



**FREESE
AND
NICHOLS**

Innovative approaches
Practical results
Outstanding service



Stormwater Utility

Getting off the Funding Roller Coaster



Briefing Points



- What is “the roller coaster”?
- Reasons for the roller coaster
- Basics of a Stormwater Utility (SWU)
- OK Stormwater Utilities
- Key steps to establish a SWU
- Hints for building support



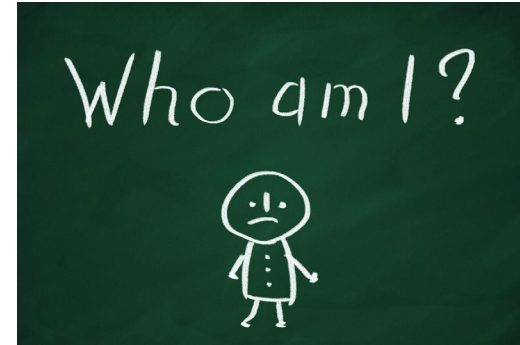
What is “the roller coaster”?



- **Resource instability**

- Lack of program identity

- Often a “stepchild” of streets



- Compete for funds with other General Fund programs

- Sporadic/short-term attention

- Bad stuff happens
 - Obstacle to development



- Limited ability to plan/prioritize/pre-empt



Recipe for Policy Maker Support

Key Ingredients

Legacy regulatory mandates

Impetus for revenue growth

Major/repeated bad things happening

Critical mass of invested constituents





Recipe for Policy Maker Support

Key Ingredients	Municipal Stormwater Perception/Reality
Legacy regulatory mandates	Recent and narrowly focused regs
Impetus for revenue growth	One-offs at best
Major/repeated bad things happening	Sporadic and quickly forgotten
Critical mass of dissatisfied constituents	Small/localized impacts

Conclusion: Particularly challenging to get stable, adequate-ish resource flow

Basics of a Stormwater Utility



- Monthly charge to property owners
- Ideally, charge based on a relevant factor
 - Typically, amount of impervious surface
- Residential/non-residential often treated differently
 - Commonly a flat fee for single family residential and actual impervious surface for non-residential
- Ideally (legally?) a dedicated revenue stream (Enterprise Fund)
 - Drainage system maintenance
 - Capital projects
 - MS4 compliance
 - Floodplain Administration
 - Development review (drainage criteria)
 - Flood warning
 - Stormwater quality



OK Stormwater Utilities



- No specific state legislation
 - Authorized via general authority to operate municipal utilities
- City specific ordinances
- 9 SWUs in Oklahoma
 - Broken Arrow, Edmond, Miami, Midwest City, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Sapulpa, Tahlequah, Tulsa
- Revenue uses
 - System Maintenance
 - MS4
 - Emergency response
 - Public Education
 - Capital projects (some)
 - Household Hazardous Waste (some)



OK Stormwater Utilities



<u>City</u>	<u>SFR fee/mo</u>	<u>Non SFR fee/mo</u>	<u>Fee basis</u>	<u>ESU (sf)</u>	<u>Tot Revenue</u>	<u>City Pop</u>	<u>\$\$/per</u>	<u>Dev area (SM)</u>	<u>\$\$/SM</u>
Broken Arrow	\$10.22	\$10.22/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	2,650	\$10.3M	123,000	\$84	28	\$371K
Edmond	\$9	\$9/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	4,860	\$5.5M	100,000	\$55	24	\$234K
Miami	\$2.00	\$2.00/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	43,560	\$132K	13,000	\$10	4	\$33K
MWC	\$3.77	\$2.42/ESU + \$7.00	Combo: Flat rates/water meter size/ESU	2,860	\$1.8M	58,000	\$31	12	\$144K
Muskogee	\$3.10	\$4.62/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	2,650	\$1.75M	37,000	\$47	16	\$108K
OKC	\$6.71	Varies	Flat SFR/ Water meter size non-SFR	NA	\$21M	716,000	\$29	166	\$127K
Sapulpa	\$4.15	\$3.51/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	2,650	\$933K	24,000	\$39	7	\$129K
Tahlequah	\$4.00	Varies	Flat SFR/Water meter size	NA	\$420K	17,000	\$25	5	\$88K
Tulsa	\$12.22	\$10.63/ESU	Flat SFR/ESU non-SFR	2,650	\$55.9M	415,000	\$135	87	\$641K

STORMWATER UTILITY ESTABLISHMENT STEPS



**Stormwater Program
Cost Evaluation**

**Revenue
Assessment**



**Stormwater
Utility**



**Implementation
Strategy**

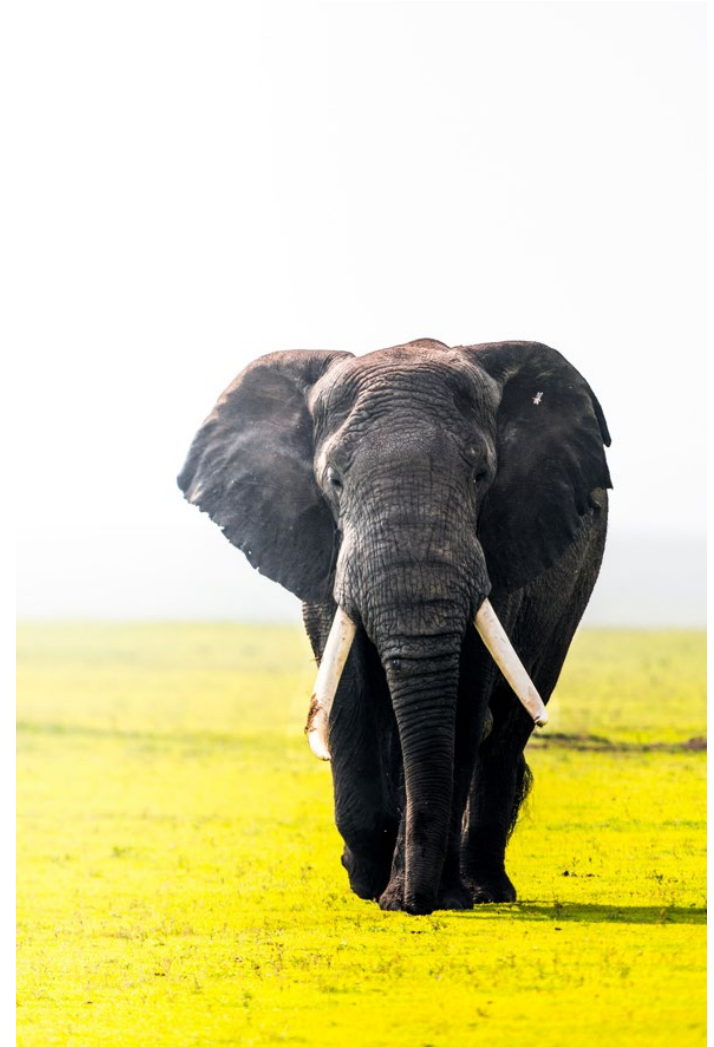
**Public
Outreach**



Hints for building support



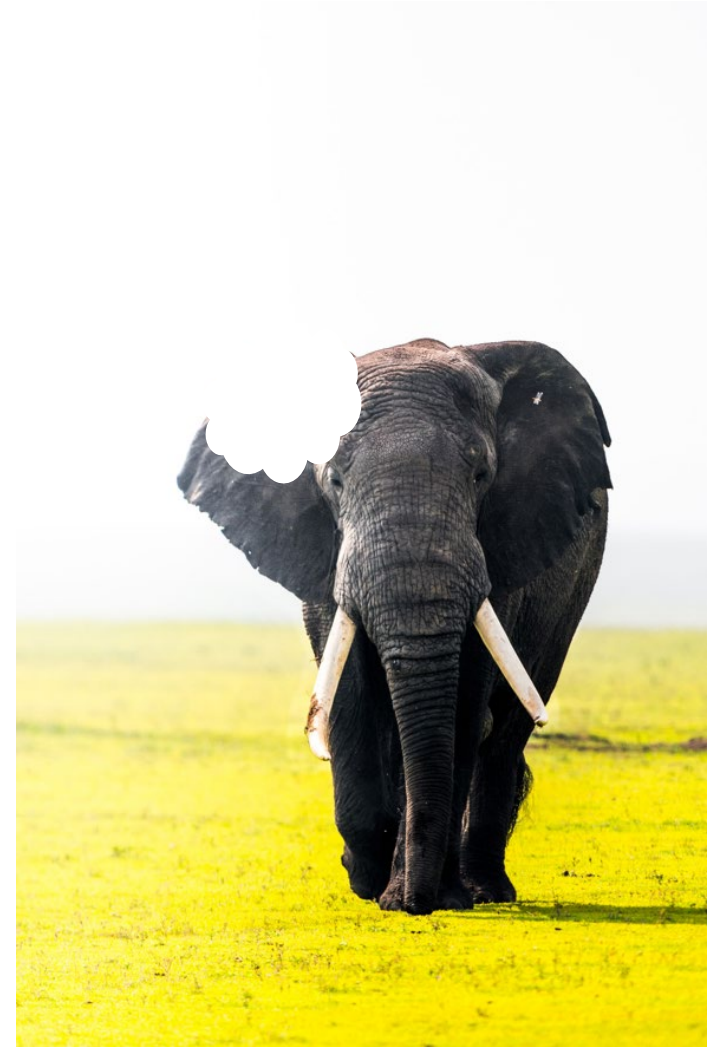
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Hints for building support



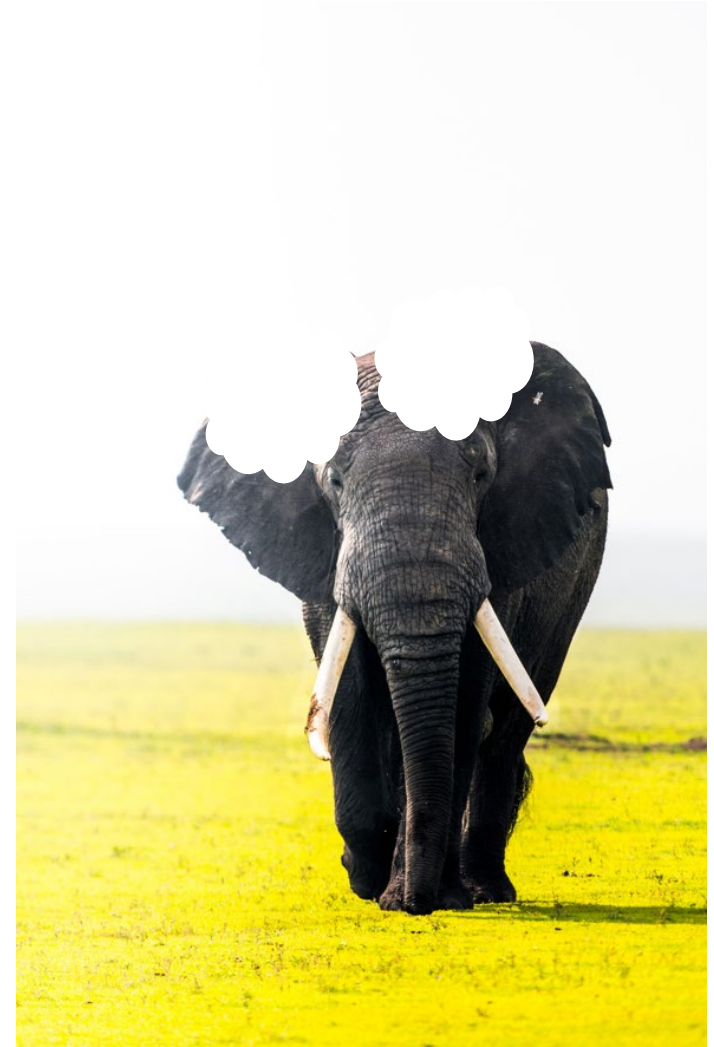
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 - Learn your system



Hints for building support



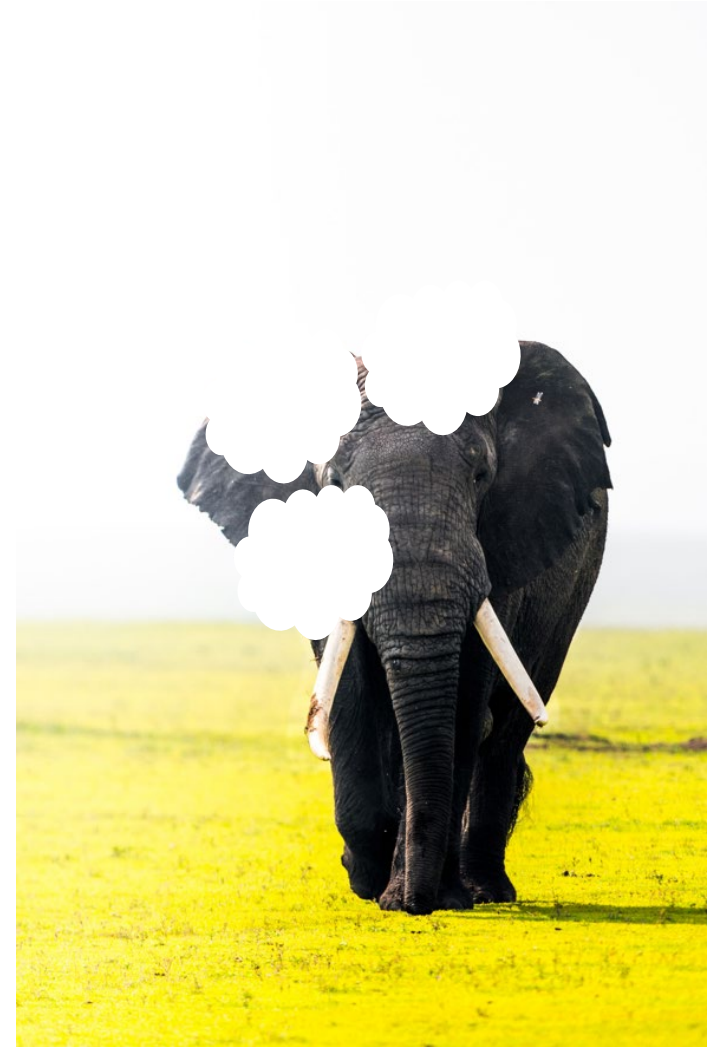
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 - Define your current level of service



Hints for building support



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 - Document events



Hints for building support



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Hints for building support



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Hints for building support



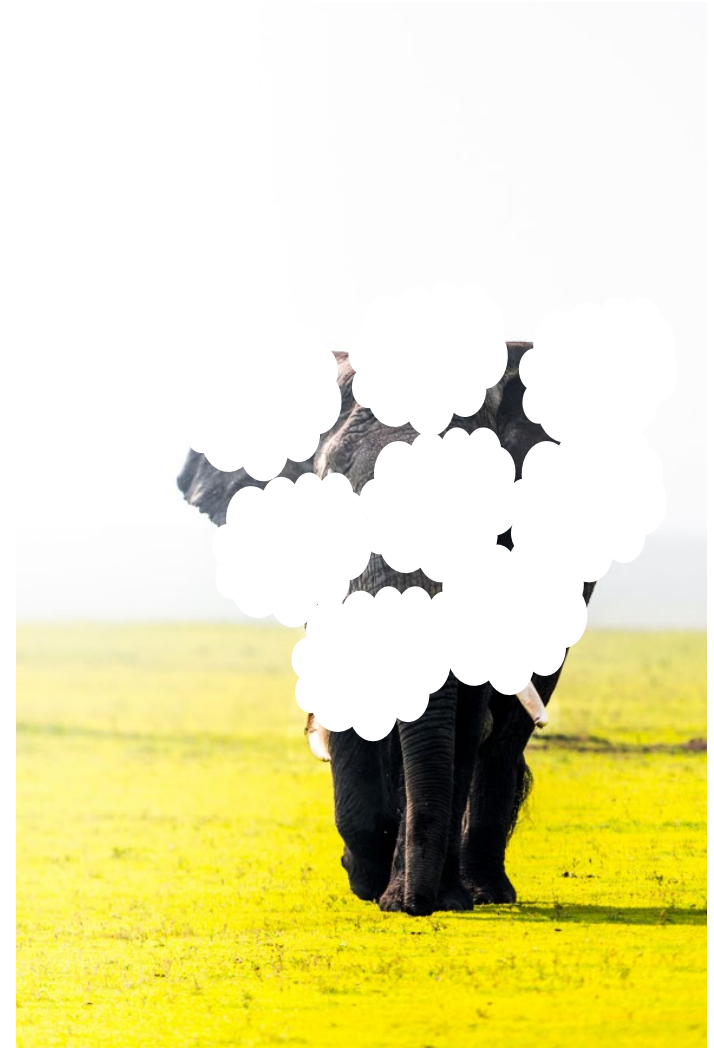
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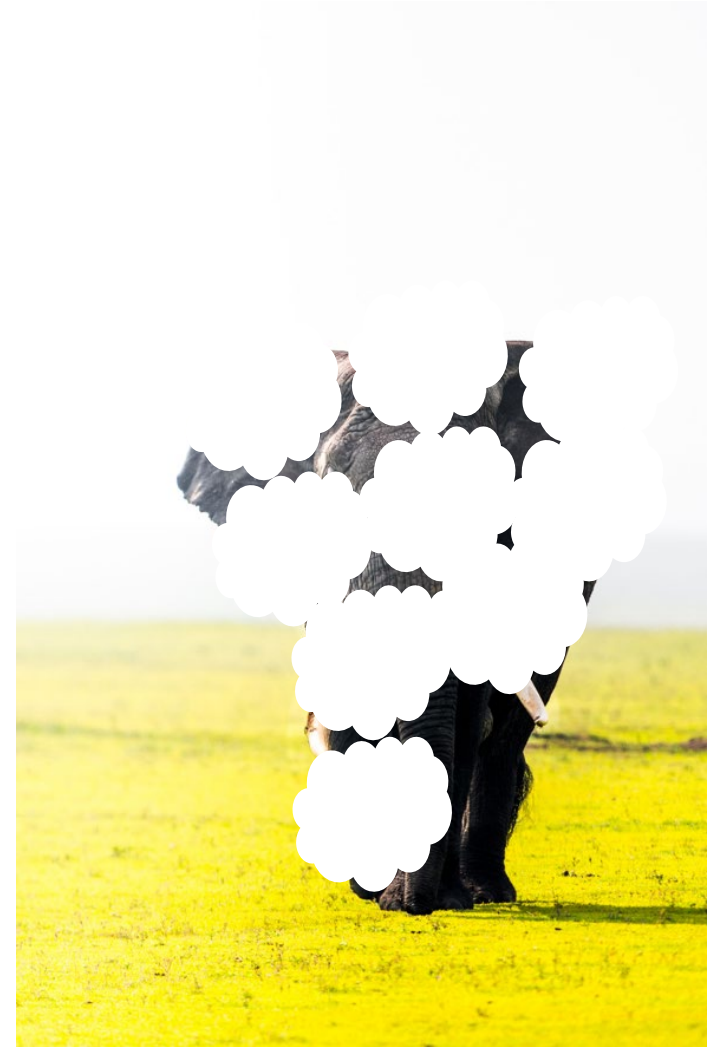
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 - Stay attuned to grant opportunities



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 - Learn from other cities
 - Leverage community champions
 - Stay attuned to grant opportunities
 - Be ready when you have “the mike”
 - Develop **objective** recommendations





Questions/Discussion?