

Funding for Water-Related Projects

Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County
Integrated Regional Water Management Region

February 1, 2022





Prepared by: Water Resources & Policy Initiatives, California State University & PlaceWorks









Project Description Webinar Team





County of Ventura

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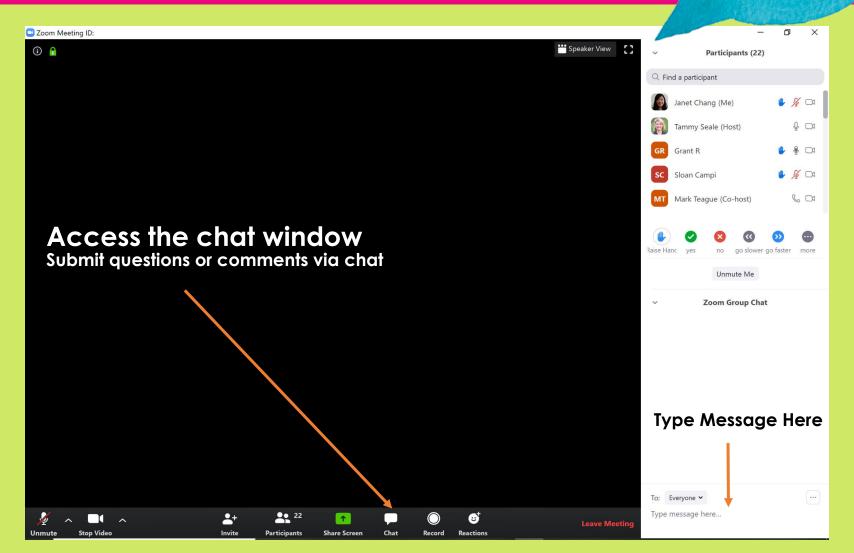


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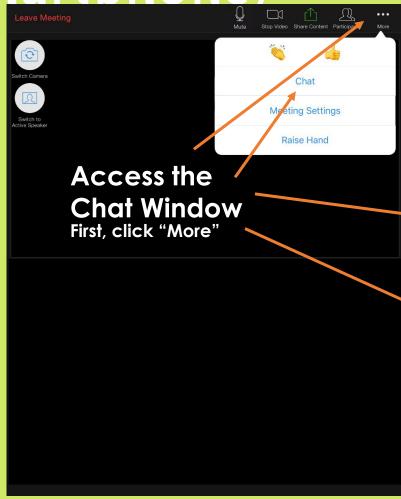
ZOOM MEETING CONTROLS (Desktop)

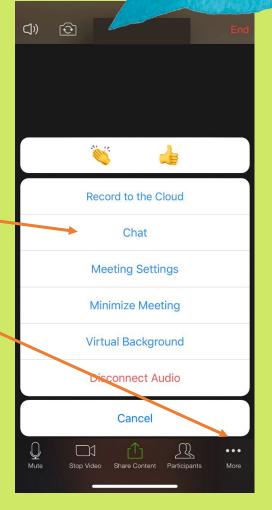
WHAT TECHNICAL ISSUES SHOULD YOU BE AWARE OFF?



ZOOM MEETING CONTROLS (Tablet & Smartphone)

WHAT TECHNICAL ISSUES SHOULD YOU BE AWARE OFF?





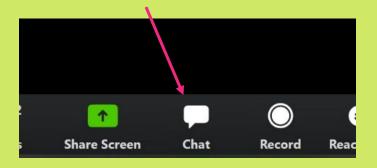
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ZOOM MEETING HELP



If you have any project-related questions or comments, share them via chat.

For help with how to use Zoom, send a chat message to:
"1_Questions? Ask me!"



Webinar Presentation



Today's presentation can be downloaded here:

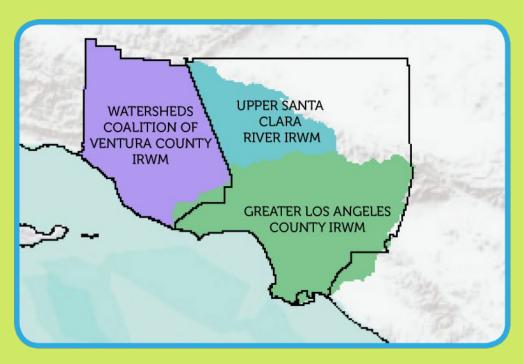
https://watertalks.csusb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/WaterTalks_Webinar_Module_1.pptx

We're posting the link in the chat box as well!

IRWM REGIONS

Integrated Regional Water Management



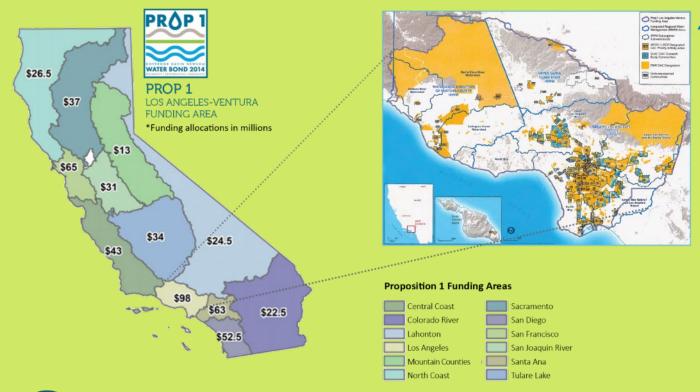


- Integrated Regional Water
 Management Planning Act (SB 1672) of 2002
- IRWM provides a framework for collaboratively identifying and implementing regional water solutions.
- There are three Southern
 California IRWM Regions in a shared funding area.
 - Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC)
 - Upper Santa Clara River (USCR)
 - Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC)



Proposition 1 IRWM Grant

WHAT IS PROP 1?





Where can I learn more?

Proposition 1: California's Integrated Regional Water Management, and the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program (DACIP), see the following websites:

- https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1
- https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1/DAC-Involvement-Program

Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program

WHAT IS DACIP?

A Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program was formed for the three Southern California IRWM Regions to ensure the involvement of:

- Disadvantaged communities (DACs),
- Economically distressed areas (EDAs),
- Underrepresented communities

A DACIP task force was established to:

- Facilitate a consensus-based approach to implement the DACIP
- Identify community needs and strengths
- Build local capacity through technical assistance for project development

\$9.8 million dollars of the Prop 1 IRWM Grant for the three Southern California IRWM regions was allocated to these tasks.

WaterTalks

WHAT IS WATERTALKS?

As part of DACIP, DAC Consultants in collaboration with NGOs, created the WaterTalks Program.

WaterTalks is a public program to generate and increase community involvement in water management in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.



Clean Water



hydration, food production and sanitation needs.

Drainage & Vector Concerns



Management of drainage water is important to reduce water related vector-borne diseases.

Clean water is essential to our

Flood Protection



Flood protection strategies are vital to preventing flooding catastrophes in our counties, cities and neighborhoods.

Health & Well-Being



Educate people about their water quality to ensure healthy living.

Green Walkable Neighborhoods & Safe Routes to School

WATER



Water is an essential ingredient for shaded, walkable, and healthy streets.

Multi-Objective Parks, Recreation, & Habitats



Access to natural resources (i.e. creeks, streams, rivers etc.) and open space directly contributes to public and environmental health.

Today you will learn how to get involved in the IRWM process by:

- 1. Generating and Describing Project Ideas
- 2. Organizing Community Support
- 3. Identifying and Approaching Agencies
- 4. Identifying Technical Needs and Resources
- 5. Identifying Funding Sources
- 6. Navigating Funding Requirements



Purpose of this Training



There are many different projects that can be funded and many ways to apply for funding.

- In the morning session, we are focusing on developing project proposals for many types of funding sources.
- In the afternoon session we will take you through submitting proposals using one specific tool.



GENERATING AND DESCRIBING PROJECT IDEAS



The Needs Assessment Report for the WCVC region identified the following community strengths:

- Strong sense of community
- Greenspace between cities, where many DAC communities tend to recreate
- Clean beaches
- Social service programs
- Local businesses
- Variety of resources, collaborations and strategies for addressing homelessness



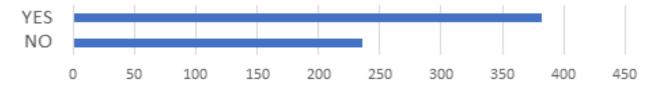


The Needs Assessment Report for the WCVC region identified the following water related issues and opportunities that will help guide the development of project ideas and the selection of projects:

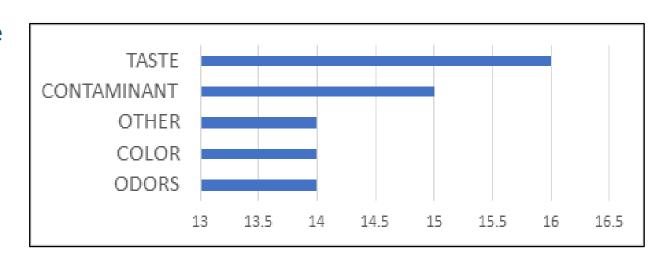
- Water contamination due to trash and industrial facilities
- Drinking water quality
- High cost of water
- Water availability for fire suppression and agriculture
- Access to clean safe water
- Inadequate wastewater collection and treatment
- Drinking water availability
- Recreational water safety
- Flooding
- Compliance with new regulatory requirements

WHAT WERE
THE KEY FINDINGS
FOR COMMUNITY
NEEDS?

When asked whether there were concerns about drinking water quality respondents answered as follows:



Concerns included the following:



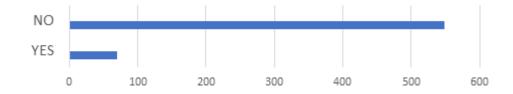


Broader concerns with crossover to water related issues included:

- A lack of green space and recreational opportunities
- Homelessness
- The need for more affordable housing and high paying jobs
- Increasing closure of roadways due to flooding and fire, isolating communities
- A lack of water storage for use during droughts and fires
- The need to reduce and limit development

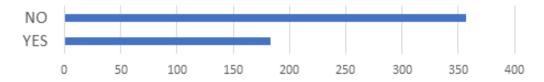
IS THE
COMMUNITY
ENGAGING IN
WATER
PLANNING?

Respondents in DAC communities were also asked whether they participated in water related planning in the community:



Community members sited: language barriers, lack of internet service, not having time to attend, no idea who their water provider is or what IRWM is.

And whether they had ideas on how water problems could be addressed:





Of the 618 community members surveyed in Ventura County:

- Nearly half agreed that their local government was addressing infrastructure and beautification issues.
- Less than a third (30%) of resident respondents in Ventura felt their voices were being heard in community planning.
- Less than half (42%) of the Ventura respondents were aware of their water provider.
- Additionally, very few (10%) of the respondents in the communities were aware of the IRWM program or any water-related educational programs (11%).

Projects and Programs Identified



Projects and program ideas identified during the DACIP needs assessment process:

- Programs that enable local communities to access water-saving programs funded and managed by the State.
- Improving resident education and policies that promote water conservation and more ground cover as an alternative to impervious surfaces.
- Developing and promoting in-home water filter incentive and tap water testing programs.



More project ideas are included in the Needs Assessment Report:

https://watertalks.csusb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Ventura-County-Needs-Assessment-Report_Draft_v_1_28_2022.docx.pdf

Projects and Programs Identified



Projects and Programs continued:

- Implementation of more Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Dedicating city staff to clean riverbeds more frequently.
- Development of programs for affordable septic to sewer conversion.
- Assistance to identify and fix leaks within buildings and external infrastructure.
- Utilization of old parking lots for more greenspaces.
- Utilization of more diverse outreach methods.
- Evaluation of water quality and availability on a more regular basis.



More project ideas are included in the Needs Assessment Report:

https://watertalks.csusb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Ventura-County-Needs-Assessment-Report_Draft_v_1_28_2022.docx.pdf

DACIP Funded Activity Types



General Categories	Examples of Activities
Needs Assessments	Survey community members or water providers and facilitate meetings or workshops
Education	Translation or interpretive services for information sharing, water campaigns for community, and education on DAC needs
Community Outreach	Public meetings open to DAC community members and door-to-door outreach DAC regional engagement coordinator role, DAC advisory committee to the WCVC, and DAC
Engagement in IRWM Efforts	representatives in governance
Facilitation	Facilitate WCVC meetings and facilitate project development meetings
Technical Assistance	Public agency/elected official capacity building, facilitation, and agency staff training
Governance Structure	Facilitate, increase DAC involvement in decision making, assess water charges/rate plans, assess consolidation of water providers, and enhancement of DAC aspects of IRWM Plans
Site Assessment	Water quality assessments, median household income surveys, and data and mapping activities
Enhancement of DAC	Development of funding area-wide DAC plans to be utilized as a unified approach for all
Aspects in IRWM Plans Project Development	IRWM plans Environmental compliance, pre-construction activities, site assessment, grant writing, and
Activities or Construction	project development
Financial Strategy	Provide aid with grant applications

Eligibility for DACIP Funds



Eligible Applicants:

- Public agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Public utilities
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes
- State Indian Tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's
 Tribal Consultation list
- Mutual Water Companies

For DACIP funding the activities must serve a DAC or EDA.



The mapping tools can be accessed here:

https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Mapping-Tools

Project Examples PROP 1- ROUND 1 IMPLEMENTATION AND OTHER GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FUNDED?



Iron and Manganese Treatment Project

United Water Conservation District



El Rio Groundwater Recharge Project
County of Ventura



Project Examples Cont'd PROP 1- ROUND 1 IMPLEMENTATION AND OTHER GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FUNDED?



Allen J Martin Park Stormwater
Capture Project
County of Los Angeles



Elmer Avenue Green Street Project
County of Los Angeles



Advanced Metering
Infrastructure Project
Las Virgenes Municipal
Water District



To learn more about previously funded projects, visit:

https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/irwmp/FileList.aspx?path=docs\Round%201%20Implementation%20Grant%20Proposal%20Projects%20Presentation

Iron and Manganese Treatment Project

United Water Conservation District

EXAMPLE PROJECT PROP 1-ROUND 1

Project Description:

- Construct groundwater treatment plant
- Goal to improve water for wells in
 El Rio wellfield located in DAC area
- Removal of iron and manganese at 3,500 gallons per minute

Funding:

- Total project cost \$ 9.58 million
- Grant amount \$ 2.5 million



El Rio Groundwater Recharge Project

County of Ventura Stormwater Program



Project Description:

- Pervious pavement retrofit in road right-of-way and gutters in El Rio
- Dry-weather runoff and stormwater from 64 acres of residential area is captured, treated, and infiltrated to groundwater
- Improvement of surface water and groundwater quality and floodplain mitigation

Funding:

- Total project cost \$1.3 million
- Grant funding \$962,001



Allen J Martin Park Stormwater Capture Project County of Los Angeles

EXAMPLE PROJECT PROP 1- ROUND 1

Project Description

- Stormwater diversion and pre-treatment
- Includes 7.1 acre-feet storage vault
- 8 infiltration wells allows infiltration of 40 acre-feet/year

Funding/Budget

- Grant Request: \$2M
- Matching Funds: \$15.7M
- Total Estimated Cost: \$17.7M





Elmer Avenue Green Street Project

County of Los Angeles

EXAMPLE PROJECT
Funded by City of LA
Prop. O

Project Description:

- Captures storm water flow from 20acre area - diverts runoff to green alley way
- Runoff flows onto permeable materials and into bioswales and infiltrates into underground aquifers
- Includes drought tolerant plantings and educational signage
- Potential to capture, treat and infiltrate 1,300,000 gallons of storm water

Funding/Budget:

- Total Cost \$550,000
- Funded by City of LA Proposition O and Council for Watershed Health





Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

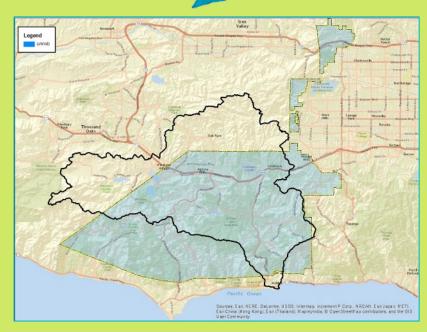
EXAMPLE PROJECT PROP 1- ROUND 1

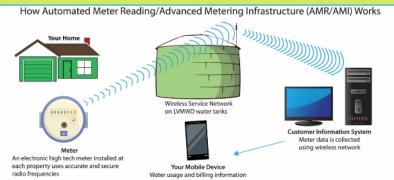
Project Description:

- Replaces or retrofits approx. 22,000
 manually-read water utility meters
 with Advanced Metering
 Infrastructure (AMI) or "Smart Meters"
- Will automatically relay meter data wirelessly on a continuous basis

Funding:

- Funding Request: \$1,500,000
- Matching Funds: \$8,500,000
- Total Project Cost: \$10,500,000







ORGANIZING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Importance of Community Support



Once a project idea is conceptualized it is important to plan for community outreach.

Community support is:

- An ongoing process and should continue throughout the project
- Creates an opportunity for diverse stakeholders to come together
- Essential for gathering input from the community
- Essential for keeping the community appraised of progress
- Essential for identifying resources and developing relationships



Importance of Community Support



Benefits of Community support:

- Projects with community support have an easier time with roll out
- Community input can inform project proponents of successful outreach practices
- Gives project proponents a better understanding of local needs, strengths, and concerns



Stakeholders



Community outreach should include:

Publicly noticed or informal outreach and education events with multiple stakeholders:

- Local DAC focused community organizations
- Leaders in educational institutions
- Churches or faith-based institutions
- Health/social/legal service providers
- Business organizations
- Elected and other local government representatives
- Members of the public
- Water/wastewater providers



Outreach Tools



Community outreach tools include:

- Community-based education materials
- Door-to-door outreach
- Signs and pamphlets at the library, community center, etc.
- A trusted on-the-ground community member to champion the project
- Virtual meeting



Community Support Available Resources



Community outreach can be accomplished:

- In collaboration with a local agency, NGO, CBO, or technical assistance group
- These entities will typically have:
 - An outreach program/procedures that can be catered to specific projects
 - Knowledge of the local community, key issues and concerns
 - Existing relationships that can be leveraged and built on
 - Possible familiarity with IRWM planning
- IRWM DACIP funding could also be used to conceptualize and roll out a community outreach program



IDENTIFYING AND APPROACHING AGENCIES

Importance of Agency Collaboration



Agencies can assist with:

- Community support
- Data collection
- Site/needs assessments
- Project development
- Identifying funding sources
- Filling out grant applications



Agencies can collaborate with multiple other agencies and nonprofits.

Collaborations enable resource needs to be identified and resolved quicker.

It is crucial for community members to collaborate with a trusted agency.

Identifying Agencies



Examples of agencies that can help:

- State and Federal Agencies
- Local water provider
- Wastewater district
- Countywide Agencies
- Stormwater quality program
- Local municipality
- Resource Conservation District



Water Service Providers

WHO CAN
HELP WITH
WATER RELATED
PROJECTS?

Some of the Water service providers that serve DACs include:

Casitas Municipal Water District	Piru Mutual Water Company
Casitas Mutual Water Company	Rancho Sespe Workers Imp. Assoc.
City of San Buenaventura Water Works	California American Water
Aliso Mutual Water Company	Alta Mutual Water Company
Oxnard City Water Services	Rio Plaza Water Company Inc
Cloverdale Mutual Water Company	The Mutual Water Company of Vineyard Ave. Estates
Rio Manor Mutual Water Company	Vineyard Ave. Acres Mutual Water Company
City of Santa Paula	Farmers Irrigation Company
Teague-Mckevett Division - Limoneira	City of Fillmore - Water Dept
Fillmore Irrigation Company	Fillmore West Trailer Park
Rio Manor Mutual Water Company	Vineyard Ave. Acres Mutual Water Company
Strickland Mutual Water Company	Alta Mutual Water Company
Garden Acres Mutual Water Company	Nyeland Acres Mutual Water Company
Oxnard Water Department	United Water Conservation District
Cypress Mutual Water Company	Dempsey Road Mutual Water Company



For a full list of Ventura County water purveyors please visit:

https://s29422.pcdn.co/wp-

content/uploads/2018/08/WaterPurveyors_Web.pdf

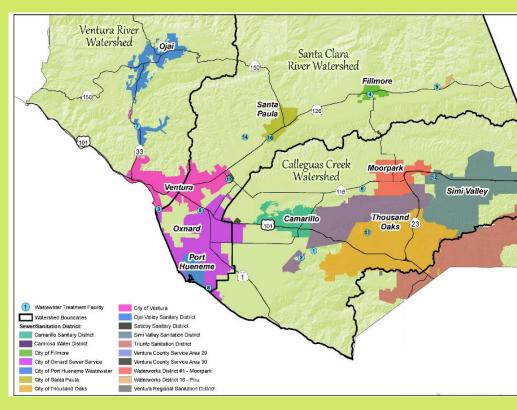
To find your water provider:

Wastewater Districts

WHO CAN HELP WITH WASTEWATER PROJECTS

17 Wastewater Districts serve our communities including the following that serve DACs:

- City of Santa Paula
- City of Ventura
- Saticoy Sanitary District
- City of Oxnard Sewer Service
- City of Filmore
- Ojai Valley Sanitary District
- Waterworks District 18 Piru
- City of Oxnard Sewer Service



Water and Wastewater Service Providers

WHO CAN
HELP WITH
WATER RELATED
PROJECTS?

Water service providers can assist with projects related to:

- Water quality projects
- Water supply projects
- Improving physical and emergency water infrastructure
- Water challenges associated with droughts

Wastewater districts can assist with projects related to:

- Improving physical and emergency sewer infrastructure
- Addressing overflows during storms

Other Agencies

WHO CAN HELP WITH OTHER TYPES OF PROJECTS?

Ventura County:

- Public Works Agency
- Flood Control District
- County Continuum of Care
- Watershed Protection District

Stormwater Quality Program:

Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program

Local municipalities:

Public works departments (City of Ventura, Oxnard, Santa Paula etc.)

Resource Conservation District:

Ventura County RCD



For more information on these agencies please visit:

https://www.vcstormwater.org/

https://www.venturacoc.org/

https://www.vcpublicworks.org/wp/

https://www.vcstormwater.org/

https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/189/Public-Work

https://www.oxnard.org/city-department/publicworks/

https://spcity.org/205/Public-Works

https://vcrcd.org/

Approaching Agencies



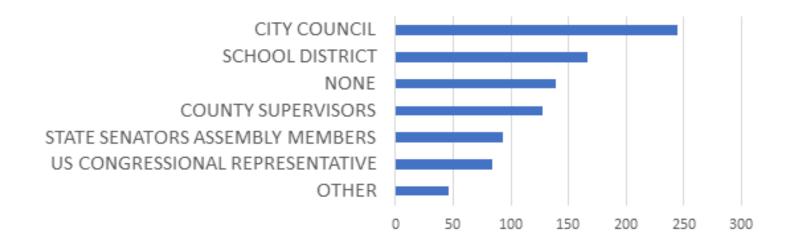
Once the best agency is identified, approaching an agency could involve:

- Identifying who at the agency to talk to:
 - By finding a community member to make an introduction
 - Asking your elected city council member or County Board of Supervisor's staff to help you connect with the right agency staff member
- Small mutual companies may not have employees, a website or an office
- Larger agencies will have staff, a website and contact details online
- Unincorporated communities: Contact the local water service provider/utility or the appropriate County Supervisor if that isn't successful
- Incorporated cities: Call the city water utility or a City Council Member if that isn't successful
- Be able to discuss your project, what you need, who's supporting your project.
 Advocate for your project.

Approaching Agencies

WHAT AGENCIES DO DAC MEMBERS GET THEIR INFO FROM?

When community members were asked what governing entities and/or elected officials they seek information from or receive information from they responded with the following:





IDENTIFYING TECHNICAL NEEDS AND RESOURCES

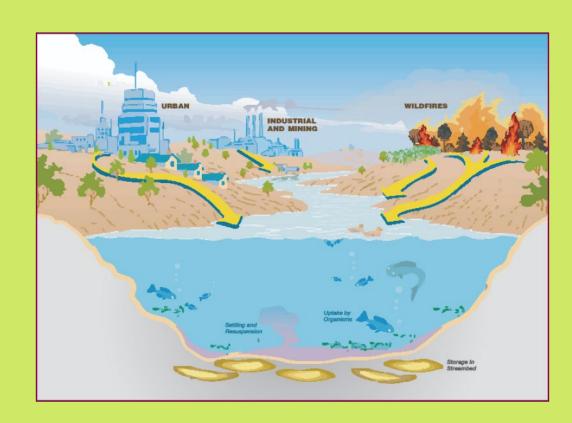
Identifying Technical Needs



Technical needs vary according to the type of project. Examples include:

Water Quality Needs:

The type of water testing, what should be tested, what lab to use, how to collect samples etc.



Identifying Technical Needs

WHAT DO I NEED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR?

Stormwater Project: Assessing site specific geology for infiltration projects, groundwater conditions, drainage area and existing storm drain system, collecting site-specific data such as soil and infiltration testing, mapping drainage area, selecting a preliminary design etc.



Identifying Technical Needs



Water Supply Project: Feasibility studies (to assess options), engineering plans, designs specifications, permits, environmental compliance, regulatory requirements etc.



Identifying Technical Assistance Groups

WHO CAN HELP WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE?

Technical resources can be identified through collaborations with technical assistance groups and/or local agencies such as:

- County partnerships for infrastructure projects
- State Water Board's Office of Sustainable Water Solutions
- State agencies (Regional Water Quality Control Boards)
- Water Resources & Policy Initiatives (WRPI) at California State
 University
- California Rural Water Association
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation
- Community Water Center
- Local agencies
- Resource Conservation District



IRWM DACIP funding could also be used for technical assistance needed to conceptualize a project.



IDENTIFYING FUNDING SOURCES

Identifying Funding Sources



Organizations that can help with identifying funding sources include:

All the Technical Assistance Groups previously mentioned

Resources that can help with identifying funding sources include:

- Funding Navigation for California Communities
- US EPAs Clearinghouse for Environmental Finance
- California Grants Portal
- California Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC)

For more information visit:



https://www.fundingresource.org/

https://ordspub.epa.gov/ords/wfc/f?p=165:1:7509890781617

https://www.grants.ca.gov/

https://cfcc.ca.gov



Identifying Funding Sources

WHAT GRANTS CAN YOU APPLY FOR?

Primary funding sources include

- Proposition 1 funding: IRWM DAC and non-DAC grants
- State Water Board Programs
- Department of Water Resources Programs
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- Strategic Growth Council Programs
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) BRIC (Building Resilient Communities)





Proposition 1: Non-IRWM Funding

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS CAN BE FUNDED?

Prop 1 Non-IRWM Funding Programs Administered by State Water Board

- Program accepts applications on an ongoing basis
- Application requirements vary by program
- Programs:
 - Small Community Wastewater (all funds allocated)
 - Water Recycling
 - Drinking Water
 - Storm Water
 - Ground Water





Where can I learn more?

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1.html Select "Current Funding" tab on this page

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

WHERE ELSE CAN WE GET FUNDING?

State Water Board has a variety of other grant programs, including:

- Division of Financial Assistance Drought Funding
- Prop 68 Groundwater Treatment and Remediation Grant Program
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- Underground Storage Tanks Cleanup Fund
- Stormwater Grant Program
- Cleanup and Abatement Account
- Non-point Source (NPS) Pollution Control Program





Where can I learn more?

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/ Select "Current Funding" tab on this page

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

WHERE ELSE CAN
WE GET
FUNDING?

Department of Water Resources has many grant programs, covering:

- Environmental Restoration
- Flood Related
- Ground Water
- Integrated Regional Water Management
- Water Quality or Drinking Water
- Water Supply or Management
- Water Use Efficiency



OTHER FUNDING SOURCES



- USDA Rural Development offers water & waste disposal loans & grants in rural areas in California
- California Environmental Protection Agency offers a variety of grants, including Environmental Justice Small Grants
- California Natural Resources Agency offers bonds and grants for creek,
 stream, and river parkway enhancements and flood protection

Where can I learn more?



- https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/ca
- https://calepa.ca.gov/envjustice/funding/
- https://resources.ca.gov/grants

Accessing DAC Funds through WATERTALKS

HOW CAN
WATERTALKS HELP
FUND MY
PROJECT?

WaterTalks Outreach

Outreach Round 1

(Summer 2019-Spring 2020)

Objective: Educate and Inform

Outreach Round 2

Objective: Assess needs and identify projects

WaterTalks Outreach Events

IRWM staff assists with funding source identification

IRWM

Region

staff selects

Round 3
Projects*

Outreach Round 3

Objective: Technical assistance to develop project proposals

Project
Proposals
Project
Project
Project
Selection

Implementation of Funded Projects

(Not all projects will be funded)

Notes:

*DAC funding is limited and is NOT guaranteed for any project

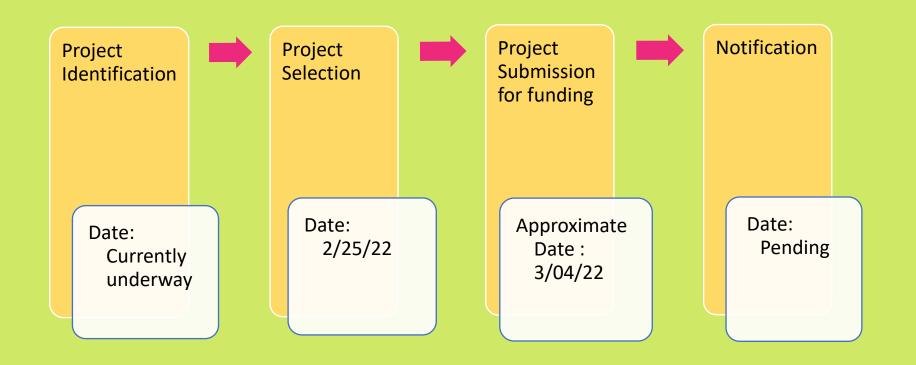
Track 1: Ventura Request for Proposals Timeline

WHERE ELSE CAN WE GET FUNDING?



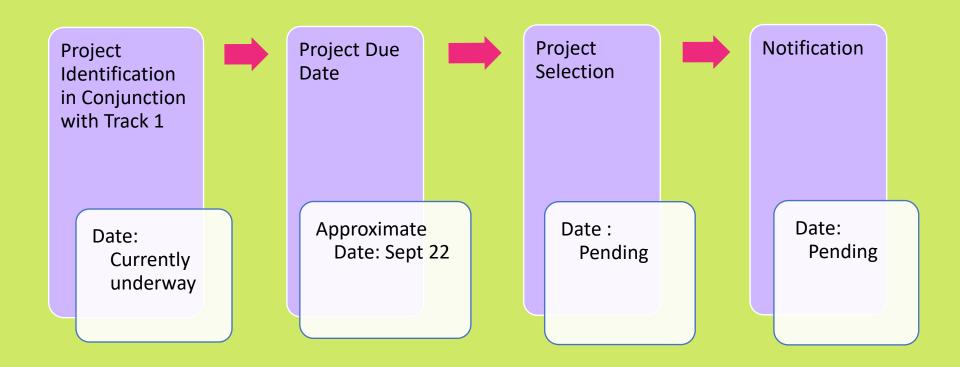
Track 2: Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Funding

WHERE ELSE CAN
WE GET
FUNDING?



Track 3: IRWM Round 2 Funding







NAVIGATING FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Funding Requirements



Different funding sources have different requirements; however, the following is usually required when submitting a proposal for funding:

- Budget: high level budget, which includes staff hours, rates, contractors, materials and supplies, O&M costs if allowed
- Scope of work: project description, task breakdown, deliverables, management/coordination activities
- Schedule: milestones, start and end date, schedule narrative justifying timespans – ability to complete project within grant timelines
- Fund-specific paperwork requirements
- Ability to conduct environment review (required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in a timely manner
- Description, and possible quantification, of benefits

Contacts



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