Financial Capability Assessment Highlights

We are successful at framing issues in economic terms and helping our clients identify and communicate the consequences of decisions about the size and schedule of CSO mitigation programs.

Financial capability assessment work on behalf of various communities includes:

- **Identifying important local conditions requiring particular consideration in submissions to EPA, such as:**
  - implications of local demographic changes and tax structure for the city’s financial capability, and
  - implications of the CSO program for industry and the local economy.

- **Participating in negotiations with state & federal regulators by providing expert analysis of economic, financial, and demographic issues and conditions.**

- **Providing analysis for staff use in:**
  - explaining the need for rate increases to the community and
  - presenting the economic conditions and limitations of the community to public officials.

Industry Leaders in Water Economics

Jeff Rexhausen leads the Economics Center’s Water Economics Practice. Over his 30-year career, Mr. Rexhausen has specialized in producing financial analysis to assist public agencies and environmental groups in assessing economic feasibility and affordability issues.

Jeff is Senior Research Associate at the Economics Center, where he also undertakes projects on a range of other applied economic issues. Examples include the economic impact of a new interchange for Cincinnati’s second largest employment center and formulating economic development strategies for a growing sector of the metropolitan region.

For more information or a consultation for your community, please contact:

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Industry Experts:

Financial Capability & Affordability
Framing Economic Implications
Program Feasibility Analysis

Water Economics

Providing analyses that give communities a better understanding of the economic aspects of their clean water programs and their impacts on residents and businesses.
Recently completed an economic research project for the USEPA’s National Risk Management Research Laboratory, which is expected to be released later this summer as an EPA guidance document, *Evaluation of Green Alternatives for Combined Sewer Overflow Mitigation: A Proposed Economic Impact Framework and Illustration of Its Application*. The report uses Cincinnati MSD’s Lick Run Project to demonstrate the usefulness of the framework to communities for measuring the economic impacts of their green projects.

In the financial capability assessment, analysis of each indicator presented the current situation and developed two projections – a best case and a continuation of existing trends. The report also included an extended presentation on household burden and affordability issues, which presented several arguments against the use of a “2% of MHI” threshold.

Financial capability and affordability work for other communities such as Omaha, Akron, Kansas City, Cleveland, Columbus, South Bend, and Springfield IL. This included environmental justice aspects, as well as their overall impact on the community and the local economy.