Overview of ARPA Water Infrastructure Initiatives

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Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
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A bit about VT, our SRF, and CW Funding Generally

• SRF “Formula Minimum” State
  • CWSRF 0.49%
  • DWSRF 1.0%
  • Sect. 319 and Sect. 106 formula minimum annual awards
• Pre-BIL IUP $’s
  • $98M CW demand
  • $41M DW demand
• State Clean Water Fund
• Designated Geographic Program (Lake Champlain)
• Some CDS
• Small state – everyone knows everyone, and policymakers are accessible.
American Rescue Plan Act-VT

- $1.026B Investment in COVID Recovery in VT
- Gov. initially identified 5 uses: Economic recovery, broadband, climate, housing, water and sewer infrastructure.
- Tasked Secretary of VT ANR to identify appropriate Water/Sewer Investments.
ARPA-VT’s Considerations

• Unaffordable projects
• Set the table for economic recovery
• Support additional/affordable housing
• Focus on underserved communities/citizens
ARPA-VT two-year Appropriations

- **Combined Sewer Overflow**: $30M
  - Reducing sewer overflows

- **Mobile Home Parks**: $24.75M
  - Improving water and sewer infrastructure in mobile home parks

- **Individual Drinking and Wastewater**: $16M
  - Providing financial assistance to low-income homeowners with failed septic systems and/or wells

- **3-Acre Stormwater**: $40.5M
  - Treating stormwater runoff from larger sites

- **Pretreatment Capacity**: $7M
  - Designing and installing pretreatment processes to address high strength or toxic wastewater

- **Village Drinking & Wastewater**: $35M
  - Developing community sewer systems in some of the villages that lack such systems
ARPA-VT Programs

• **CSO**
  - Administered thru SRF
  - 15 awards / ~$30M, $7.7M award to our lowest MHI city w. greatest CSO need.

• **3-Acre Stormwater**
  - VT-CWA Requirement to retrofit 3ac or larger unregulated impervious surfaces to modern SW permit standards
  - Total need $260M, largely upon individual owners/HoAs
  - ~$40M to assist all owners to get permitted, and low-income / underserved Vermonters for construction.

• **Pretreatment**
  - Municipal-private partnerships to reduce influent loads in accordance with PreT program.
ARPA-VT Village Water Wastewater Initiative

- VT has many of desirable and developable Village centers, but 167 lack water and sewer. This leads to sprawl.
- VWWW Initiative is a technical assistance program to help small communities build decentralized WW, and develop municipal water.
- Challenging proposition for small-town governance.
- ARPA provides $35M to advance new decentralized WW or water systems.
  - Twelve projects being advanced
  - $s are “Last in,” “First-in,” or “Part of the Stack.”
- Partnerships with USDA-RD, Commerce/Community Development Agencies, CDS, others.
ARPA-VT Healthy Homes-Manufactured Home Communities

- Significant area of unmet need for DW, WW, SW
- Three program areas
  - Needs Assessments / PERs
  - Tech Assistance and Permitting Assistance
  - Construction awards
- $13M of $24.75M in process of being issued – 39 projects.
- Remainder to be awarded based on PERs
- Possibility to leverage “Revenue Replacement”
ARPA-VT Healthy Onsite Water/Wastewater

- Initiative to assist low-income Vermonters to replace failed septic/wells.
- Initially proposed for $3M appropriation, ANR vastly underestimated the need.
- After conducting outreach, application period opened in winter 2022
  - Expected: 50-100 applications
  - Observed: 1200 applications (!)
- As a result, Leg. boosted appropriation from $3M to $16M
- Expect to assist >500 families.
ARPA-VT smaller projects:

- Stormwater: MS4 support
- Wastewater
  - Small facilities serving mostly residential users, at risk of Failure ($5M SFY23)
- Drinking Water
  - Small systems serving mostly residential users, at risk of Failure ($5M)
- Partnership with VT League of Cities and Towns to assist disbursement of municipal/county funds.
To learn more and apply for support:

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<th>ARPA Funding</th>
<th>BIL – SRF Funding</th>
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