



SONORAN
INSTITUTE

GROWING WATER SMART TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

COLORADO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Spring 2024

Jeremy Stapleton, Sonoran Institute

The work performed, the method of collaboration, and the results [arising from our Growing Water Smart technical assistance] are exactly what the City needed and will be long-lasting. This was a legacy project and the City is grateful.” Anne Best Johnson, | Community Development Director, City of Evans, Colorado (former)

Application Window Now Open

The Sonoran Institute and the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy are requesting proposals from Colorado Growing Water Smart communities for technical assistance in implementing their action plans.

Deadline: May 1, 2024, 5:00 PM MDT

Eligibility: The request for proposals is open to all communities that have participated in a Growing Water Smart workshop, with preference given to October 2023 Colorado River District workshop teams.

Requests for Assistance: Communities may apply for any project that advances the integration of land use planning and water resource management.

Projects are typically less than one year in duration.

The requested technical assistance may be provided by third-party service providers such as consultants, non-profit organizations, or academic institutions. Recipients may request that Sonoran Institute contract directly with the provider on their behalf. Please confirm the desired scope of work with your preferred service provider prior to submitting your proposal.

Examples of Previous Projects Include:

Policy and Regulatory Updates

- Zoning or subdivision code
- Landscape ordinance

Demonstration Projects

- Projects that demonstrate proof of concept

Plans, Studies, and Metrics

- Design and implementation of visioning, scenario planning, or other planning processes
- Assessment and opportunities scan of local plans, policies, and programs
- Strengthening the water-related elements of Comprehensive Plans
- Drought management planning
- Green infrastructure planning
- Metrics and benchmarking

Education, Communication, and Collaboration

- Presentations by technical experts or peers
- Communications planning and messaging
- Facilitation of stakeholder groups

Contract Amount: Requests of up to \$10,000 per community will be considered. Joint applications from two or more of the participating communities may request up to \$10,000 per community. Matching funds are not required, though a technical assistance grant could be combined with other funds to support a larger project.

Permitted Expenses: Funds may be utilized for fees, travel, and other expenses incurred by the service provider/contractor. Local government or water provider staff salaries are ineligible for funding.



Jeremy Stapleton, Sonoran Institute



Diego Trejo, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Expectations of Recipients: Award recipients will sign a grant agreement, provide quarterly project status updates, and submit a final project report with outcomes, lessons learned and progress photos.

Proposal Submission Requirements and Deadline:

- **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** describe your project, including how your project integrates land use and water to improve community resiliency. Describe how the project will lead to intended outcomes such as water savings, reduced flooding, or improved water quality. Explain how your project advances one or more goals in your Growing Water Smart Workshop action plan.
- **SERVICE PROVIDER:** list the desired technical assistance provider/consultant and include the consultant’s scope of work and cost estimate, if available. If an RFP will be issued, describe any steps you took to design the project scope within the budget available.
- **PROJECT BUDGET:** a detailed project budget. Please include amounts and sources of secured or pending matching funds.
- **DELIVERABLES:** describe the deliverable(s) and/or outcome(s) expected from the project. Also describe how you might measure the benefits identified in the project description.
- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT:** the names and contact information of 1-2 staff responsible for managing the project and overseeing the service provider. Specify whether the project is woman-led, as this may qualify for support from a Sonoran Institute partnership with Planet Women.
- Limit final application to four pages.

Applicants are encouraged to review their request with the **Sonoran Institute** prior to submission.

Please submit your technical assistance proposal to growingwatersmart@sonoraninstitute.org by **Wednesday, May 1, 2024.**

About the Babbitt Center

The Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy, a center of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, seeks to advance the integration of land and water management to meet the current and future water needs of Colorado River Basin communities, economies, and the environment.

About the Sonoran Institute

The Sonoran Institute’s mission is to connect people and communities with the natural resources that nourish and sustain them.

Support the Sonoran Institute

Your support preserves the environment for future generations and makes a lasting impact in communities across Western North America. Learn more about how you can help at SonoranInstitute.org/Membership/

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Go to SonoranInstitute.org to learn about our programs, history, and recent news. Or find us on social media:

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BABBITT CENTER
FOR LAND AND WATER POLICY

A Center of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy



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