



# Work-in-Progress

## Environmental Protection Agency

### A Study to Create a Definition and Framework for Community Affordability Focused on Wastewater and Stormwater Programs

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#### BACKGROUND

Congress has had a continued interest in community affordability, particularly for wastewater and stormwater programs, and has conducted several hearings on this issue. The 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Public Law 114-113, directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to contract with the Academy "to conduct an independent study to create a definition and framework for community affordability."

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The focus of this engagement will be on updating of the 1997 Guidance that focused on wastewater controls, integrating both the 2014 Financial Capability Assessment and EPA's guidance on Integrated Stormwater and Wastewater Planning. This work will include:

1. A rigorous economic, financial, and environmental analysis;
2. Detailed discussions with stakeholders and experts (including those within the agency);
3. Facilitated forums designed to elicit and explore stakeholder views and ideally develop a consensus or, at a minimum, a thoughtful understanding of the affordability framework that the Academy ultimately recommends to the EPA
4. Identification of potential opportunities for innovative solutions that may promote affordability through cost savings; and
5. Development of a final report and briefing materials that will be useful to the EPA in vetting, adjusting to the extent the agency believes is warranted, and then implementing the recommended framework.

The Academy has convened a five-person Panel to guide this study. The project will take place over the course of one year, and will include the collection of data through:

- Consultation with the EPA, States and localities, and organizations such as the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors through facilitated sessions; and
- Review of existing studies of the costs and benefits associated with major regulations.

## PANEL

**\*Stan Czerwinski**, *Chair*. Chief Operating Officer, National Governors Association, Former positions with National Governors Association: Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, Director, Office of Administration & Finance; National Governors Association. Former positions at the U.S. Government Accountability Office: Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Controller; Associate Director, Environmental Protection. Former Assistant Director, Superfund Program; Project Director, Hurricane Andrew Task Force.

**\*Scott Fosler**. Mayor of Chevy Chase and Senior Lecturer, Center for Public Policy and Private Enterprise, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland. Former Visiting Professor and Roger C. Lipitz Senior Fellow, Center for Public Policy and Private Enterprise, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland. Former President, National Academy of Public Administration; Vice President and Director of Government Studies, Committee for Economic Development; Member and President, Montgomery County (Maryland) Council; President, Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments; Senior Fellow, Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies; Assistant to Executive Director, National Commission on Productivity; Senior Staff, Institute of Public Administration.

**\*Betsy Fretwell**, City Manager, City of Las Vegas. Former positions for the City of Las Vegas: Deputy City Manager; Assistant City Manager. Former Director, Intergovernmental Relations, City of Henderson; Strategic Issues Manager, Management Analyst II & I, Clark County.

**\*Greg Lindsey**. Professor, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. Former positions with the University of Minnesota: Interim Director, Herbert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs Ph.D Program; Executive Associate Dean; Interim Dean; Associate Dean. Positions with Indiana University Purdue University: Associate Dean, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; Faculty Fellow, Randall L. Tobias Center for Leadership Excellence, Kelley School of Business; Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; Adjunct Faculty, Department of Geography; Duey-Murphy Professor of Rural Land Policy, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; Adjunct Faculty, School of Science; Associate Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; Director, Center for Urban Policy and the Environment; Associate Director, Center for Urban Policy and the Environment; Interim Associate Dean for International Programs, Office of International Affairs; Associate Director, Center for Earth and Environmental Science, School of Science; Assistant Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Former Senior Fulbright Scholar, National Fisheries University; Chief, Policy, Planning, and Regulation Development Division, Sediment and Stormwater Administration, Maryland Department of Environment; Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Northeastern Illinois University; Executive Director, McHenry County Defenders; Environmental Planner, WAPORA Inc.; Co-Director, Community Recycling Center; Student Program Advisor, YMCA, University of Illinois.

**\*Mike Pagano**. Dean, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois at Chicago. Former Director and Professor, Graduate Program in Public Administration, University of Illinois at Chicago; Member, Intergovernmental Issues Panel, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, Miami University; Lincoln Government Fellow, National League of Cities.

## \*Academy Fellow

### PROJECT STAFF

**Joseph Mitchell**, *Director of Academy Programs*

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