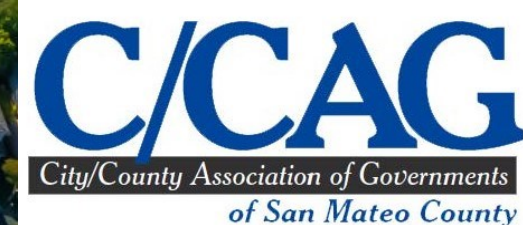




C/CAG Stormwater Program Overview and Funding Outlook

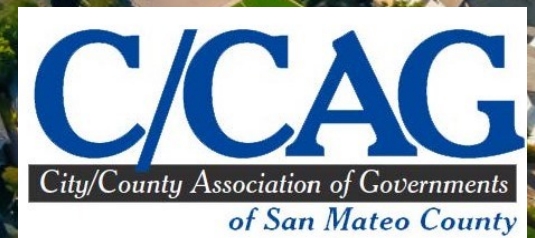
C/CAG Finance Committee

May 28, 2026





C/CAG Stormwater Program



Countywide Stormwater Program Background

Regulatory compliance program to address federal and state municipal stormwater requirements under the Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

Support 22 agencies in San Mateo County in meeting Municipal Regional Permit requirements administered by the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Board (5-year permit cycles)



Countywide Stormwater Program Background

Two full-time staff & consultants

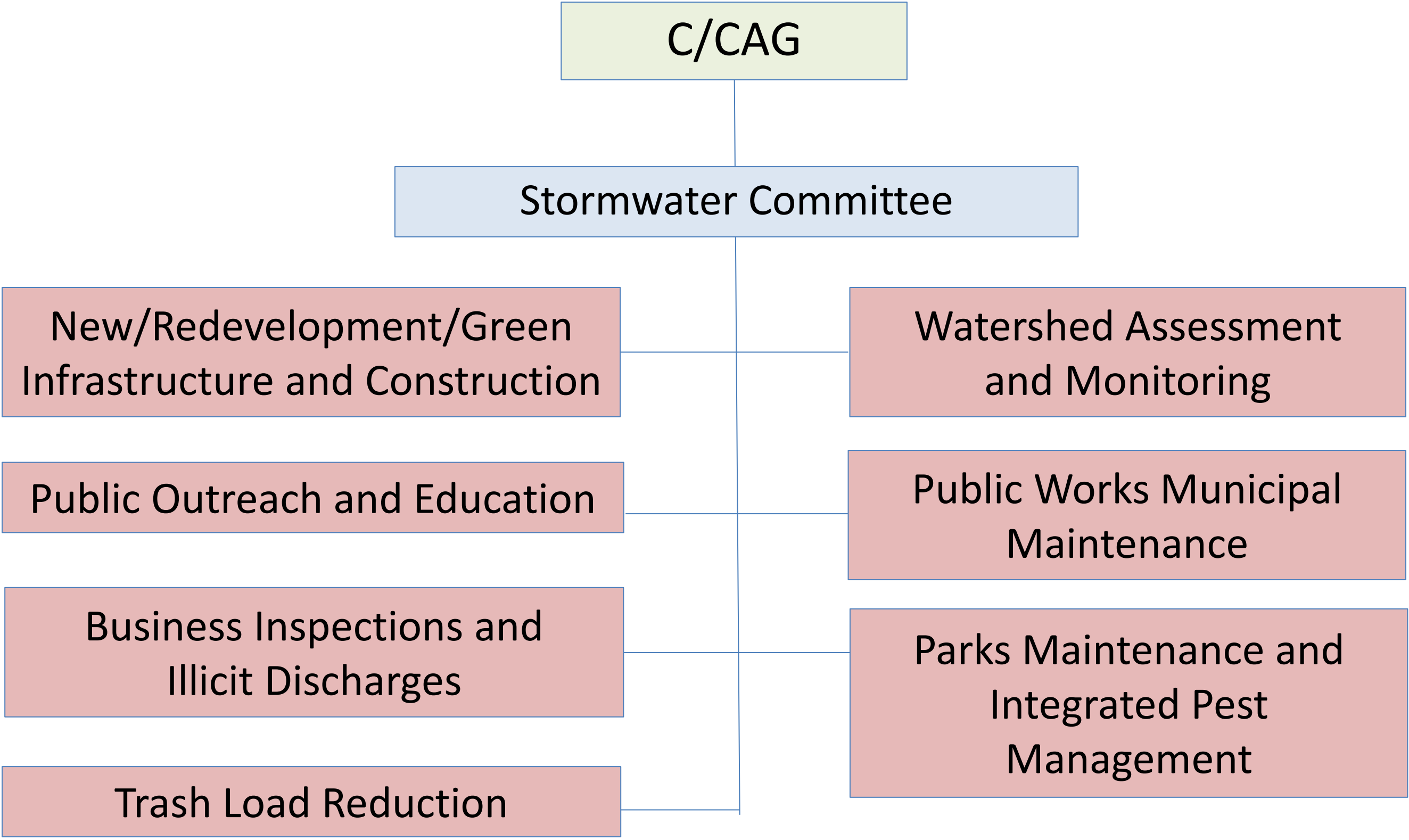
Primary areas of support:

- Local program implementation
- Do compliance directly for member agencies
- Participate in regional efforts

Focus on supporting compliance needs and advancing countywide and regional efforts to enhance climate resilience and adaptation with respect to water infrastructure and resources



Countywide Stormwater Program Structure



Countywide Stormwater Program Services

**Staff Training, Workshops
and On-call Support**

**Technical Guidance and
Resources**
(design guides, model ordinances,
policies, checklists, program templates)

**Subcommittees and
Workgroups**
(Countywide and Regional)

Countywide Planning Efforts
(Stormwater Resource Plan, Sustainable
Streets Master Plan, OneWatershed
Framework)

MRP Compliance Reports
(Green Infrastructure Plans, PCBs
Control Measure Plan, Regional Reports,
Annual Reports)

**Water Quality Monitoring
Requirements**

Funding Support

**Countywide, Regional, State
Coordination**



Staffing/Funding

- Two full-time staff (Program Director/Sr. Specialist)
- Funding:
 - NPDES Property Fees
 - Two fees on property tax rolls: ~\$1.8M (adopted by County Flood Control District in 1994 and 2001)
 - Measure M vehicle registration fees: ~\$1M (15%)
 - Residual AB1546 funds (interest and revenue since 2012)
- Significant need for stormwater funding
 - Most stormwater fees have not been raised since the 1990s when Proposition 218 was enacted restricting the ability to raise stormwater revenue
- Local and Countywide Program needs



Local Infrastructure Costs

- Most agencies need \$20-50M to fund local infrastructure upgrades

	Storm Drain Master Plan Cost (total)	High Priority Projects	Med Priority Projects	Low Priority Projects
Atherton	\$45	\$18	\$24	\$3
Belmont	\$57	\$13	\$13	\$31
Brisbane	\$20	\$15	\$3	\$2
East Palo Alto	\$39	\$31	\$5	\$3
Hillsborough	\$58	\$26	\$14	\$18
Menlo Park	\$39	\$23	\$16	
Millbrae	\$42	\$3	\$30	\$9
Pacifica	\$11	\$9	\$2	
San Bruno	\$26	\$19		\$7
San Carlos	\$56	\$43	\$13	
San Mateo	\$57	\$33	\$16	\$8
South San Francisco	\$54	\$23	\$27	\$4
Total	\$504	\$256	\$163	\$85

Note: All costs in \$ millions, for jurisdictions with storm drain master plans available to C/CAG
 Data are preliminary, not to be cited



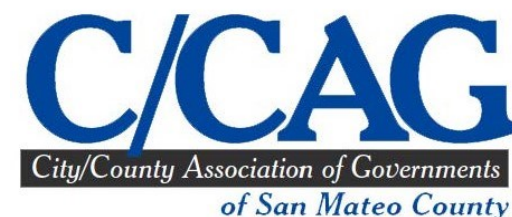
Local and Countywide Water Quality Costs

- Ongoing water quality costs associated with SW Permit



Agency	Estimated Future Annual Costs	Estimated Annual Dedicated Revenue
C/CAG	\$2,752,320	\$ 2,220,000
Atherton	\$298,267	\$ 80,000
Belmont	\$1,739,544	\$ 427,726
Brisbane	\$1,415,466	\$ 148,442
Burlingame	\$2,231,982	\$ 329,841
Colma	\$537,880	\$ 37,500
Daly City	\$2,265,544	\$ 837,507
East Palo Alto	\$1,597,787	\$ 218,967
Foster City	\$1,449,464	\$ 75,000
Half Moon Bay	\$282,257	\$ 37,500
Hillsborough	\$266,425	\$ 117,436
Menlo Park	\$3,021,189	\$ 401,649
Millbrae	\$1,568,084	\$ 330,932
Pacifica	\$879,653	\$ 322,515
Portola Valley	\$182,137	\$ 75,000
Redwood City	\$3,902,863	\$ 338,278
San Bruno	\$1,994,691	\$ 593,279
San Carlos	\$3,817,215	\$ 550,676
San Mateo	\$4,137,166	\$ 612,922
SSF	\$6,514,467	\$ 629,858
Woodside	\$320,576	\$ 75,000
SM County	\$31,501,565	\$ 612,166
TOTALS	\$46,041,837	\$ 9,072,194

Note: data from C/CAG's 2014 funding needs analysis, likely not representative of current regulatory requirements or revenue

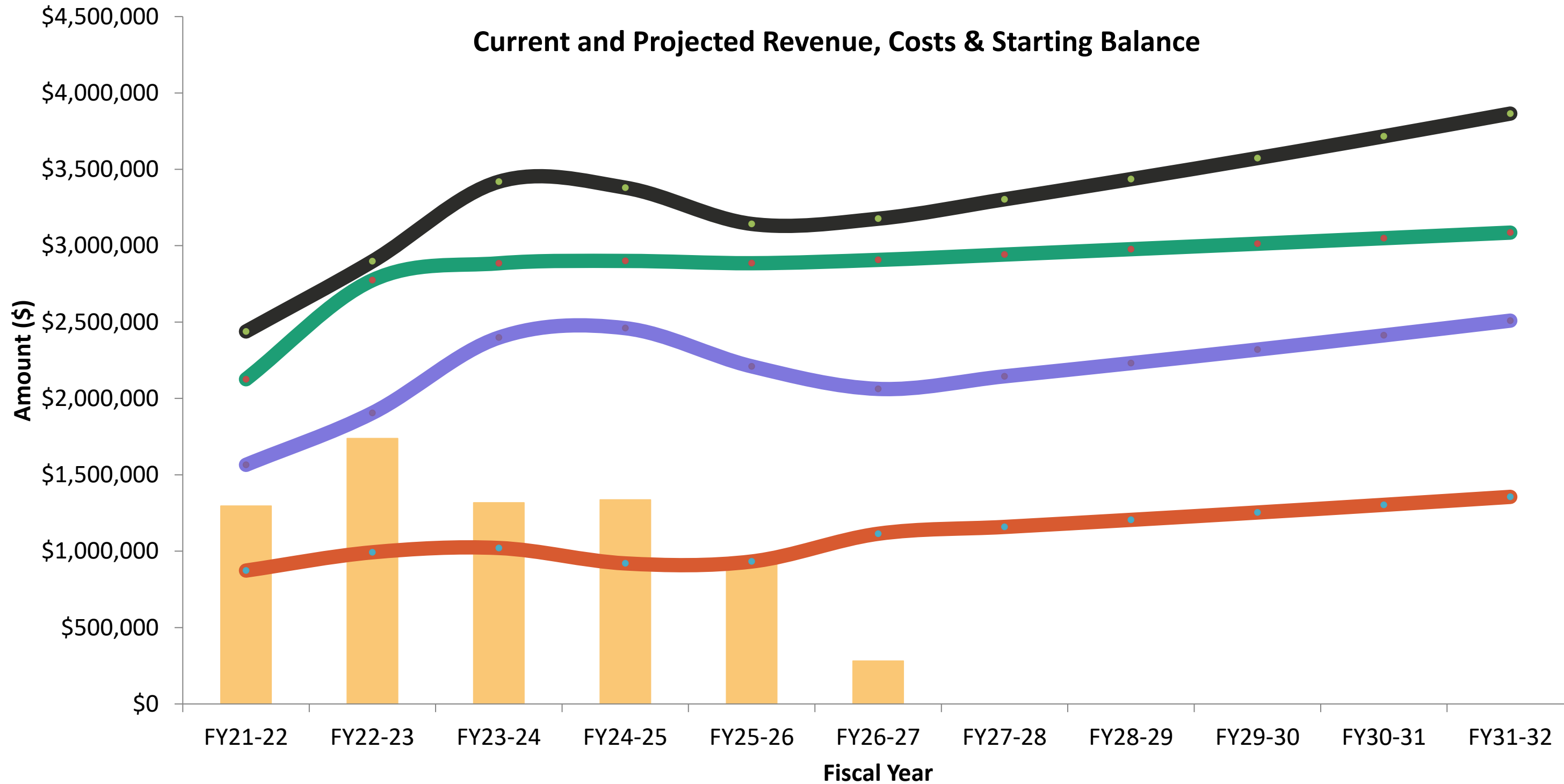


Stormwater Program Funding Outlook

- The Stormwater Program has maintained a relatively healthy budget over past 25 years
 - The second “additional” stormwater fee was added on the tax roll in 2001
 - Typically, annual budget has run above actual expenditures (contingencies/staffing/etc.)
 - With increased costs and static revenue, staff reduced consultant costs to basic compliance starting FY19-20 when structural deficit first identified
 - Maintaining \$500K in Funding Initiative Reserve and \$120K in General Program Reserve
- Concerns about budget moving forward
 - Costs rise with each permit cycle (i.e., increased consultant budget)
 - Other Program/Admin costs increasing over time (overhead, lobbyist support, membership dues)
 - Interim staffing between 2021-2024 (fully staffed starting FY24-25)
 - Over the past 5-10 years, reduced standing balance on Stormwater Program funds
 - More reliance on grants for compliance based work (Water Quality Monitoring)



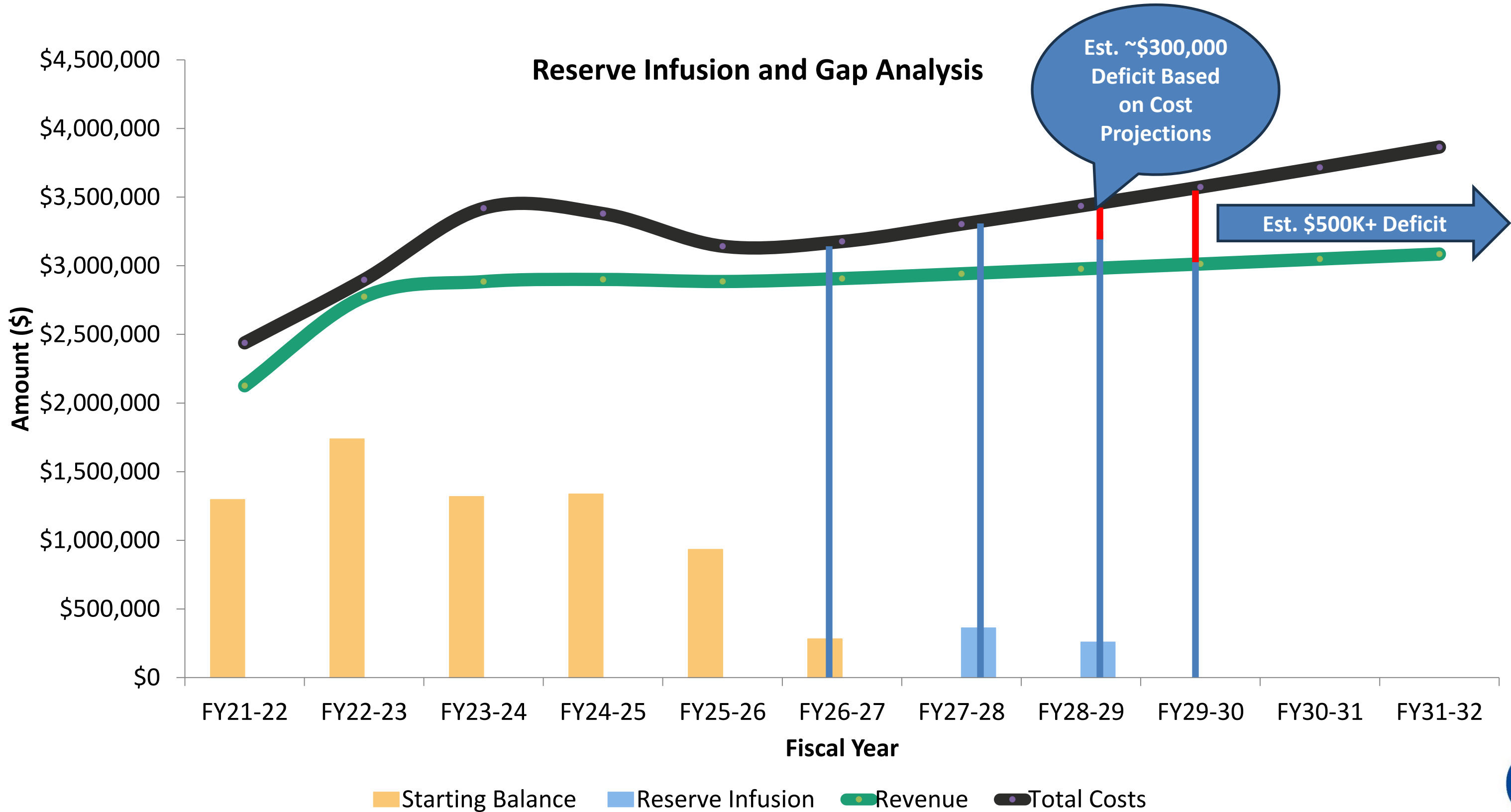
Stormwater Program Funding Outlook



Starting Balance Revenue Total Costs Tech Consultant Admin Costs



Stormwater Program Funding Outlook



Risk of Structural Deficit Moving Forward

- Insufficient funding to maintain core compliance support (new permit starting FY27-28)
- Need for municipalities to take on a portion of the work currently funded through C/CAG
 - Most local stormwater programs likely not staffed to take on this additional capacity
 - Specific expertise required (trash assessments, training, public education and outreach, evaluating and implementing projects/programs to address unsheltered populations, stormwater management asset management programs, etc.)
 - Coordination with Regional Water Board occurs through regional meetings with Program staff and consultant support
- Costs likely to continue to rise, while spending will keep pace with budget more closely than prior years
- More reliance on grants for compliance-based programs

Strategies for Consideration

- Continue to cut consultant budget and limit additional administrative/fixed costs (state/federal lobbyists, memberships, C/CAG administrative projects)
 - Largely already done, but may be some areas to cut further
- Continue to seek external funding through state/federal grants and philanthropic programs
 - Just awarded two grants for litter reduction and pollutant monitoring and cleanup
- Reduce C/CAG services to match revenue and transfer compliance work back to permittees
- Consider leveraging \$500K reserve to support countywide fee initiative (or support local initiatives)
- Consider partnering with OneShoreline on future funding initiative
- Consider a C/CAG membership-based fee similar to Transportation Program

Next Steps and Considerations

- Seek input from Funding & Finance Committee
- Continue discussion with Stormwater Committee and Funding & Finance Ad-hoc Workgroup
- Evaluate funding initiative partnership with OneShoreline (potential for 2028 ballot)
- Evaluate options for reducing costs (C/CAG admin and consultant costs)
- Evaluate membership-based fee for Stormwater Program



Q&A

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