

LOCAL MS4s & CALTRANS — PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR STORMWATER TREATMENT PROJECTS

The Caltrans NPDES Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) encourages Caltrans to partner with local municipalities and to provide funding for regional water quality treatment facilities in TMDL watersheds in which Caltrans is identified as a responsible party, or in significant trash generating areas (STGA) identified in the Caltrans Statewide Trash Implementation Plan. Caltrans receives Waste Load Allocation reduction credits or STGA treatment credits for contributions to regional projects. Caltrans will receive Waste Load Allocation reduction credits commensurate with the amount of funding contributed to the project. Caltrans will receive trash reduction credits for each acre of Caltrans STGA treated by the project. Caltrans also receives one Compliance Unit credit for each \$88,000 contributed to the project.

Caltrans has two partnership programs:

Cooperative Implementation Agreement (CIA) – CIAs provide capital and support funding for planning, design, environmental studies, right of way (ROW) acquisition (easement only) and construction of stormwater treatment facilities. For TMDLs, treatment of runoff from Caltrans ROW is not required but is desirable. For STGAs, treatment of runoff from Caltrans ROW is required. The amount of funds in this program varies from year to year. Project details (Items 1 through 5 as described below) must be submitted to the appropriate Stormwater Coordinator prior to February 1. Projects under consideration are prioritized and tentative funding determinations are made by April with final determinations by June.

Financial Contribution Only (FCO) – FCOs provide funding for capital construction costs (labor and materials) only of stormwater treatment facilities. Treatment of runoff from Caltrans ROW is required. Basic project details (brief project scope, location, tentative schedule and estimate) must be submitted to the District NPDES Coordinator by May 1 of even years to reserve funds. Additional details of the project (as described below) must be submitted by March 1 or earlier of odd years for Caltrans to develop a Project Initiation Report (PIR). Projects will be prioritized and if approved, funds are typically available two years after PIR approval. Exceptions to the dates noted may be granted for high priority projects. Project plans and specifications, environmental document and permits, ROW acquisition, contract advertisement, award, and administration (with Caltrans oversight) is the responsibility of the local municipality.

Projects in either program not selected remain eligible for funding in following years.

For projects with multiple components (e.g., Green Streets, flood control, etc.), only components directly related to construction of the BMPs or restoration of areas disturbed by construction of the BMPs are eligible.

Maintenance and operation costs under each program must be solely borne by the local MS4.

Information required to be submitted for project consideration:

1. For projects treating TMDLs, waterbody reach the project discharges to and Reach Prioritization Inventory List ranking.

The list is available on the Caltrans Stormwater Program website under “Tools”:

www.dot.ca.gov/env/stormwater.

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2. For projects treating TMDLs, type of BMP(s) to be built, pollutant categories treated and the waste load reduction for each pollutant, if known. Provide tributary drainage area calculations and mapping for dry and wet weather flow acres treated for Caltrans and each MS4.
3. For projects treating Trash, type of State Water Board or Caltrans-approved Full Capture System (FCS) BMP(s) to be built that meet the FCS design requirements as stated on the State Water Board website., acres of Caltrans STGAs treated and total acres treated for Caltrans and each MS4. Priority is given to projects that address STGAs or multiple TMDLs.
4. Phase the project is in (i.e., conceptual, environmental studies, design), tentative schedule and funding requested.
Provide a tentative schedule to determine how much funds to encumber this fiscal year (by June 15) and tentatively over future fiscal years (these amounts can be changed prior to May 1 of the year that they are schedule to be encumbered). Funds encumbered this FY must be spent and invoiced to Caltrans within two years. Funds can be encumbered over multiple years and they must be spent and invoiced within two years of the fiscal year they are encumbered.
5. Number of Stakeholders benefitting from the project and Lead Agency (individual MS4, JPA, or stakeholder group).

If a project is selected to be funded as a CIA, the local agency will be notified and a CIA contract will be developed. The following will be required for the contract:

1. Regional Water Board approval of project (e.g., WQIP, WMP, EWMP, Exec. Officer or email from Regional Water Board).
2. Authority to enter into a CIA/FCO (e.g., Resolution, Certification of Approval, order, motion, ordinance or other similar document from the local governing body authorizing execution of the CIA) (Attachment I of the CIA). Provide official documentation stating the individual signing the agreement has been granted permission to enter into the agreement on behalf of the Agency.
3. Scope of Work. Provide finalized information from Items 1 through 5 above (Attachment II of CIA) including mapping showing the tributary area for Caltrans (STGA and total ROW) and each MS4 and Caltrans' drainage system and connection to the project.

For questions regarding either of these programs, contact the Caltrans NPDES Coordinator for the Caltrans District in which the project is located or Ken Johansson, Stormwater Coordinator, at (858) 688-1430 or ken.johansson@dot.ca.gov.