

# iCAP Team Recommendation

Name of iCAP Team: Resilience Team

iCAP Team chair(s): Stacy Gloss and Scott Tess  
12/6/22

Date submitted to iWG:

Recommendation title: Student Support for the Coordinated Rainwater Management Plan

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*For internal use only:* Date reviewed by iCAP Working Group:

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## **Specific actions/policy recommendation:**

Provide internship funding support for developing a coordinated rainwater management plan, focusing on the local urbanized areas of Urbana, Champaign, Savoy, and campus communities. This plan should contribute to the green infrastructure on campus as student interns research and use campus resources as a model for the stormwater management systems for the cities. Lisa Merrifield at U of I Extension will recruit, work with, and advise the student intern for this project. Ideal candidates will be in a master's degree program and have an interest in community green infrastructure and stormwater management planning.

## **Suggested unit/department to address implementation:** UI Extension

Illinois Extension Community, along with other campus academic departments and Facilities & Services will identify existing green infrastructure models on campus and in Champaign County, contribute to research, and advertise this internship to potential students.

Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy representatives will also be engaged in this plan.

This plan will be coordinated with the biodiversity plan (in progress), campus green infrastructure models, and existing stormwater and landscaping masterplans of the cities.

## **Rationale for recommendation:**

The iCAP 2020 recommends creating a coordinated rainwater management plan for the urbanized areas of Champaign, Urbana, Savoy, and the university. The goal of this planning process is to develop a collaboration between entities to incorporate collaborative stormwater management practices, support ongoing research to enhance the green infrastructure for stormwater management development, and reduce the negative impacts of future growth and flooding with additional impervious surfaces on stormwater infrastructure and systems.

This recommendation seeks funding from the SSC or other funding mechanism to hire a student intern and meet other expenses for the development, implementation, and outreach of this plan, with Lisa Merrifield, University of Illinois Extension Community advising the student researcher/intern.

We recommend that Lisa Merrifield receive funding to hire students to facilitate a stormwater management planning process that updates building, zoning, and subdivision requirements of cities to require stormwater management. This plan will also include best practices in landscaping and design to mitigate the negative impacts of flooding and strengthen community resilience against climate change. The student interns will particularly research the existing green infrastructure on campus and display it as a model for the infrastructures

of the urbanized areas of cities. Lisa and her interns will engage city representatives and relevant college departments to create a coordinated plan.

**Connection to iCAP goals:**

Objective 8.2 Coordinated Rainwater Management: “[F&S w/ Extension] Coordinate rainwater management plans for the entire urbanized areas of Champaign, Urbana, Savoy, and the university. Starting in FY21, share the total number of green infrastructure locations on the iCAP Portal on an annual basis.”

**Perceived challenges:**

Coordination between the urbanized areas of Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy, along with the campus, may provide challenges; but is an excellent opportunity to experience real-world scenarios, practices, and challenges.

**Anticipated timeline of implementation:**

We anticipate receiving the funding and recruiting the student intern in the spring of 2023. The student intern will start the research process in the Spring of 2023 and work through the planning process over two years. A final plan will be released in 2023.

**Anticipated budget (identify if cost is up-front or continuous):**

The amount of funding that will be asked from the SSC will be determined.

**Individual comments are required from each iCAP member (one or two sentences):**

Team Member Name	Team Member's Comments
Scott Tess	I support this recommendation.
Meredith Moore	I support this recommendation.
Lacey Rains Lowe	Champaign staff supports this recommendation.
Lisa Merrifield	I support this recommendation and am willing to serve as the coordinator as outlined.
Katie Simpson	I support this recommendation, in association to the comments indicated
Warren Lavey	I support this recommendation and suggest a special focus on the environmental justice impacts of rainwater management.
Stacy Gloss	I support this recommendation and look forward to comments and feedback from the iCAP working group.
Constance Brown	I support this recommendation, in association to the comments indicated.
Morgan White	I support this recommendation

Jennifer Fraterrigo	I support this recommendation
Helen Anil	I support this recommendation
Gabriella Zervakis	I support this recommendation
Linda Derhak	I support this recommendation
Asli Topuzlu	I support this recommendation

**Further explanation and background (can be supplied in an attachment):**

**Comments from consultation group (if any; these can be anonymous):**