



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DWSD to accept \$1 million grant for green infrastructure projects

EPA funding to help grow eastside initiatives; press conference to reveal details

WHAT: The Great Lakes Shoreline Cities Green Infrastructure Grant. \$1 million is being awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD). The grant will fund green infrastructure activities on Detroit's eastside within the Great Lakes Shoreline Cities Green Infrastructure Project – Near East Side. The effort aims to reduce stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflow in the East Jefferson Drainage District, and ultimately improve water quality in the Detroit River and Great Lakes.

Today's press conference will provide details on the project's components. Vacant land is being treated with various techniques that are designed to mitigate stormwater runoff, stabilize and beautify the landscape, encourage urban agriculture, and increase the tree canopy.

An additional \$1 million from the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation and the Kresge Foundation will match this federal grant.

WHEN: Today, Thursday, March 27, 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Entrance, William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor, Detroit. In case of rain, the alternate location for the event is SEMCOG, 1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400, Detroit. Parking will be provided in the parking structure at 1 State Street.

WHO: DWSD will administer the EPA grant by working with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), Detroit Future City, the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, the Warren/Conner Development Coalition, RecoveryPark, Lawrence Technological University, The Greening of Detroit, and the Michigan Land Bank to transform vacant lot properties and stormwater runoff areas. The land is included in the Lower East Side Action Plan (LEAP) and in RecoveryPark, a nonprofit urban agriculture business incubator.

Speakers will include:

- **Kathleen Lomako, SEMCOG Executive Director**
- **Susan Hedman, EPA Region 5 Administrator**
- **Kip Walby, Mayor, St. Clair Shores**
- **Sue McCormick, Director, DWSD**
- **John Erb, President, Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation**
- **Ike McKinnon, Deputy Mayor, City of Detroit**

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