

Finding Funding: Keeping IRWM alive

IRWM Conference

May 22, 2015 Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director

Slide No. 1

GRANTS? LOANS?

Well it depends on what pocket you want to pick. But it really is the same pair of pants...

Grant vs. Loan

Bond

- Convince legislature to draft a proposition that has funding for projects like yours
- Convince voters to pass a statewide proposition
- Compete for the funding
- Get a grant that knocks off 10 to 20% of your costs

Loan

- Apply to State Revolving Fund program
- Get through the application process
- Begin your project
- Save 25% on your financing costs

Grant vs. Loan

Grant

- Voters agree to tax themselves – but for a vague concept of what for
- State sells bonds, pledges general revenues of the state to repay
- Bond funds are turned into grants
- State pays \$2 back for every \$1 borrowed
- Many voters get no direct benefit

Loan

- Users agree to include enough in their usage charges to include debt
- Enter into loan agreement or other debt instrument
- Funds used to construct project
- With SRF loan pay back \$1.25 to \$1.45
- Users all get a direct benefit

WHY PLAY THE LOTTERY?

They don't keep the lights on in Vegas by giving away money!

THERE IS NO "I" IN REGONAL

Think beyond your boundaries. Think like a citizen of the regon.

Covet thy neighbors wastewater.

Join together to share a resource.

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Infrastructure Needs

- Safe Drinking Water needs survey showed CA's total need at \$39 billion in the next 20 years.
 - Transmission and distribution systems \$23
 billion
 - Source water development \$2.5 billion
 - Treatment \$7.5 billion
 - Storage \$5.7 billion

Infrastructure Needs

- Clean Watersheds Needs survey, done in 2008, documented a funding need of approximately \$30 billion.
 - Wastewater \$26 billion
 - Stormwater \$3.8 billion
 - Non-Point Source \$106 million

THE MATH

\$30 billion + \$39 billion = \$69 billion

\$7 billion / \$69 billion = 10%

Your not going to proposition your way out this fix!

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PROPOSITION 1 WATER QUALITY, SUPPLY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014 (ASSEMBLY BILL 1471, RENDON)

- Authorized \$7.545 billion in general obligation bonds for water projects
- The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will administer five programs (\$2.145 billion):
 - Wastewater
 - Water Recycling
 - Drinking Water
 - Stormwater
 - Groundwater



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PROPOSITION 1 FUNDING GUIDELINES

- Section 79706 requires creation of funding guidelines
 - Three public meetings through the state
 - Public meetings for Small Community Wastewater and Recycled Water completed
 - Public workshops for Drinking Water:
 - June 25th Fresno
 - June 29th Riverside
 - Early July Sacramento
 - Stormwater and groundwater in Winter/Spring 2016
 - Draft guidelines posted on internet at least 30 days prior
 - See our Prop 1 webpage for the email list that you should sign up for to get notice of availability.

SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER PROPOSITION 1, CHAPTER 5, SECTION 79723

- \$260 million to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Small Community Grant (SCG) Fund
- Drought bill (AB 91) appropriated \$65 million which will be available upon adoption of Guidelines
- State Water Board's Division of Financial Assistance (Division) is proposing to use existing procedures for administering these grant funds

SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER PROPOSED PROCESS

- Utilize the CWSRF application and approval process, as described in the CWSRF Policy and CWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)
- Simplifies the funding process and allows grants to be easily combined with low-interest financing available through the CWSRF Program
- Applications accepted continuously
- Eligible projects are funded in the order applications are completed and approved

SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING MAXIMUMS

- Planning Projects
 - Wastewater planning activities, such as:
 - Feasibility/engineering studies
 - Environmental studies
 - Rate studies
 - Any small DAC (regardless of wastewater rates) may receive 100% of eligible planning costs as a grant, not to exceed \$500,000
 - Planning grant disbursements will reduce the maximum construction grant amount accordingly

SMALL COMMUNITY WASTEWATER ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING MAXIMUMS

- Construction Grants
 - Maximum grant amount may increase to \$8 million for projects that either:
 - Connect previously unsewered areas
 - Regionalize wastewater treatment works,
 - Reduce or prevent contamination of drinking water supplies

WATER RECYCLING FUNDING PROGRAM PROPOSITION 1, CHAPTER 9

- \$625 million available for grants and loans
- Funding for planning studies and construction projects
- To promote use of treated municipal wastewater to augment or offset state/local water supplies:
 - Recycled water treatment,
 - Recycled water distribution, and
 - Groundwater recharge/reclamation/reuse
- AB 91 appropriated \$129 million

DRINKING WATER FUNDING PROGRAM PROPOSITION 1, CHAPTER 5

- \$260 million available for grants and loans
- Funding for planning studies and construction projects
- Public Water System infrastructure improvements and related actions to meet safe drinking water standards
- Ensure affordable drinking water
- Up to \$5 million grant per project
- Up to \$20 million grant per regional project that benefits at least one small DAC
- AB 91 appropriated \$67.5 million

Proposition 1 Stormwater Grant Program

Allocates \$200 million for grants for multibenefit stormwater management projects
Eligible projects - green infrastructure, rainwater and stormwater capture projects, and stormwater treatment facilities.

 Up to 10% for Planning and Monitoring necessary for successful design, selection and implementation

GROUNDWATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

Grants

- Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability
- Senate Bill 445 Site Cleanup Subaccount Program

Loans

 Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability Grant/Loan split for Prop 1 not established

Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability Program (Assembly Bill 1471, Chapter 10) - \$800 Million

Eligible Applicants

 Public Agencies, Tribes, Public Utilities, Non-Profits, Mutual Water Companies

Eligible Projects

 Prevent or Clean up Contamination (natural and anthropogenic) of Groundwater that serves or has served as a source of Drinking Water

Priorities based on:

- Threat posed by groundwater contamination to drinking water supply
- Potential for groundwater contamination to spread/impair
- Potential of project to enhance local water supply reliability
- Potential of project to recharge vulnerable, high-use basins
- Projects with no viable responsible party(ies)

Senate Bill 445 Site Cleanup Subaccount \$19.5 Million Anticipated FY 2015/2016

Funding

• Fee on fuel storage

Eligible Projects

- Identify source of surface or groundwater contamination
- Remediate harm or threat to human health, safety, and the environment from surface or groundwater contamination

Eligible Applicants: Applicants w/eligible projects 5 Considerations:

- Significant Threat to Human Health or the Environment
- Disadvantaged or Small Community Impact
- Cost and Environmental Benefit of Investigation/Cleanup
- Availability of Alternate Funding Source(s)
- Other Board Considerations

Senate Bill 445 Site Cleanup Subaccount

Requirements:

- Regulatory agency has issued a directive unless infeasible prior to grant issuance
- Responsible Party lacks sufficient financial resources to implement required response

Process Development – 2015/16

- Develop application process
- Public workshops
- Solicitation/Review applications
- Board adopts annual project list
- Issue grant agreements

Coordinated with Proposition 1

Groundwater Sustainability

FAAST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION SUMBITTAL TOOL

- Online single point application tool
- Taking applications now continuously accepting applications
- Go to https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov/ to create a user account

