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**Award Year 2023 Section 604(b) Water Quality
Management Planning Grant Program:
MassDEP Official Answers to Questions
March 27, 2024**

MassDEP accepted questions pertaining to the Section 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant (“604(b)”), Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for Award Year 2023 from March 8, 2024, through the March 20, 2024, 604(b) RFP Question Deadline (the “Q&A Period”). The following are all questions that were received during the Q&A Period, and MassDEP’s official answers.

Q1. In a municipality subject to the 2016 Small MS4 Permit, including Appendix F due to phosphorus impairments and a nitrogen TMDL, can a 604b grant fund the development of a Watershed-Based Plan and/or 25% construction documents for green infrastructure, if the projects identified in the WBP could be used to meet phosphorus and nitrogen reduction goals in current or future MS4 years?

Nine-element Watershed-Based Plans, which are intended to be holistic, should consider both nonpoint and point sources of pollutants throughout the watershed, regardless of MS4 boundaries, and are eligible under the current grant offering. However, Best Management Practice design development that is intended to specifically address MS4 permit requirements is not eligible under the current grant offering.