



INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM PROJECT FUNDING ASSESSMENT

To:	Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee	From:	Safe, Clean Water Program Regional Coordination Team
Project:	Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project	Date:	October 20, 2025
Project Lead:	City of Arcadia	Call for Projects Year:	FY26-27 (Round 7)
Application Type:	Design/Construction/O&M		
Watershed Area:	Rio Hondo	Location:	5401 Peck Road Arcadia, CA 91006

Reference: Funding Assessment for Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project

Leveraged funding is a key program goal in the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance (Chapter 18.04). This and other Funding Assessments are generated for all eligible newly submitted Safe, Clean Water Program Infrastructure Program projects in FY26-27 (Round 7). The intent of this Funding Assessment is to strengthen the identification of leverage funding sources and support WASCs in funding priorities and partial funding decisions. Below is a summary of the project benefits, overview of the funding request, potential sources of leverage funding for this project, and an assessment of funding competitiveness in those programs.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The [Project Application](#) describes the proposed project in this way:

The Project site has the potential to provide important water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits due to the proximity to Sawpit Wash, location in the Rio Hondo watershed, and available development space. The proposed project represents a major investment by [Rio Hondo/ San Gabriel] (RH/SG) Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to improve water quality and comply with the MS4 Permit. It was imperative that the project was planned and designed to maximize pollutant removal per dollar of investment as well as maximize multi-benefit opportunities. This Project is one of five multi-benefit regional stormwater capture projects identified in the approved rWMP which are intended to push the Group toward permit compliance. RH/SG rWMP identified zinc as the limiting pollutant in the Rio Hondo watershed and requires 2,204 (23.9%) lbs of zinc load reduction for Water Year (WY) 2023. The BMP configuration for this Project can achieve zinc reduction of 938 lbs, which is 42.6% of the target outlined in the 2025 RH/[SG] rWMP. The Project will capture dry weather flows and a portion of wet weather flows of Sawpit Wash (up to a max diversion rate of 25 cfs) from the 85th percentile 24-hour design storm along with wet weather flows of Peck Road Storm Drain. By capturing and infiltrating or treating these flows from the tributary drainage area, the Project provides regional benefits to the Rio Hondo Watershed by treating and removing approximately 343 lbs of the primary pollutant zinc and 34 lbs of the secondary pollutant lead per year and providing an annual average of 183 ac-ft of groundwater recharge to Main San Gabriel basin. This Project will contribute to the enhancement of parks, increasing the number of trees and other native vegetation, Water Quality Benefits, and Water Supply Benefits. The proposed project is 4.2 acres in size, there are disadvantaged communities within the [0.5 mile walkable area to benefit from the enhancement of parks.]



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PROJECT BENEFITS

The Project claims to provide the following benefits, as copied verbatim from the Project Application Metrics and Measures Section:

Key Metrics and Measures	
Improve Water Quality	
Zinc Load Reduction	280 lbs/yr
Total Phosphorous Lead Reduction	359 lbs/yr
Increase Drought Preparedness	
Average Annual Stormwater Captured	38.4 acre-ft/year
Average Annual Stormwater Captured and Recharged	183 acre-ft/year
Improve Public Health	
Net Area of Park Created, Enhanced, or Restored	4.2 acres
Net Change in Canopy at Maturity	2 acres
Net Area of Green Space Created	1.2 acres
Net Area of Green Space at Public or Private Schools or Co-Located with a Youth-Based Education Program Created	0 acres
Net New Area Cooling and Shading Surfaces	3.2 acres
Net Change in Hardscape	0.94 acres
Leveraged Funding & Invest in Research & Development	
Leveraged Funds	\$14,750,000
Additional Benefits	
Does the Project provide benefit to disadvantaged communities?	Yes
Is the Project within a Disadvantaged Community Boundary?	No
Promote Green Jobs & Career Pathways	140.81 Annual FTE Jobs Created

Additional information on Project benefits can be found in the Project Application.



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OVERVIEW OF FUNDING NEED FOR PROJECT

The Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project is currently requesting \$6,465,872 of Safe, Clean Water Program FY26-27 (Round 7) for Construction. The Project is tentatively requesting a total of \$19,397,616 of Safe, Clean Water Regional Program funding through FY28-29 for Construction. The Project's estimated capital cost is \$36,695,104 (Planning, Design, and Construction).

The Project has not previously received Safe, Clean Water Program Regional Program funding.

As disclosed in the Project application, the Project Proponent has leveraged \$14,750,000. \$6,250,000 has been committed from the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River JPA municipal funds. \$8,500,000 has been awarded to the JPA through Caltrans and a commitment has been received.

	FY26-27 Year 1 – Current Ask	FY27-28 Year 2 – Projected	FY28-29 Year 3 – Projected	FY29-30 Year 4 – Projected	FY30-31 Year 5 – Projected	Future Funds	TOTAL REQUEST
Request	\$6,465,872	\$6,465,872	\$6,465,872	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$19,397,616
Phase	Construction	Construction	Construction				

Status and schedule of project:

- **Anticipated date of completion of Project design:** 12/2026
- **Anticipated date of completion of Project construction:** 12/2030

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The following funding/grant program opportunities align with the Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project. Funding/grant program opportunities are categorized into topic areas based on the claimed project benefits in the Safe, Clean Water Program project application. Each funding/grant program listed includes an assessment of the Project's funding competitiveness in its description.

Funding competitiveness assessments will fall under three levels:

- **Strong:** The Project has a strong potential to be competitive for program funding. The Project provides numerous benefits and aligns strongly with the funding program's goals and priorities.
- **Moderate:** The Project has a moderate potential to be competitive for program funding. The Project features some benefits that align with the funding program's focus.
- **Low:** The Project has a low potential to be competitive for program funding. The Project features a benefit that aligns with the funding program's focus but does not directly align with funding priorities.



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Parks, Green Space, and Recreation

[San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy's \(RMC\) Consolidated Grant Program](#) awards grants and interagency agreements with the aim toward creating open space, habitat restoration, expanding green space, and protecting the watersheds of the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers, Dominguez Channel, and Catalina Island. Projects must be consistent with RMC's enabling legislation (Public Resources Code, Division 22.8), Common Ground, its Environmental Justice and Tribal Consultation Policies, and existing and adopted river and flood control projects/plans. Projects should create, expand, and/or improve public open space throughout the region by improving access, habitat quality, water security, and wildfire resilience, as well as promote stewardship of the landscape via stakeholder involvement and long-term maintenance that will encourage environmental, social, and economic benefits. Acquisition, planning, and implementation projects are eligible for funding. The Consolidated Grant Program is funded from various sources, such as Propositions 1, 68, and 4, in addition to non-bond priorities grant programs, including the Wildfire Prevention Grant Program, Climate Resilience Grant Program, and Lower Los Angeles-Urban Streams and Rivers Program. Applicants do not need to specify the specific funding source for their project. Eligible applicants include State and Federal agencies, Tribal entities recognized by the US Federal Register or as a California Native American tribe, local public agencies (including water districts and school districts), local conservation corps, nonprofit organizations, and Joint Powers Authorities. The Grant Program has an ongoing, rolling application period. Applications will be submitted in two phases: a concept proposal and a full application. The concept proposal will first be reviewed by RMC staff before selecting which proposals will move forward to submit a full application.

The Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project has a **high potential** of securing funds through this grant program. The Project aligns grant program priorities including expanding green space, nature-based solutions, urban tree canopy, and watershed health. Disadvantaged community benefits, as claimed in the SCW Program Application, may make this Project more competitive for this grant program.

[Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District's \(RPOSD\) Category 4 Regional Recreation, Multi-Use Recreation, Multi-Use Trails & Accessibility Competitive Grant Program](#) supports shovel-ready capital projects that expand or improve regional recreation, multi-use trail systems, and public accessibility to parks and open space across Los Angeles County. Projects must demonstrate regional significance by serving diverse populations across multiple communities, enhancing multi-jurisdictional trail systems, or delivering substantial recreational improvements that benefit the County at large. Regional projects often connect jurisdictions, serve destination users, or represent a unique resource of countywide value. Funds must be used for capital development, improvement, or restoration of park, trails, open space, recreational land, and facilities. Construction should be scheduled to begin within 24 months of grant agreement execution. Eligible activities include but are not limited to: development of a new or improved multi-use trail, regional park improvements, American Disabilities Act compliant paths or enhancements, rehabilitation or upgrade of substantial public recreational facilities that serve regional or multi-community populations. Projects must demonstrate regional-scale benefits. Eligible applicants include public agencies authorized to acquire, develop, improve, or restore parkland and open space within the County (includes Agencies of Record, cities, special districts, and Joint Powers Authorities), nonprofit organizations, and public or nonprofit schools. A total of \$16M is available, with a minimum grant award of \$500K and a maximum grant award of \$4M. Projects may be evaluated across the following cost brackets: I) Small: \$100K-\$249K; II) Medium: \$250K-\$399K; III) Large: \$400K-\$500K. The period of performance is 4 years from the execution date. The grant deadline is October 30, 2025 and this competitive grant cycle occurs every 3 years. Alignment with the Parks Need Assessment or Parks Need Assessment Plus is optional.



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The Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project has a **moderate potential** of securing funds through this grant program. The proposed Project includes improved multi-use trails, creation of a new bike path, increased public access to waterways, and passive recreational elements which align with this grant program's priorities. As claimed in the Safe, Clean Water Program application, this Project's regional-scale benefits may additionally align with the eligibility of this grant program. Although alignment with the Parks Need Assessment or Parks Need Assessment Plus is optional for this grant program, alignment may make this Project more competitive. According to RPOSD's Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment (2016), the Project location address is in the City of Arcadia, Study Area #166, and has a low park need.

[Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District's \(RPOSD\) Community-Based Park Investment - Measure A Annual Allocations Grant Program](#) funds development, acquisition, planning, and design projects that promote community-based park investments. Project types can include but are not limited to: community and local parks (including pocket parks, playgrounds, and park equipment), community recreational centers, park safety, greenspace and greenway development, gardens, and urban canopy development. Planning and design related projects may also be funded. This RPOSD grant program is part of Measure A Annual Allocations and is funded annually by 13 percent of the Measure A expenditure plan. Allocations are calculated for each Study Area. Funds are replenished each fall with a rolling grant application period. There is no cost-share requirement. As of [October 1, 2025](#), the City of Arcadia has an available balance of \$1,040,918.06 from uncommitted funds carried over from previous fiscal years. Annual allocation funds are updated by September 15th of each year based on revenue.

The Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project has a **moderate potential** of securing funding through this program. The Project's proposed urban greening elements align with this grant program. The City of Arcadia could consider leveraging its annual allocation dollars towards this Project.

Funding programs change frequently. The above identified funding opportunities are initial recommendations, and further research should verify project-specific eligibility requirements, latest funding levels, and appropriate timelines. Use the links above to research these programs further. If you are unsure about your project eligibility or competitiveness, reaching out to program coordinators via contact emails or webinars is a good way to get your questions answered. The [California Grants Portal](#) and [California Financing Coordinating Committee Funding Fairs](#) can serve as resources to identify additional funding opportunities.

Questions can be asked of the [Watershed Coordinator and the Regional Coordination Team](#).