

PROPOSITION 1 STORM WATER GRANT PROGRAM ROUND 2 SOLICITATION NOTICE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notice is to provide information to the public about the upcoming Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program Funding Solicitation.

BACKGROUND

The *Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014* (Proposition 1), was approved by California voters on November 4, 2014. Proposition 1 authorized \$200 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to provide competitive grant funds **for multi-benefit storm water management projects** (Wat. Code, § 79747). After accounting for bond and program administration costs, there was a total of approximately \$186 million available for qualifying projects.

During the first solicitation (Round 1) in 2016, the State Water Board awarded approximately \$10 Million in grant funds for planning projects, and \$113 Million for implementation projects (~\$80 Million in Prop 1 grant funding and ~\$33 Million in older bond funding).

In October 2019, the State Water Board adopted **amended Guidelines for the Round 2 solicitation** that include eligibility requirements, scoring criteria used to evaluate applications, requirements for funded projects, etc.

During this solicitation, there will be approximately \$100 Million available for eligible implementation projects.

SOLICITATION TIMELINE

The solicitation will **open April 2020** and **close on July 2, 2020**.

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Proposals are submitted electronically using the online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool ([FAAST](#)). The solicitation in FAAST consists of multiple tabs with text boxes, pull down menus, and multiple-choice selections. Applicants will also provide additional information by uploading documents on the Attachments tab. **Proposals will NOT be accepted after the deadline.**

The following FAAST resources are available online: [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [User Manual](#). If you need assistance, please contact the FAAST Help Desk between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, at 1-866-434-1083 or at FAAST_ADMIN@waterboards.ca.gov. All emails should include the subject line "Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program " and the FAAST Proposal Identification Number (PIN) if known.

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Templates for various application attachments are included in the solicitation email or may be requested by sending an email to swgp@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject "Attachment Template Request". Please request the templates early to ensure adequate time for completion and submission prior to the deadline.

ELIGIBILITY

Funding will only be available for eligible implementation (construction) projects.

Stand-alone planning projects are NOT eligible for funding during Round 2. However, planning costs directly related to a funded implementation project may be eligible.

Eligible Applicants include: Public Agencies/Utilities, 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organizations, Mutual Water Companies, State and Federally Recognized Tribes.

Eligible Projects are those that ***capture, treat, infiltrate and/or use*** storm water/dry weather runoff for a variety of potential benefits, including (but not limited to):

- Water Supply
 - Increased water supply reliability
 - Conjunctive use
 - Increased water conservation
- Water Quality
 - Increased filtration and/or treatment of runoff
 - Nonpoint source pollution control
 - Reestablish natural water drainage and treatment
- Flood Protection
 - Decreased flood risk by reducing runoff rate and/or volume
 - Reduced sanitary sewer overflows
- Environmental
 - Habitat protection and improvement
 - Increased urban green space
 - Improved air quality
 - Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
 - Water temperature improvements
- Community
 - Improved public health
 - Employment opportunities provided
 - Public education
 - Community Involvement
 - Created recreational and public use areas (green space)

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NOTEWORTHY REQUIREMENTS

We have noted a couple of significant requirements below. More details on these and other specific requirements are provided in the Guidelines for Round 2. Applicants should thoroughly review the Guidelines for Round 2 prior to submitting a proposal.

- **Project must be listed in a [Storm Water Resource Plan](#) that the State Water Board has concurred with.** Note: Projects benefiting a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) with a population of 20,000 or less that is not a co-permittee for an MS4 permit issued to a municipality with a population of more than 20,000, and/or (2) projects that are in an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) and are covered under an approved ASBS Compliance Plan, are exempt from this requirement. *Exempt projects still must be submitted to the local Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group for incorporation into an adopted IRWM Plan.*
- **In general, there is a 50% match requirement based on the Total Project Cost.** The required match may be reduced for projects located in and benefitting a DAC or Economically Distressed Area (See Table 2 of the Guidelines). Requests for Match Reduction must include the information requested in Appendix A of the Guidelines.

PROJECT PREFERENCES

Appendix B-2 of the Guidelines provides the proposal evaluation scoring criteria. Consistent with the Guidelines, during the proposal evaluation and scoring process, **additional points will be awarded to projects that:**

- *Provide benefits to a DAC/EDA;*
- *Demonstrate readiness to proceed;*
- *Demonstrate adequate public outreach and support for the proposed project;*
- *Provide a competitive unit cost-benefit (i.e. \$ per Acre-feet);*
- *Include Water Supply or Water Quality as a primary benefit;*
- *Propose to use captured storm water/dry weather runoff at multiple locations;*
- *Propose multiple uses of captured storm water/dry weather runoff; and*
- *Include Nature-Based project elements (i.e. create green space).*

PROGRAM UPDATES

All potential applicants are strongly encouraged to sign up for emails to stay informed about any updates or changes to the solicitation process. To sign up, access the State Water Board's [email subscription form](#), enter your name and email address, select "Financial Assistance (Grants & Loans)", and click on "Storm Water Grant Program."

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MORE INFORMATION

Please refer to the following for more detailed information regarding the Round 2 Solicitation.

Program Webpage:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/swgp/prop1/

Program Guidelines:

Posted on the webpage link above.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

Posted on the webpage link above.

Additional Questions:

Please direct additional questions you may have regarding the Round 2 solicitation to swgp@waterboards.ca.gov.