

NON-FEDERAL SPONSORSHIP OF A **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT**

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

Who can be a Non-federal Sponsor?

A non-federal sponsor of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) project may be a state, a political sub-part of a state or group of states, a Native American (Indian) nation, quasi-public organizations chartered under state laws (e.g., a port authority, flood control district or conservation district), an interstate agency or non-profit organizations. Project sponsorship is formalized by legal agreements between the sponsor and the U.S. Government that outline legal responsibilities.

What are the Sponsor's Obligations?

The sponsor must have the legal and financial capability to fulfill the requirements of cost sharing and local cooperation. The sponsor generally must agree to the following:

- Provide, without cost to the United States, all lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas (LERRD) necessary for construction, operation and maintenance of a project, including provision of all necessary access routes and utility relocations.
- Provide cash or work-in-kind contributions to meet the cost-share requirements described below. The sponsor's cost share includes a credit for the value of the sponsor's contribution of LERRD.
- Comply with provisions of pertinent federal laws (e.g., National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, etc.).
- Once the project is completed, it must be maintained and operated without cost to the United States.

What is the Sponsor's Role on the Project Team?

The sponsor is a study partner and plays many roles during project development, including:

- Helps define the water resources problem(s) and opportunities, study scope, tasks, cost estimates and schedules.
- Participates in study decisions, including the type and mix of study objectives, and contributes to the development and evaluation of alternatives (plan formulation) and selection of an alternative plan.
- Communicates with landowners about project proposals and assists with public communications about the project.
- Contributes to project design, including environmental and aesthetic features, and ensures that, to the extent possible, other factors that affect sponsoring communities are addressed during the planning process.

What are the Cost-share Requirements?

- The Corps provides the first \$100,000 of feasibility study costs.
- A non-federal sponsor must contribute 50 percent of feasibility study costs that exceed \$100,000; plus 25-35 percent of preconstruction, engineering and design costs; and 100 percent of operation and maintenance costs.
- The sponsor may provide a percentage of the cost-share requirement through work-in-kind (varies by program authority), and may receive credit towards cost-share responsibilities for costs associated with acquiring the real estate (LERRD) necessary to implement the project. Some program authorities may require a minimum cash contribution.

For More Information

Contact the Walla Walla District's Planning Branch chief at 509-527-7277 or the outreach coordinator at 208-345-2065.