

DuPage County American Rescue Plan Act Project Proposal Packet

This packet will serve as a request for proposals for DuPage County Stormwater Management’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded projects. **The deadline for receipt of proposals is 5 P.M. CST on Thursday, April 21, 2022.** DuPage County expects to award a total of \$8,000,000 from ARPA funds and anticipates notifying grantees following the DuPage County Stormwater Management Committee meeting in June.

The “Project Submittal Assistance and Funding Recommendations” section includes the prioritization criteria. DuPage staff will review all proposal submissions based on the project prioritization criteria and will make recommendations to the DuPage County Stormwater Management Planning Committee prior to entering into Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA) for funding. **All funded projects must be completed within 24 months from the IGA date, no later than December 31, 2024.**

Because of ARPA time limitations, shovel-ready projects, defined as projects that have adequate design, permitting, land acquisition and other considerations to break ground in a timely manner, will be given the highest consideration for funding recommendations, and grant reimbursement is only allowable for construction costs. Projects that build resilience and offer strong multi-jurisdictional and multi-purpose benefits will also be highly considered.

Proposals may be submitted through DuPage County’s online application portal. For questions or issues, please call 630-407-6673 or email stormwatermgmt@dupageco.org.

Project Submittal Assistance & Funding Recommendations

PROJECT COMPLIANCE CRITERIA

The following shall govern DuPage County decisions on ARPA funding recommendations.

1. The completed DuPage County ARPA Funding Request Form with supporting documents shall be submitted to DuPage County Stormwater Management by the deadline established in the Request-for-Proposal Packet, in order to be considered for funding.
2. Funding requests are only being accepted for construction of flood control and water quality projects. Eligible construction costs will be reimbursed to grantees. **Projects required as part of a regulatory permit are not eligible for funding.**
3. Applicants shall cost-share at least 50%. Expenses incurred or activities occurring prior to approval of funding by DuPage County are not eligible for reimbursement or to meet cost-share requirements. Several entities may combine resources to meet the applicant cost share requirement, or individual applicants may propose Federal or State or other grant resources to meet the applicant cost share requirement. **DuPage County estimates providing a share of no more than \$500,000 per project, depending on program interest.**
4. Jurisdictions seeking funding shall be in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program and in compliance with DuPage County Stormwater Management policies.
5. If possible, the request should include quantifiable “benefits” information such as “dollar value of reduced damages.” Inclusions of this type of information may be a prioritization consideration.
6. The project shall comply with or be consistent with all applicable watershed plans and stormwater management ordinances, regulations, laws and statutes.
7. The requests are limited to available DuPage County ARPA funds.

8. “Land Rights” – For all properties where in-the-ground construction will or may occur, the Applicant shall provide Owner-authorized land access and/or land rights or evidence of possessory interest in the form of previously recorded documentation or written authorization, from all property owners affected. Documentation or authorization may include recorded permanent easements; land covenants, deed-restricted areas or prescriptive easement (with the Owner’s authorization or evidence of possessory interest); or other Owner-approved and DuPage County accepted legal instruments (i.e.: Owner-executed License Agreement). Work within public road rights-of-way shall not be performed without appropriate permits or authorization.
9. The funding is only being made available to DuPage County municipalities under a mutually agreed upon IGA. Local governments may partner with non-profits, businesses or other entities to complete the project. However, DuPage County is only able to reimburse the local municipal grantee.
10. Within Environmental Justice (EJ) areas of the County, a reduced cost share may be allowed, as a project specific determination. EJ areas are defined on [DuPage County’s EJ maps](#).

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

The following, listed below in priority order, shall be considered by DuPage County Stormwater Management staff in the development of the staff recommendation and by the DuPage County Stormwater Management Planning Committee and DuPage County Board in the consideration of funding requests. The project or activity by itself, or as a component of a candidate project, will include:

1. **Interjurisdictional Benefits** – Benefit multiple (two or more) jurisdictions (government entities), will have interjurisdictional impacts, and/or will benefit the major “trunk”/regional scale drainage system of the watershed.
2. **Flood Hazard Reduction Benefits** – Have beneficial results or impacts, including transportation, septic/sanitary and riverine related flood hazard reduction, during flood events up to and including 100-year events (a 100-year event being a flood event with a probability of occurrence in any given year of 1%).
3. **Structural Damage Reduction** – Mitigate residential and/or commercial structural damages due to floods and other stormwater related causes with consideration of the number of structures affected and/or otherwise protecting buildings from future danger of flood damage or structural damage related to flood-induced erosion.
4. **Water Quality Benefits** – Reduce surface water quality impairments utilizing best management practices.
5. **Natural Resource Benefits** – Benefit the environment with an emphasis on non-structural natural resource protection strategies to improve environmental resilience. If utilizing native plants, please provide applicable establishment and long-term maintenance plans.
6. **Nuisance Flood Reduction** – Alleviate major, repetitive nuisance flooding and/or blocked property access, including yards and driveways.
7. **Multiple Use Benefits** – Provide multiple-use benefits to communities such as recreation, research, accessibility or other co-benefits.
8. **Outside Funding Utilization** – Applicant’s cost-share amount must be funded. Utilizing outside federal and/or state or private funding to the maximum extent possible is encouraged.
9. **Public Education Component** – Include a public education and outreach effort.

Incremental bonus credit will be given for the following:

- a) Projects that reduce flooding to critical facilities.
- b) Projects that have a greater than 50% non-DuPage County ARPA cost-share.
- c) Projects within Environmental Justice Areas.
- d) Measure recommended in a DuPage County-adopted watershed plan and/or local planning document.

Project Prioritization Criteria				
Rank	Criteria	Maximum Possible Weight	Rating (0 – 5)	Score (Weight x Rating)
1	Interjurisdictional benefits	25		
2	Flood hazard reduction benefits	20		
3	Structural damage reduction	20		
4	Water quality benefits	10		
5	Natural resource benefits	10		
6	Nuisance flood reduction	5		
7	Multiple use benefits	5		
8	Outside funding utilization	5		
9	Public education component	5		
Bonus Credit		Maximum Possible Points	Score	
Critical facilities		5		
Greater than 50% non-DuPage County ARPA cost-share		5		
Projects within Environmental Justice Areas		5		
Measure Recommended in a DuPage-adopted watershed management plan and/or local planning document.		5		
Weighted Score Total				
Total project cost				
Applicant cost share				
Applicant's DuPage County ARPA funding request				
Staff recommendation for DuPage County ARPA funding				

Rating: 0=no effect, 1=minimal effect, 2=below average effect, 3=average effect, 4=above average effect, 5=maximum effect practicable

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Recommendations for DuPage County ARPA funding will be made by the DuPage County Stormwater Management Planning Committee during its regularly scheduled meetings. All recipients will enter into IGAs voted on by both the Stormwater Committee and DuPage County Board, as well as applicable municipal governing bodies.

Following the IGA, DuPage County may audit any project for: completeness of ARPA funded work products or deliverables; adherence to agreed schedules or extensions; and appropriateness of ARPA fund expenditures. Incomplete work products or deliverables, delays beyond agreed deadlines and expenditures of funds that do not achieve agreed deliverables may result in forfeiture of grant funding pursuant to the executed

project agreement or a determination of ineligibility for the applicant, project manager or project consultant to apply for future grants.

DUPAGE COUNTY ARPA FUNDING REQUEST PROCESS

1. The applicant shall complete the “DuPage County American Rescue Plan Act Grant Application” and provide the required attachments.
2. All requests shall be submitted to DuPage County Stormwater Management by the deadline of 5 P.M. CST on Thursday, April 21, 2022.
3. Staff will review the application considering ARPA fund availability and the compliance and prioritization criteria listed above. If necessary, DuPage County staff will consult with the applicant for any additional information before developing a written staff recommendation.
4. DuPage County staff will present the request, recommendation and rationale to the DuPage County Stormwater Management Planning Committee who will then discuss and vote on it.
5. DuPage County Stormwater Management staff shall prepare IGAs with the applicants for the disposition of approved allocated funds. All agreements must be signed by both DuPage County and the applicant. Agreements for funds over the DuPage County Stormwater Management Director’s spending authority must be approved at subsequent Stormwater Management Planning Committee and DuPage County Board meetings.