IFA Storm Water Study

As directed by the 2019 Indiana Storm Water Task Force, the Indiana Finance Authority (“IFA”) is conducting a survey to better understand storm water management budgeting, planning best practices, and storm water infrastructure needs. We want to hear from all communities in Indiana even if your community isn’t a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, aka an “MS4”, or doesn’t have a storm water utility. A final report that summarizes and anonymizes the findings will be prepared and posted to the IFA’s website in 2021.

The survey is best completed by someone familiar with the community’s budgeting and stormwater infrastructure and should take less than 30 minutes to complete. This survey focuses on storm water in populated areas; the survey does not address closely related agricultural, flood risk or large flood management needs.

Please respond by January 15, 2021. Though your response to this survey is voluntary, the results may be used to influence future state-wide policies, so your participation is vital.

Please submit your survey and any questions to Sarah Hudson at WaterResources@ifa.in.gov

Questions (* indicates a response is required)

1. Name (First, Last)* ______________________________

2. Title _________________________________

3. Department _________________________________

4. Email _________________________________

5. What community(ies) do you represent?* _________________________________

6. What is the approximate population of your community?
   a. __________________

7. How is storm water managed in your community?
   a. We are a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (“MS4”) or we are part of/co-permittee on another entity’s MS4.
   b. We are not an MS4 but we operate a storm water utility (which is separate from the wastewater utility).
   c. We are not an MS4 and we do not operate a storm water utility, but we handle our storm water needs as part of our wastewater utility.
   d. No entity manages the storm water in our community.
   e. Other ___________________
8. Approximately what year was your storm water utility formed, if applicable?  
   Year: __________

9. Which statement best describes how your community funds its storm water needs?  
   a. Storm water utility fee collected via a utility bill.  
   b. Storm water utility fee collected via a property tax bill.  
   c. No local funding mechanism in place.  
   d. Other _______________________

10. How does your community budget for its storm water infrastructure needs? Pick all that apply.  
    a. Our asset management tracking is tied to the budget.  
    b. We budget based on past years’ needs.  
    c. We use grants and loans to fund capital needs.  
    d. We do not fund any storm water needs.  
    e. Other ___________________________

11. How does your community track and manage its storm water infrastructure assets?  
    a. The assets are tracked using specific asset management software.  
    b. The assets are tracked using less formal methods, such as an Excel spreadsheet.  
    c. We do not track assets.  
    d. Other _______________________

12. What is your average total annual budget for storm water capital needs, if applicable (in dollars)? ________________

13. What is your average total annual budget for storm water operation and maintenance needs, if applicable (in dollars)? ________________

14. What is your average annual revenue from storm water fees or assessments, if applicable (in dollars)? ________________

15. How many storm water full-time employees does your community employ?  
    a. ______________________

16. Prioritize your storm water infrastructure needs, with 1 being the least need and 4 being the greatest need faced by your community.  
    a. Undersized infrastructure  
    b. Deteriorated infrastructure  
    c. Lack of infrastructure/unsewered areas  
    d. Infrastructure to address pollution/water quality  
    e. Not sure  
    f. Not applicable
17. Prioritize your storm water pollution/water quality needs, with 1 being the least need and 6 being the greatest need faced by your community.
   a. E. coli/bacteria
   b. Nutrients
   c. Metals
   d. Trash/floatable solids
   e. Oils
   f. Sediments
   g. Not sure
   h. Not applicable

18. Which storm water performance metrics, if any, does your community use to monitor change in your system? For multiple performance metrics, please use a comma to separate each response.
   a. ______________

19. Approximately what year was the oldest component of the storm water system infrastructure built?
   a. Year: ________

20. Approximately what is the year of construction for most of the storm water system infrastructure?
   a. Year: ________

21. Approximately what is the largest diameter of storm pipe in your system (in inches)?
   a. ________ inches

22. What is the total estimated length of pipe in your system (in miles)?
   a. ________ miles

23. What is the total estimated length of open conveyance (ditch) in your system (in miles)?
   a. ________ miles

24. Approximately how many storm water detention ponds are in your system that are owned by your community?
   a. ________

25. Approximately how many privately-owned storm water detention ponds exist in your system?
   a. ________

26. How many combined sewer outfalls exist in your system?
   a. __________________

27. How many separate storm water outfalls exist in your system?
   a. ________
28. Does your community have technical design standards that allow for the use of Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure?
   a. Yes/No

29. Which of the following constraints exist in your system? Select all that apply.
   a. Limited or no budget.
   b. No local support for forming a storm water utility.
   c. No local support to increase storm water utility rates.
   d. No local support for adopting Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure standards or interest in installing them.
   e. Difficulty enforcing existing storm water ordinances.
   f. Limited staffing in storm water department.
   g. We have no constraints.
   h. Other __________________________

30. If you have interactions with the below state, local, and federal agencies involved in storm water, please indicate the reason, and, if applicable, provide ideas for improving interactions with them. Multiple selections can be made.
   a. Indiana Department of Environmental Management (“IDEM”)
      i. Permitting
      ii. Reporting
      iii. Funding
      iv. Technical Assistance
      v. Inspection
      vi. Other __________________________
      vii. No interactions with this agency
      viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency _____________

   b. Indiana Department of Natural Resources (“IDNR”)
      i. Permitting
      ii. Reporting
      iii. Funding
      iv. Technical Assistance
      v. Inspection
      vi. Other __________________________
      vii. No interactions with this agency
      viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency _____________

   c. Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (“OCRA”)
      i. Permitting
      ii. Reporting
      iii. Funding
      iv. Technical Assistance
v. Inspection
vi. Other ______________________________
vii. No interactions with this agency
viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency __________

d. Indiana State Department of Agriculture ("ISDA")
i. Permitting
ii. Reporting
iii. Funding
iv. Technical Assistance
v. Inspection
vi. Other ______________________________
vii. No interactions with this agency
viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency __________

e. Local River Basin Commission
i. Permitting
ii. Reporting
iii. Funding
iv. Technical Assistance
v. Inspection
vi. Other ______________________________
vii. No interactions with this agency
viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency __________

f. County surveyor
i. Permitting
ii. Reporting
iii. Funding
iv. Technical Assistance
v. Inspection
vi. Other ______________________________
vii. No interactions with this agency
viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency __________

g. Soil and Water Conservation District
i. Permitting
ii. Reporting
iii. Funding
iv. Technical Assistance
v. Inspection
vi. Plan review
vii. Sharing of educational resources
viii. Other ______________________________
ix. No interactions with this agency
x. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency _____________

h. Interaction with the US Army Corps of Engineers
   i. Permitting
   ii. Reporting
   iii. Funding
   iv. Technical Assistance
   v. Inspection
   vi. Other ___________________________
   vii. No interactions with this agency
   viii. Ideas for improving interaction with this agency _____________

31. Aside from ideas already submitted in previous questions, how else could the state help?
   a. Providing incentives, such as: ________________________________
   b. Providing technical assistance, such as: _______________________
   c. Facilitating round table meetings with neighboring utilities? Yes/No
   d. Helping prepare public education/outreach messaging for your customers? Yes/No
   e. Other: ________________________________