption of integrated water and land use programs or policies, (3) synthesizing lessons learned from these communities including needs, trends, barriers, solutions, and enabling conditions to water and land use integration, and (4) conducting one or more workshop and/or webinar trainings to educate planners, water utility staff, elected local decision-makers, and others on the value of, techniques for, and resources that support integrated water-land use planning.</p>	
Project Objectives:	
<p>The objective of this project is to provide the outreach, education, and technical hands-on support necessary to advance the implementation of integrated water and land use planning strategies in Colorado communities, as identified in the Water Plan.</p> <p>The objective of the targeted community outreach and broader educational programming is to encourage utility staff, planners, and decision-makers to consider implementing specific integrated water-land use planning strategies that may advance their local water and land use priorities. The objective of our direct community assistance is to provide the technical, hands-on capacity needed to advance specific water and land use planning programs in communities. Lastly, the objective of our written synthesis of lessons learned from these activities is to inform future community engagement strategies.</p>	

Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks	
Task 1 – Outreach to Colorado Communities	
Description of Task:	
<p>WRA/WNA will use previous research conducted on Front Range communities (as well as additional factors described directly below) to identify between 10 and 15 target communities in the Front Range to educate about the opportunities related to land use-water integration, and to learn about their needs and interests. Targeted outreach will be conducted with the communities’ governing board or councilmembers, utility executive management, and/or relevant water and community development staff members to explore their existing integrated water and land use planning programs, and their identified goals, challenges, resource needs, and other barriers to adopting integrated water-land use planning solutions. WRA/WNA will discuss the types of research, program, and educational support we or other groups are able to provide and will explore a variety of integrated water-land use strategies the community may be interested in implementing.</p>	
Method/Procedure:	
<p>Community identification will be based upon previous research conducted by WRA/WNA in 2018/19, which prioritized community outreach based on a number of factors including (but not limited to): growth rate, water supply security, stage of water-land use integration, existing membership in WNA or relationship with WRA/WNA, and recommendations from Colorado Water and Land Use Planning Alliance. This existing database of target communities will be expanded to consider (1) communities that have participated in the Sonoran Institute’s Growing Water Smart workshop in the past and may be interested in additional support; (2) Colorado counties that may be facing unique water planning challenges due to the numerous water utilities that may operate within their county; and (3) clusters of communities in a given area that may share similar water priorities and needs.</p> <p>Community outreach will be completed through a series of in-person meetings with relevant staff, management, and/or decision-makers. All target communities will be made aware of existing integrated water-land use planning resources available in Colorado including: WRA’s Conservation-Oriented System Development Charges Guide, WRA’s Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners, WNA’s Alternative Transfer Methods Guide for Local Leaders in CO, Getches-Wilkinson and Babbitt Water Center’s Addendum to Guidance on Water Efficiency Plans, and the Sonoran Institute’s Growing Water Smart Workshop.</p>	
Deliverable:	

Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
<p>A summary document of outreach activities with target communities by April 30th, 2020 (6 months into grant period).</p>

Tasks
Task 2 – Direct Assistance to Colorado Communities
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>WRA/UNA will approach between 10 and 15 Front Range communities and utilities to offer direct assistance based on outreach conducted in Task 1, and additional community outreach supported by matching funds. While 10-15 communities will be approached, most likely not all will be interested in receiving support. Assistance will support water-land use integration activities including: incorporating water elements into comprehensive plans, incorporating land use elements into water efficiency plans, zoning and incentives for alternative supplies (graywater or reuse), landscape ordinances, applying for funding to implement these tools, and other promising practices identified in the integrated water-land use planning resources listed in Task 1.</p> <p>Direct assistance activities may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting research tailored to a community's needs; Coordinating short workshops to advance policies or integrated processes; Organizing stakeholder meetings to gather feedback on a proposed policy' Drafting ordinance or regulatory language' Recommending strategies for integrated planning within the organization and for engaging community stakeholders' Drafting or reviewing grant proposals' Producing promotional or educational materials to help garner support for activities; and Additional services as determined on an individual basis.
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>

Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
<p>WRA/WNA will initially identify opportunities to provide support on specific activities through outreach to communities during Task 1 and will conduct follow-up calls and meetings to gather more granular information about needs and the type of support that would be valuable to each community.</p> <p>Next, WRA/WNA will develop a scope of work for the community outlining specific tasks with clear deliverables, roles/responsibilities, and deadlines. The community will be expected to provide timely feedback based on this scope of work prior to receiving support from WRA/WNA.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>A written summary of the assistance provided by WNA/WRA to advance integrated water-land use in each community and any supporting documents that were developed for the communities (e.g. draft ordinances, research memos, educational materials, etc.) will be submitted by December 1, 2020.</p>

Tasks
Task 3 - Lessons Learned from Colorado Communities
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Based on our community outreach, WRA/WNA will identify, synthesize and document the communities' goals, successes, challenges, relevant metrics, enabling conditions, resource needs, and barriers to adopting integrated water-land use planning solutions. The results of this analysis will be used to inform future engagement strategies. For example, creating a decision tree or framework to support communities in moving through concrete steps as they integrate their water-land use planning, from scheduling monthly meetings between water and development staff to adopting water efficient new development standards.</p>
Method/Procedure:

Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
<p>This information will be gathered through a series of questions posed during WRA/WNA's meetings with target communities. WNA/WRA will synthesize this information into a clear and concise document that will be shared with CWCB and the CO Water and Land Use Planning Alliance.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>Written synthesis of needs, trends, barriers, solutions, and enabling conditions to water-land use integration by December 1st, 2020.</p>

Tasks
<p>Task 4 – Broad Educational Outreach</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>WNA/WRA will conduct one or more workshop and/or webinar trainings to educate planners, water utility staff, elected local decision-makers, and others on the value of, techniques for, and resources that support integrated water-land use planning. These outreach efforts will be focused on audiences throughout Colorado, not just in the Front Range.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>

Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
<p>WRA/WNA will create an agenda and PowerPoint curriculum for the webinar and/or workshop based on the existing water-land use planning resources referenced in Task 1. WRA/WNA will coordinate all logistics for the training and conduct outreach to the target audience through WNA's database of 750 Colorado utility staff, managers, and elected leaders (including 67 WaterNow members), WRA's database of nearly 300 individuals from prior workshop trainings, and other promotional avenues which may include the Colorado Municipal League, Colorado WaterWise, AWWA Rocky Mountain Chapter listservs, and CWCB, if possible.</p> <p>WRA/WNA will facilitate and present during the event(s), engage with utility partners to participate as guest speakers, and share case studies and best practices for incorporating water and land use planning. For example, the City of Thornton may discuss the implementation of their water efficient incentive program for new residential developments. The training(s) will also include interactive exercises to engage attendees, such as live polling questions and/or table exercises.</p> <p>The training(s) will also be an opportunity to gather information and feedback from attendees about: (1) integrated water and land use planning in their communities, (2) the value of the training itself and the resources provided, and (3) other tools or information they would need to advance their water and land use planning priorities. This feedback will be useful in informing future integrated water and land use support in Colorado, and will be shared with the CWCB and the Colorado Water and Land Use Planning Alliance. WRA/WNA will gather this information before, during, and after the training through surveys, live polling questions, and group discussion.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>A written summary of the event(s), attendees, lessons learned, and attendee feedback along with PowerPoint presentations will be submitted by December 1, 2020.</p>

Budget and Schedule
<p>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.</p>

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The applicant 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.</p>

Last Updated: November 2018

Reporting Requirements

Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant'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.

The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the 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 purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. 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.

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

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 Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the 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 purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan 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 Water Plan 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
Plan Grant
Fair and Reasonable**

Prepared Date: 7.25.19
Name of Applicant: Western Resource Advocates
Name of Water Project: Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance

Item	Hourly Rate	# Hours	Sub-total	Direct Costs	Task Total	CWCB Funds	Matching Funds
Task 1 - Outreach to Communities							
Sub-tasks							
Community Identification							
J. Berggren	\$ 80.00	8	\$ 640.00		\$	-	\$ 640.00
A. Nuding	\$ 105.00	8	\$ 840.00		\$	-	\$ 840.00
L. Rogers	\$ 80.00	8	\$ 640.00		\$	-	\$ 640.00
Community Outreach							
J. Berggren	\$ 80.00	52	\$ 4,160.00	Outreach: \$1,555			\$ 4,160.00
A. Nuding	\$ 105.00	52	\$ 5,460.00				\$ 5,460.00
L. Rogers	\$ 80.00	52	\$ 4,160.00		\$	1,800.00	\$ 2,360.00
SUBTOTALS:					\$ 17,454.80	\$ 3,354.80	\$ 14,100.00
Task 2 - Direct Assistance to Communities							
J. Berggren	\$ 80.00	470	\$ 37,600.00		\$	6,650.00	\$ 30,950.00
A. Nuding	\$ 105.00	470	\$ 49,350.00		\$	17,400.00	\$ 31,950.00
L. Rogers	\$ 80.00	350	\$ 28,000.00		\$	28,000.00	
C. Koch	\$ 120.00	60	\$ 7,200.00		\$	7,200.00	
SUBTOTALS:					\$ 122,150.00	\$ 59,250.00	\$ 62,900.00
Task 3 - Lessons Learned							
J. Berggren	\$ 80.00	20	\$ 1,600.00		\$	600.00	\$ 1,000.00
A. Nuding	\$ 105.00	20	\$ 2,100.00		\$	1,100.00	\$ 1,000.00
L. Rogers	\$ 80.00	20	\$ 1,600.00		\$	600.00	1000
SUBTOTALS:					\$ 5,300.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 3,000.00
Task 4 - Broad Educational Outreach							
J. Berggren	\$ 80.00	50	\$ 4,000.00	Workshop Event: \$1,535	\$	4,000.00	\$ -
A. Nuding	\$ 105.00	50	\$ 5,250.00		\$	5,250.00	\$ -
L. Rogers	\$ 80.00	50	\$ 4,000.00		\$	4,000.00	\$ -
SUBTOTALS:					\$ 14,784.80	\$ 14,784.80	\$ -
TOTAL							
OVERALL TOTAL					\$ 159,689.60	\$ 79,689.60	\$ 80,000.00

Direct Costs

Item:	Workshop Space	Food	Materials	Mileage	Sub Totals
Units:	Lump Sum	Lump Sum	Lump Sum	Miles	
				\$0.580	
Workshop Event	\$ 500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 400	\$ 34.80	\$ 1,534.80
Community Outreach	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 400	\$ 904.80	\$ 1,554.80
Total Cost:	\$500	\$850	\$800	\$940	\$3,090



August 7, 2019

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

Re: Letter of Support for WRA-WaterNow Colorado Water Plan Grant - 2019

Dear Kevin,

The City of Greeley's Water & Sewer Dept. hereby submit this formal letter of support for Western Resource Advocates (WRA) and WaterNow Alliance's (WNA) application to the Water Plan Grant application entitled "Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance." We have been working with WRA and WNA for most of 2019 (described below), and we support their effort to help more communities better integrate land use and water planning practices. Their approach is tailored the needs of each community, and they possess the professional expertise to accomplish their objectives.

We are currently receiving support from WRA and WNA on a variety of research tasks. Specifically, they have provided outside expertise on water demand estimates and projections as they relate to new development proposals here in Greeley. Further, they have provided research on several topics of interest, including Front Range communities raw water dedication processes, policies to incentivize non-potable use for outdoor irrigation, and data on indoor residential water use. More broadly, Western Resource Advocates has become an established leader on the topic of integrated land use and water planning through numerous workshops they have conducted on this topic in previous years, and through their publication entitled *Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners*.

There is a need in Colorado for better integration of water management objectives with policies related to new development. We support the efforts of WRA and WNA to help communities advance the policies that meet the specific needs of each community, while advancing the larger objective of integrated planning throughout Colorado.

Best Regards,

/s/ Sean P. Chambers

Director of Water & Sewer



**LINCOLN INSTITUTE
OF LAND POLICY**

July 15, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Reidy:

This letter is being submitted to confirm the matching funds that Western Resource Advocates (WRA) and WaterNow Alliance's (WNA) will be leveraging in support of their application to the Water Plan Grant application entitled "Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance." The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is providing funds in the amount of \$80,000 to support the efforts of WRA and WNA to help communities better integrate their land use and water planning practices.

The Lincoln Institute established the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy in 2017, with a mission to better connect land use and water issues in the Colorado River Basin. The Babbitt Center has partnered with several entities in Colorado, including the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) and WRA. The partnership with WRA and WNA over the last year has focused on outreach and engagement with communities in Colorado, and there is significant opportunity to continue and expand upon this work. We believe this is a valuable investment of time and resources, and therefore we are pleased to be able to leverage our funds in connection with the proposed project.

WRA and WNA have the network, the technical expertise and the track record to execute their vision successfully. We support this effort with our own funding, and we hope you will consider supporting this effort to expand this work in more regions throughout Colorado, through Water Plan Grant Funds, to help achieve the objective of integrating land use planning in more communities as stated in the Colorado Water Plan. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Robinson
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

July 26, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Reidy:

This letter is being submitted in support of Western Resource Advocates (WRA) and WaterNow Alliance's (WNA) application to the Water Plan Grant application entitled "Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance." It appears there is a need in Colorado for improved integration of water management objectives with land use policies; specifically, as related to new development. We support the efforts of WRA and WNA to help communities advance policies that meet the specific needs of each community, while advancing the larger objective of integrated planning throughout Colorado.

Northern Water believes that WRA staff possess the professional expertise to accomplish the objectives outlined in the grant application. In January 2019, Northern Water invited WRA to present on the topic of integrating land use and water efficiency at its Water Efficiency Stakeholders meeting. The direct assistance that WRA and WNA will provide, if successful in obtaining this grant, may be suitable for some Northern Water allottees, and is certainly suitable for numerous communities throughout Colorado.

Northern Water has worked with WRA in a variety of capacities and it supports WRA's effort to help communities better integrate land use and water planning practices.

Best Regards,



Frank Kinder
Water Efficiency Program Manager
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District



Infrastructure Maintenance Center
12450 Washington Street
Thornton, Colorado 80241-2405

720-977-6500
FAX 720-977-6202
www.cityofthornton.net

July 24, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Reidy,

This letter is being submitted in support of Western Resource Advocates (WRA) and WaterNow Alliance's (WNA) application to the Water Plan Grant application entitled "Integrated Water & Land Use Planning in Colorado Communities: Direct Community Assistance." We have worked with WNA over the past year to encourage water efficiency in new residential development in Thornton and we support their effort to help communities better integrate land use and water planning practices because their approach is tailored to the needs of each community, and they possess the professional expertise to accomplish their objectives.

WNA supported the development of Thornton's program to financially incentivize developers to build more water efficient homes, a goal identified in our 2015 Water Efficiency Plan. WNA researched existing efficiency programs for new development in Colorado and elsewhere, organized stakeholder meetings with the building community and Thornton staff, and developed program specifications based on measurable efficiency objectives and implementation guidelines based on existing processes. WRA also supported this effort by providing expertise on conservation-oriented tap fees and participating in stakeholder meetings. WNA and WRA staff were committed, creative, and detail-oriented and this technical support was critical to the development of this program.

In addition, Western Resource Advocates has become an established leader in the topic of integrated land use and water planning through numerous workshops they have conducted on this topic in previous years, and through their publication entitled *Integrating Water Efficiency into Land Use Planning in the Interior West: A Guidebook for Local Planners*.

July 24, 2019
Page 2

There is a need in Colorado for better integration of water management objectives with policies related to new development. We support the efforts of WRA and WNA to help communities advance the policies that meet the specific needs of each community, while advancing the larger objective of integrated planning throughout Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LWing', written in a cursive style.

Laura Wing
Water Resources Administrator
City of Thornton

cc: Emily Hunt, Water Resources Manager