



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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August 12, 2011

Agenda Item #8

To: Governing Board, SMBRC

From: Shelley Luce, Executive Director

Subject: Proposition 84 Round Two Project Recommendations

Action Requested of the Governing Board:

- Staff recommends Governing Board approval of the following three projects for funding under Proposition 84

Background

Proposition 84 (The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006) allocated approximately \$18 million to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) for projects that protect Santa Monica Bay beaches and coastal waters. As is the case with Prop 50, these projects are administered jointly by SMBRC and the State Water Board (State Board).

The SMBRC released the second Request for Proposals (RFP) for our Proposition 84 grant program on 1/24/2011. The RFP solicited capital improvement projects that will benefit coastal water quality. Eleven applications were received by the 3/16/2011 deadline.

In March 2011, SMBRC staff determined that all eleven applications met the initial criteria for eligibility and further reviewed the proposals for consistency with the priorities in the RFP. In April, 2011 the SMBRC's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed proposals for technical feasibility and ability to meet RFP criteria. Based on the TAC review, SMBRC staff requested additional information from several applicants, conducted site visits, and used the information to develop an initial Recommended Project List (RPL).

The three projects described below best fit the criteria outlined in the RFP, are closest to being ready for implementation, and are recommended to the Governing Board for funding. Several projects require further review before staff recommendations can be made.





Project: City of Calabasas Trash Basin Inserts

Applicant: City of Calabasas

Amount Requested: \$168,000

Match: \$40,820

The City of Calabasas will install a minimum of 400 catch basin screens made out of 95% post-consumer recycled plastic in all stormdrains that discharge to Las Virgenes Creek. This includes the west side of the City. The screens will help prevent trash and debris from entering the stormdrains which eventually discharge into Las Virgenes Creek and Santa Monica Bay beaches.

Trash screens will capture trash and debris greater than 5mm in size. The city estimates that average capture will be approximately 12 pounds of debris per applicable drain per quarter (dry weight). However, there are large variations in the amount of trash and debris collected by each drain in relation to location and size. The estimates were based on data from a previous pilot project, and street sweeper and CDS unit tonnage reports.

Site Description: Excluders will be installed at a minimum of 400 catch basins within the city that drain to Santa Monica Bay via Las Virgenes and Malibu Creek.

Project Benefits: Preventing trash from reaching local creeks and streams, beaches, and the Bay removes a potential hazard to human health and aquatic life, and helps protect aesthetics of these natural areas. Implementation of the project will help meet the Malibu Creek TMDL. Trash screens will capture trash and debris greater than 5mm in size. The city estimates that average capture will be approximately 12 pounds of debris per applicable drain per quarter (dry weight).

Staff has determined that the Trash Excluder Project is exempt from CEQA under Title 14 CCR Section 15301 (projects involving the minor alteration of existing structures and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of an existing use).



Project: City of Los Angeles University Park Rain Gardens

Applicant: City of Los Angeles

Amount Requested: \$510,000

Match: \$90,000

This City of Los Angeles will install rain gardens to capture and infiltrate dry weather and a portion of stormwater runoff from streets in the University Park neighborhood surrounding the University of Southern California. A total of thirty five (35) rain gardens will be constructed. Rain gardens will be vegetated with native species. The applicant will work with SMBRC, and the L.A. Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop comprehensive monitoring plan to quantify pollutants removed, runoff captured and impacts to groundwater.

Site Description: The University Park Neighborhood Rain Gardens is located in a disadvantaged community near the University of Southern California within the Ballona Creek watershed of Santa Monica Bay. The area is predominantly comprised of single-family and high-density residential development.

Project Benefits: The project will capture and treat up to 2,298,312 gallons for a 0.75” storm (up to 36,772,996 gallons per year for the average 12” rain fall in the area). The total drainage area for the project is approximately 209 acres. The project will prevent pollutants including pathogens, trash, metals, pesticides, oil and grease from entering existing storm drains.

Environmental: The City has determined that the University Park Rain Gardens Project is exempt from CEQA under Title 14 CCR Section 15301 (projects involving the minor alteration of existing structures and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of an existing use).



Project: City of Santa Monica In-line Stormwater Infiltration

Applicant: City of Santa Monica

Amount Requested: \$300,000

Match: \$52,350

This pilot project will consist of design, construction and monitoring of a minimum of two, and up to four, separate storm drain treatment BMP retrofit systems to capture, filter and clean polluted urban and stormwater runoff. The first system will be a retrofit of an existing storm drain catch basin to divert daily urban (dry weather) runoff and low flow stormwater runoff to a 2-stage pre-treatment and infiltration/drywell system for percolation into sub-surface soils. The second system will be a retrofit of an existing storm drain manhole to divert daily urban (dry weather) runoff and low flow stormwater to a 2-stage pre-treatment and infiltration/drywell system for percolation into sub-surface soils. The City will work with SMBRC and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop a comprehensive monitoring plan to determine benefits and potential for broader application.

Site Description: The project will be implemented in the Pico-Kenter storm drain system located in the Kenter Canyon Watershed Basin in the City of Santa Monica. The storm drain manhole diversion is planned for implementation at the intersection of Arizona Ave. and Harvard St. The catch basin retrofit is planned for implementation at the intersection of Arizona Ave. and 22nd St. A second set of test sites will be considered at Stanford St. and Santa Monica Blvd (catch basin diversion) and at Harvard St. and Santa Monica Blvd. (manhole diversion). However, final pilot study locations will depend on geotechnical findings and other considerations during the design phase. Land use consists of 12 acres of residential, commercial, transportation and industrial.

Project Benefits: The project will remove bacteria, trash and organic compounds, which are the focus of TMDLs for the Santa Monica Bay. Additionally, the project will demonstrate the feasibility of installing, within existing storm drain lines and catch basins, compact, stand-alone treatment and infiltration systems to harvest stormwater and reduce discharges and eliminate runoff pollution.

Environmental: The City has determined that the Santa Monica In-line Stormwater Infiltration Project qualifies for a Negative Declaration.