



Ohio Public Works Commission
Columbus, Ohio

January 11, 2022

To: NRAC Chairs & Liaisons
Cc: OPWC Program Representatives

Re: FY 24 (Round 18) Guidance

Allocations

Attached are allocations for next round, FY 24 (Round 18). Allocations were established in the current capital budget.

Round 18 Schedules & Methodologies

As announced last year, we have adjusted the submittal deadline for this round going forward. This accomplishes several things: 1) customers, especially those working in more than one NRAC, can expect consistency which helps with planning and working with landowners, 2) customers have the warm weather months to conduct natural resources surveys when flora and fauna are most likely to be present, 3) the OPWC workflow is predictable for better management, and 4) project agreements will be released within the funding round for which they were selected. Slate submission to the OPWC must be completed no later than the end of November. OPWC will release agreements on March 1st of the following year unless a project has a tight schedule for acquisition. Therefore, FY 24 slates will be due by November 30, 2023, and agreements will be released March 1, 2024.

To accommodate this new schedule, you may now submit methodologies for review/approval. Please make any changes from the prior round easily apparent to expedite turn-around. Methodologies must contain tiebreakers or will be returned for inclusion. Remember to include your schedule and a complete roster. As stated last year, in a future iteration of WorksWise, we plan to include a function to maintain and provide for updates for NRAC committee appointments / reappointments.

As previously mentioned, we are transitioning from a round number to the fiscal year of the application cycle (solicitation and release of agreements); therefore, Round 18 is FY 24. The next round will be referred to as FY 25 and so forth. Attached is a table showing historical, current, and future references. (Note: For those NRAC Liaisons who also serve Integrating Committees, any current program year for either program will be the same fiscal year (e.g., Clean Ohio Round 18 and Infrastructure Round 37 are both "FY 24" given infrastructure agreements will be released July 2023 and Clean Ohio released March 2024).

Eligibility Determinations

Last year, we announced a language change to ORC 164.26(C) which specifies that technical assistance provided by the OPWC director or staff does not constitute approval or denial of an application. This permits the OPWC to legally assist councils and applicants before resources are expended by an applicant for a potential project which may ultimately be denied by the director. This does not prevent an application from entering the system that has eligibility issues. An NRAC should always first review for eligibility. Applications that are ineligible should not be vetted, scored, ranked, and advanced to the director. If the director determines a recommended application to be ineligible, it will be returned to the NRAC to determine the appropriate course of action.

“Brown” Clean Ohio Applications

The Ohio Public Works Commission has determined that any application providing for the acquisition of property in which there are potential or existing environmental contamination liabilities considering past or current uses of the property, it must include an Environmental Site Assessment report clearing the property of suspected contamination. Should an application for property with suspected contamination not include the required ESA report, it must be considered incomplete by the NRAC and not be scored. Applicants should be redirected to the OEPA. This policy has been added to the OPWC website. A list of OEPA’s assessment services is available [here](#) and their brownfield assessment application [here](#). These links are also on the OPWC’s website under “Additional Resources” including a list of Common Brownfield Funding sources.

Appraisals

This is a reminder that an appraisal’s date of determination value (effective date) must be within 12 months of the date of submittal to the OPWC for the Request to Proceed. A *Restricted Appraisal Report* must be updated, if necessary, and then converted to an *Appraisal Report* but if the originating document was an *Appraisal Report* and it surpasses the 12-month period, a new *Appraisal Report* will be required; therefore, the applicant must be cognizant of the timing of the date of value and the RTP submittal. OPWC will not pay for more than one appraisal if additional appraisals are necessary to comply with the 12-month period an *Appraisal Report* is deemed valid. The revised Appraisal Standards will be posted to the OPWC website today.

Administrative Costs

This is a reminder that the Law permits for reimbursement of those costs directly incurred because of the need for labor, materials, supplies, equipment, travel, and support services to perform the committee’s or counsel’s statutory requirements. These sources cannot be used to supplement any other costs or expenses not directly related to the administration of the OPWC’s programs.

All Administrative Costs agreements are changing from calendar year to fiscal year. Administrative Cost applications must be submitted as part of the NRAC slate in WorksWise. Agreements will be released March 1st and then disbursements can begin but must be submitted within 18 months of the agreement date. Disbursement requests must include detailed invoices for direct costs specific to administration of the program. The web “Roles and Responsibilities” document has been updated to address the Administrative Costs program responsibility.

WorksWise Project Application

PDF Application. As previously discussed, the pdf application form on the OPWC website, does not match WorksWise as it has been the intention to discontinue paper applications. This is the last round this form will be available on the OPWC website.

Project Description & Location Fields. These fields are used to complete the OPWC Project Agreement, a legal document, so information must be concise and specific to the project. If a district requires additional information, please direct applicants to a supplemental form.

OPWC Logos

When using OPWC logos, please make sure they are current.

Clean Ohio logo - <https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Project-Administration/Clean-Ohio#594126-logo--signage>

OPWC logo - <https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Project-Administration/Infrastructure#58563-logo--signage>

Clean Ohio Project Number Sequence *	Round	Program Year	Date Projects Released
CAAAA	1	FY 02	1/02-5/02
CABAA	2	FY 04	6/03-3-04
CACAA	3	FY 06	5/05-1/06
CADAA	4	FY 08	1/07-6/08
CAEAA	5	FY 09	10/08-9/09
CAFAA	6	FY 10	1/10-3/10
CAGAA	7	FY 13	1/13-3/13
CAHAA	8	FY 14	12/13-7/14
CAIAA	9	FY 15	1/15-3/15
CAJAA	10	FY 16	1/16-7/16
CAKAA	11	FY 17	9/16-7/16
CALAA	12	FY 18	9/17-6/18
CAMAA	13	FY 19	9/18-6/19
CANAA	14	FY 20	9/19-6/20
CAOAA	15	FY 21	9/20-6/21
CAPAA	16	FY 22	9/21-6/22
CAQAA	17	FY 23	9/22-6/23
CARAA	18	FY 24	3/24
CASAA		FY 25	3/25
CATAA		FY 26	3/26
CAUAA		FY 27	3/27

* Using District 1 as an example