

Safe, Clean Water Program: **Draft Framework Summary**

Updated: December 22, 2017

Note: This is a working draft of the framework for the Safe, Clean Water Program. Many details of the Program are in development. Substantive edits to the most recent Draft Program Framework Summary have been highlighted for reference.

Stakeholder input over the coming months will be instrumental in the development of Program specifications, including project prioritization, governance, rebates and incentives, and other elements as appropriate.

Program Purposes (from May 30, 2017 Board Motion)

The Safe, Clean Water Program (Program) will implement multibenefit stormwater projects and programs that increase water supply, improve water quality, and provide community enhancements such as the greening of schools, parks and wetlands, and increased public access to rivers, lakes and streams.

Program Outcomes & Core Principles

1. Improved ability of communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change
2. Improved water quality throughout the region
3. Augmentation of local water supply
4. Targeted tangible community benefits associated with stormwater management like:
 - a. Greening of schools
 - b. Green streets
 - c. Creation and enhancement of wetland, river, and stream habitat
 - d. Public access to rivers, lakes, and streams
5. Governance structures that incorporate collaborative and coordinated regional planning at local, watershed, and District-wide scales
6. Ongoing stakeholder input on plans, projects, and programs

Core Program Principles

The Program shall:

1. Prioritize implementation of multibenefit projects and programs for stormwater capture that result in Program outcomes (above)
2. Give preference to projects utilizing green infrastructure
3. Be developed collaboratively with stakeholders*

* Directed by the Board of Supervisors for the LA County Flood Control District in a Motion approved on May 30, 2017

4. Specify allocation of funds to regional programs as well as local return for municipalities*
5. Fund both capital projects and ongoing operations and maintenance*
6. Incorporate elements of existing regional plans, including the Integrated Regional Water Management Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, Watershed Management Plans, and Enhanced Watershed Management Plans*
7. Provide for ongoing stakeholder involvement in Program implementation to help ensure that benefits are realized throughout the region*
8. Identify opportunities for coordinated investment and cost-sharing*
9. Provide for local job training and employment opportunities*
10. Analyze potential mechanisms to provide credits or rebates for entities and properties that have already demonstrated benefits meeting key Program purposes†

Eligible Expenditures

1. Projects and programs that contribute to Program Purpose, and are consistent with Core Program Principles (above)
2. Distributed and centralized projects
3. Operations and maintenance of projects that contribute to Program Outcomes (above), whether or not project capital comes from this source

Regional, Municipal and Flood Control District Programs – 3 Separate Programs

Allocation of tax revenues is established in statute as follows:

1. 50% to watershed-based regional projects and programs: **“Regional Program”**
2. 40% to cities and unincorporated areas for projects and programs: **“Municipal Program”**
3. 10% to the Flood Control District for projects and programs, and administration of the program: **“Flood Control District (FCD) Program”**

Additional details for each individual program are available in *Table 1. Program Specifications* on page 4.

Program Administration

Program administration will be distinct for each of the Regional, Municipal, and FCD Programs. Information on recipients of funds for each program is detailed in *Table 1. Program Specifications* on page 4.

Additional specifications related to administration of each program, including project selection, duties, and other requirements, are to be determined.

Project Prioritization Criteria

* Directed by statute, AB 1180, signed by Governor Brown on October 11, 2017

† Directed by the Board of Supervisors for the LA County Flood Control District in a Motion approved on May 30, 2017

Criteria for project prioritization will be distinct for each of the Regional, Municipal, and FCD Programs. Proposed threshold eligibility criteria, by program, are as follows (also detailed in Table 1. Program Specifications on page 4):

Regional Program:

- All projects must be watershed-based
- All projects must be multibenefit and include, at a minimum, water supply and water quality benefits
- Both centralized and distributed projects to be funded

Municipal Program:

- All projects must be multibenefit and include, at a minimum, a water quality benefit
- Exception to multibenefit requirement may be made for single-purpose water quality projects

FCD Program:

- Specifications to be determined

Additional specifications for project prioritization criteria are to be determined.

Rebates and Incentives

Specifications to be determined.

Note: Provision of credits, rebates, or exemptions for entities and properties that have already demonstrated benefits meeting key Program Purposes is being analyzed for inclusion in the Program, as directed by the May 30, 2017 Board Motion.

Stakeholder Engagement

Specifications to be determined. Mechanisms for stakeholder engagement may include:

1. Project and program identification, design, and implementation
2. Project selection
3. Program oversight

Note: Provisions for ongoing stakeholder engagement in Program implementation will be included in Program design, as directed by the May 30, 2017 Board Motion.

Workforce Development

Specifications to be determined.

Note: Provisions for local job training and employment opportunities will be included in the Program, as directed by the May 30, 2017 Board Motion.

Coordinated Investment

Specifications to be determined.

Note: Opportunities to leverage existing funding sources, including coordinated investment and cost-sharing will be included in the Program, as directed by the May 30, 2017 Board Motion.

Oversight

Specifications to be determined.

Audit Requirements

1. Each Regional Program entity, municipality, and the FCD shall arrange for an independent annual audit of the funds they received, and certify that they have been spent in accordance with Program requirements
2. The FCD shall arrange for an additional independent audit of each entity to be performed not less than once every 5 years

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Table 1.
Program Specifications: Regional, Municipal, & FCD Programs

		Program Details		
		Use of Funds (per Statute)	Recipients of Funds (per Statute)	Threshold Eligibility Criteria (Proposed)
Program	Regional Program – 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation, operation and maintenance, and administration of watershed-based projects and programs meeting Program purposes Projects may include those identified in regional plans such as stormwater resource plans, MS4 watershed management programs, and other regional water management plans as appropriate 	Specifications to be determined <i>Note: Unspecified in statute</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects must be watershed-based (per statute) All projects must be multibenefit and include, at a minimum, water supply and water quality benefits Both centralized and distributed projects to be funded
	Municipal Program – 40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation, operation and maintenance, and administration of projects and programs meeting Program purposes 	Cities and unincorporated areas in the Flood Control District, proportionate to revenue collection in each jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects must be multibenefit and include, at a minimum, a water quality benefit Exception to multibenefit requirement may be made for single-purpose water quality projects
	FCD Program – 10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation and administration of projects and programs Payment of the costs incurred in connection with the levy and collection of tax and the administration of the overall program – levying and collecting the tax, and distributing the funds 	LA County Flood Control District	Specifications to be determined