

Chapter 4 - Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) Requests Estimates Report

The purpose of the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) is to provide matching grants to local governments for the planning, design, and implementation of stormwater best management practices and for nonpoint source nutrient credit purchases. In accordance with [§ 62.1-44.15:29.2](#) of the *Code of Virginia* DEQ in consultation with stakeholders, including representatives of the Virginia Municipal Stormwater Association (VAMSA), local governments, and conservation organizations, is required to annually determine an estimate of the amount of stormwater local assistance matching grants expected to be requested by local governments for projects that are related to planning, designing, and implementing stormwater best management practices (BMPs) and nonpoint source nutrient credit purchases that are eligible for funding from the SLAF. For FY 2024 to 2028, it is estimated that approximately \$132 million could be requested from the SLAF program (see Figure 4.1). Because the SLAF is a matching grant program, this total represents up to 50% of the total funds expended on stormwater BMPs and nonpoint source nutrient credit purchases, with the other portion being made up by financial contributions from localities.

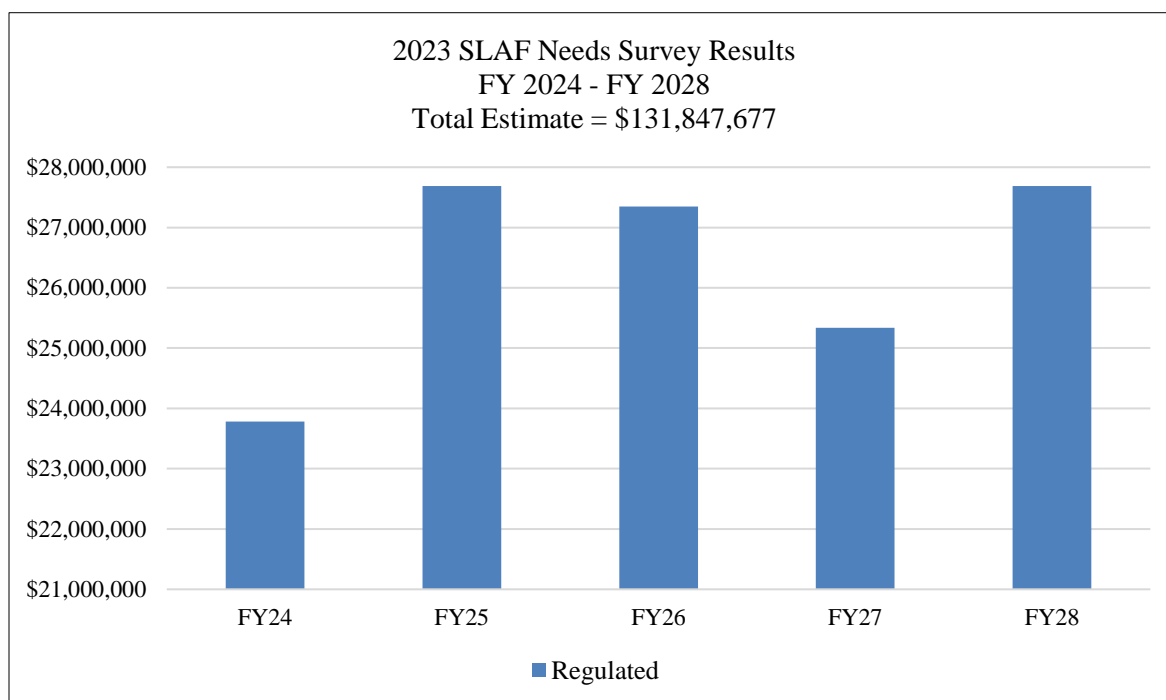


Figure 4.1: 2023 SLAF Needs Survey Results (FY 2024 – FY 2028)

The methodology for estimating the amount of stormwater local assistance matching grants expected to be requested by local governments was established by DEQ in consultation with stormwater stakeholders, including VAMSA, Virginia Municipal League (VML), Virginia Association of Counties (VACO), Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC), Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) and the James River Association (JRA). An electronic survey was created in consultation with these stakeholders and distributed to localities. The survey requested: 1)

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general, 2) programmatic, and 3) project specific information from localities. General information included the locality name and contact information. Programmatic information was requested on future SLAF funding needs over a five-year time horizon (FY 2024 to FY 2028). This timeframe was selected because it generally aligns with the time horizons of typical local Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit TMDL Action Plans. Project-specific information supporting the FY 2024 SLAF funding need was requested based on the assumption that planning or design information would be available for projects that are likely to be the subject of an FY 2024 SLAF grant application.

A total of nine complete responses to the survey were received. All nine localities identified a programmatic funding need over the five-year time horizon. Responses from seven of those localities identified project-specific funding needs for FY 2024. Of the survey respondents that identified a programmatic need, all are regulated as MS4s.

The total amount of SLAF funding needed through FY 2028 to fully fund all needs identified in the survey is \$131,847,677 (see Table 4.1). The following is a breakdown of funding need by fiscal year:

FY 2024 – \$23,784,000

FY 2025 – \$27,688,949

FY 2026 – \$27,347,125

FY 2027 – \$25,337,750

FY 2028 – \$27,689,853

Table 4.1: 2023 SLAF Needs Survey Results

Applicant	FY 2024	2025-2026 Biennium		2027-2028 Biennium		Total Need
	FY 2024*	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
Regulated	\$23,784,000	\$27,688,949	\$27,347,125	\$25,337,750	\$27,689,853	\$131,847,677
Unregulated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY Totals	\$23,784,000	\$27,688,949	\$27,347,125	\$25,337,750	\$27,689,853	\$131,847,677
TOTALS	\$23,784,000	\$55,036,074		\$53,027,603		\$131,847,677

*Need amount for FY 2024 was taken from FY 2024 programmatic data.

For the FY 2024 funding need, two localities either did not provide project-specific data or provided programmatic and project-specific data that were inconsistent. The total funding need of regulated localities for FY 2024, when calculated based on the FY 2024 input in the project-specific section, is \$20,619,000. Using programmatic data, the total FY 2024 need is \$23,784,000. Because the programmatic data for regulated localities represents the most complete data set, this figure was used to determine the anticipated total need for FY 2024 of \$23,784,000.

The survey format will remain consistent for next year to allow for multi-year comparisons, with updated questions relating overall need to new regulatory changes.