

Name of Applicant: Town of Beauty, USA

Project Title: Town of Beauty for a Water Reclamation Project

Project Objective and Need

This project will engage a licensed Engineering firm to provide professional design and planning services to upgrade the Beautiful Water Reclamation Facility from 6 to 8 MGD. The Beautiful Water Reclamation Facility is nearing capacity due to population and economic growth.

The Town of Beauty (Town) is a mid-sized community of approximately 47,000 people, located just 19 miles southwest of City in County. The Town originated around cool waters that steadily trickled from resilient, deep aquifers and ran past 40-foot holly trees, providing a source of drinking water for the bustling village. Beauty's rich history is marked by periods of vitality and prosperity, interspersed with economic recessions, usually brought on by wars. A public water system was established in 1968, but it was not until 1985 when the Town's first sewer plant was built that Beauty's star began to rise. Once the Town had full utility services to offer business and residential developers, the small town population boomed from less than 1,000 persons in 1990, and growth has not stopped since. The Town's population has averaged 6% increase annually over the past five years and is projected to exceed 50,000 by 2024.

The Town owns and operates the Beautiful Water Reclamation Facility (BWRF), a wastewater facility designed to treat a maximum flow of 6 million gallons per day (MGD). The BWRF has been permitted to discharge up to 8 MGD into Beautiful, an effluent dominated receiving waterbody. BWRF produces reclaimed water, a valuable resource that minimizes wastewater discharge, conserves potable water supply, and protects potable water quality for the Town and citizens of Beauty. The facility expansion will increase reclaimed water storage by 50% to ensure consistent and reliable flow for future residential and industrial needs.

Project Description

Scope of Work. A Licensed Professional Engineer will provide 100% design to upgrade the Beautiful Water Reclamation Facility from 6 to 8 MGD.

Deliverables. Planning and design documents inclusive of all components necessary to upgrade the Beautiful Water Reclamation Facility from 6 to 8 MGD.

Framework for managing the project. Jane Doe, Engineering Manager, will serve as project manager. Project milestones and deliverables will be negotiated with the selected engineering firm. Ms. Doe will manage the project based on the agreed upon milestones and deliverables.

Explanation of the approach, procedures, and controls for ensuring that awarded grant funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner. In 2022, the Town hired two professional staff – one of whom is a Grant Accountant – to be solely dedicated to grant management and compliance. These staff members will assist project staff in managing the award to ensure grant funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner. The Town has established procedures for post-award management including a monthly review and reconciliation of grant expenditures, a formal purchasing process with adherence to federal guidelines, and an accounting information system that is in compliance with 2 CFR 200.

Evaluating performance and reporting progress toward achieving the expected outputs and outcomes. Ms. Doe and the selected consultant will define clear and measurable expected outputs and outcomes for each design milestone, ensuring they align with the project goals and client's requirements. She will regularly track and monitor the progress of the design against the key milestones and deadlines to measure success. Progress will be reported through regular meetings, where the consultant will share updates on progress, challenges, and potential schedule adjustments.

Budget Narrative. The budget is comprised of direct costs for professional services. The service provider will be selected through a competitive process that is compliant with 2 CFR 200 and EPA guidelines. The total project cost of \$3,750,000 includes a 20% non-federal cost share of \$750,000. The source of the cost share is local funds collected from utility fees.

Milestone Schedule

September – October 2023. RFQ responses received, consultant selected, contract negotiated, contract approved by Town Council.

November 2023 – December 2025. Planning and design work to 100% design completion.

Environmental Results/Benefits

This project supports EPA's FY2022 – FY2026 Strategic Plan Goal 5: Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities, Objective 5.1: Ensure Safe Drinking Water and Reliable Water Infrastructure.

Output: Planning and design documents to increase reclaimed water storage by 50%.

Outcomes: The Town can move forward with construction, which, when complete, will provide increased access to an inexpensive, environmentally sustainable, alternative non-potable water source for uses such as irrigation and process water. Expanded reclaimed water use will decrease potable water demand in the rapidly expanding town and reduce the energy required to treat, process and distribute water.

Workplan Requirements for Identifying Contractors

The Town has developed an RFQ and a contractor selection process that is compliant with the competitive Procurement Standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.317 – 2 CFR 200.327 and EPA's procurement requirements to promote fair and open competition from an adequate number of qualified sources.

Workplan Requirements for Identifying Subrecipients

N/A