Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

2018
Congratulations to last cycle’s Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Awardees!

Photos from 2017 Site Visits
Your Team
# Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

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Montesol Ranch Protection Project
$6.7 million each fiscal year for local assistance

Grants to local, state and federal governmental agencies and to nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate the environmental impacts caused by new or modified public transportation facilities.
How much?

Grants for individual projects are generally limited to $500,000 each.

Up to $1,000,000 may be awarded for acquisition projects.

Matching funds are NOT required for EEM grants, however, leveraging other sources of funds can make your project more competitive.
Eligible Applicants

• Any State, local, federal or 501(c)(3) non-profit entity may apply for and receive grants.

• An attempt will be made to allocate 40 percent of the total amount recommended to projects in northern counties and 60 percent of the total amount recommended to projects in southern counties.

• Partnerships are encouraged; however, only one agency may submit an application.

• Development projects limited to 1 application per eligible applicant.
Related Transportation Facility (RTF)

Every EEM project must mitigate the environmental impacts of the modification of an *existing* Transportation Facility, or the environmental impacts of the construction of a *new* Transportation Facility.

This facility is called the “**Related Transportation Facility**” or RTF, and includes:

- **Public Street or Highway**
- **Mass Transit Guideway** (trains, ports, light rail lines, bus lines, airports, etc.)
- **Accompanying Features** (e.g. park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, on-ramps, off-ramps, overpasses, transit stations, etc.)
Construction of the RTF must have begun after January 1, 1990; or

If not yet under construction, it must be included in:
- An adopted State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) ; or
- A locally adopted Regional Transportation Improvement Program; and
- a Certified Capital Outlay Program

Environmental compliance (CEQA ) must be completed for the RTF at the time of application.

The RTF must have an adverse impact on the environment so there is something to mitigate!
Related Transportation Facility

The RTF cannot be

- Maintenance (pavement resurfacing, painting bridges, replanting)
- Mitigation (sound walls or bike lanes)

Find eligible RTFs through your

- City or County Transportation Departments,
- Regional Transit Agencies,
- Metropolitan Transit Authorities,
- Councils of Local Governments,
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations or
- Caltrans District Office.
Project Evaluation - General Criteria

Applicants establish the *need* for mitigation in the narrative:

1. Describe the RTF
2. Describe adverse environmental impacts
3. Explain what mitigation was required
4. Demonstrates connection between the RTF and EEM project

Runyon Canyon Park Addition
Coyote Point Eastern Promenade Rejuvenation Project

General Criteria

- Decrease in air and/or water pollution
- Increase adaptability to climate change
- Reduce the consumption of natural resources and energy
- Increase the reliability of local water supplies

Multiple Benefits
General Criteria
Project Readiness & Organizational Capacity

• Interagency relationships and blended jurisdictional responsibilities.
• Partnerships
• Fiscal Capacity
• Readiness
EEM Project Criteria

- Be different from the RTF.
- Use State Design & Construction Standards.
- Comply with labor codes and other applicable laws, regulations, licenses and permits.
- Have completed CEQA
- Be compatible with the RTF, and provide the necessary permissions if in or near the right-of-way.
- Provide evidence that entity with jurisdiction is aware of the project and willing to work with applicant.

Irish Hills Natural Reserve Addition
EEM Project Criteria

EEM project must mitigate the adverse environmental impact of the RTF – Directly or Indirectly.

Direct

RTF has an adverse impact to wildlife corridor

EEM project acquires property for future wildlife tunnel
EEM Project Criteria

EEM project must mitigate the adverse environmental impacts of the RTF – Directly or Indirectly.

RTF has an adverse impact on desert tortoise habitat

EEM project acquires nearby resource lands to protect similar habitat
Sustainability
Water Use Efficiency

Best Management Practices and strategies that increase water conservation should be identified and planned for in the application.

• Successful projects promote and practice water conservation.

• Conservation activities include planting native, drought-tolerant and low water use vegetation, enabling groundwater recharge with bioswales, detention basins and permeable surfaces, using recycled water for irrigation, installing raingardens to mitigate stormwater runoff, etc.

• Comply with the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) or local agency landscape water ordinance (if as strict or sticter)
EEM Project Categories

**Urban Forestry** projects to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide

**Resource Lands** projects to acquire or enhance resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands, lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for transportation improvements.

**Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency** projects to mitigate the impact of the RTF where the mitigation or enhancement measures are beyond the scope of the lead agency’s ability to effectuate.
Urban Forestry (UF)

Urban Forestry projects are designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide through the planting of trees and other suitable plants.

In addition to the tree canopy, an urban forest includes vegetation along urban streets and medians, in urban parks, abandoned sites, and residential areas. Urban Forestry projects may also restore urban creeks and develop nature trails with corresponding amenities and/or interpretive elements.
Resource Lands (RL)

Resource Lands projects include the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way of the Related Transportation Facility.

Resource Lands may include but are not limited to natural areas such as inland wetlands, forests, oak woodlands, mountain meadows, creeks and streams with riparian or riverine fish or wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors and fish passages, coastal estuaries, grazing land and grasslands, among others.

Denmark Creek Fish Barrier Removal & Riparian Enhancement Project
Resource Lands

Cumulatively, Resource Lands projects address State-wide conservation issues, including:

- Available water for fish and wildlife
- Preservation of California's rich biodiversity
- Climate change adaptation
- Control of invasive species
- Protection of rare species
- Protection of large landscape-level land holdings from conversion and fragmentation
- Preservation of wildlife movement and migration corridors
- Expanding public access to outdoor wildlife/nature-oriented recreation with trails, parks, fishing piers, and interpretive elements.

Acquisition of the Cheatham Property
Projects to mitigate the impact of the RTF where the mitigation or enhancement measures are beyond the scope of the lead agency’s ability to effectuate.
Available Resources

- Grant Guidelines
- Feedback – (916) 653-2812
APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

SOAR – System for Online Application Review

• Applications must be submitted through SOAR on this website: www.soar.resources.ca.gov

• Will need to create a SOAR user account

• Deadline to submit online is 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 20, 2018

• One original signed hardcopy and one copy must be postmarked by Friday, June 22, 2018
SOAR – System for Online Application Review

- Answer all questions and print your completed submission through SOAR
- Upload all of your attachments
- Regularly click the Application Completion Check Button
- Save your work!
APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

• Related Transportation Facility (RTF) Form
• Letter from Lead Agency for RTF
• Resolution/Certification
• Site Control/O&M/Letters from Jurisdictional Entities
• Cost Estimate
• CEQA for EEM Project
• Site Plans
• Plant Palette/Letter from Certified Arborist, Registered Professional Forester or Landscape Architect (if project includes plantings)
• Purchase Option Agreement/Willing Seller Letter (if acquisition)

NOT A COMPLETE LIST
APPENDIX C. RELATED TRANSPORTATION FACILITY (RTF) FORM

RELATED TRANSPORTATION FACILITY (RTF)

Transportation District  City  County  Route Number/Name

Location

Description of RTF

Name of Transportation Agency  Date Construction Began or Scheduled

Name of Approved/Certified Capital Outlay Program for RTF (if not started)

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE FOR RTF PROJECT (check type and status)

Type:  Exempt ___ Negative Declaration ___ Categorical Exemption ___ EIR ___

Status:  Complete ___ In Progress ___

What were the primary environmental impacts of the RTF? (max 25 words)

Describe the required environmental mitigation? (max 25 words)

Name of Lead Agency for RTF: ___________________________

Application must include the Letter from the Lead Agency Responsible for the construction of the RTF. (APPENDIX F)
APPENDIX F - LETTER FROM THE LEAD AGENCY
Responsible for CONSTRUCTION of Related Transportation Facility (RTF)

This letter is required with each EEM Project Application.

Instructions to the Lead Agency responsible for construction of the RTF: The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program awards up to $7 million each fiscal year for grants to mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities. Please provide a letter describing construction of a new Transportation Facility or modification/enhancement of an existing Transportation Facility.

Send this letter on Lead Agency stationery to the Applicant for inclusion in their application package prior to the online submission deadline of 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 21, 2017.

Provide the following information about the RTF:

1. Describe the RTF construction or modification or planned construction or modification.
2. What is the location of the RTF?
3. When did the RTF construction or modification begin? When was it completed?
4. What type of Environmental Review was required?
5. What was the Environmental Review process?
6. Provide State Clearinghouse Number
7. Was mitigation required? If so, please describe the type of habitat impacted and list the required mitigation.
8. Have the environmental mitigation measures been started or completed?
9. If the RTF is planned, what is the projected construction start date? Completion date?
10. What is the funding source for the RTF?

Provide the following information about the proposed EEM Project:

11. Name of the EEM Project
12. Is the EEM Project the required mitigation for the RTF? If yes, please describe how the project mitigates the impacts?
13. If Applicant is applying under Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency (M-S-C), please provide a statement of concurrence explaining how the ability to effectuate the mitigation or enhancement measures are beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement.
14. Is the proposed EEM project incompatibility with the RTF? If so, does it interfere with the operation or safety of the RTF? (please explain.)
15. Does the proposed EEM project limit or interfere with planned or anticipated future improvements to the RTF? (If it interferes, please explain.)
16. Describe any concerns about the proposed EEM project (e.g., design, safety, tree density, etc.)
17. Are you aware of any other EEM project previously undertaken to mitigate the impact of this RTF? (If you have knowledge of the project, please explain.)
18. Do you have any knowledge why the Applicant wouldn’t be able to complete this project?

Please include:
- Signature of Transportation Agency Representative, Title, Date Signed
- Name of Transportation Agency
- Contact Information (address, phone, email)

This letter is purely informational and does not indicate support for the proposed EEM project. If the proposed EEM project is on property owned by the Lead Agency, a separate letter of permission must be provided.
Agency Eligibility

- Resolution
- Certification Letter
- IRS Determination Letter
Site Control/Land Tenure

- Provide evidence of ownership OR
- Demonstrate from each property owner (including Caltrans, Utility, Railroad etc.) –
  - Evidence of an agreement including permission to develop the project and determining long term operations and maintenance responsibilities
  - Letter if encroachment permit is required
  - At a minimum - letter from property owners (application purposes only)
Cost Estimate for Development

- Details the project elements
- Helps to demonstrate readiness
- Shows at a glance: project categories and tasks
- 25% cap on non-construction
- 10% cap on contingency
### Cost Estimate for Land Acquisitions

- Shows all funding sources
- Assessor’s parcel numbers
- Acreage
- Fee or Easement?
- Budget $10,000 for DGS Review

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#### APPENDIX H - COST ESTIMATE FOR LAND ACQUISITIONS

(Please complete one form for each separate escrow)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Assessor's Parcel Number(s)</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Indicate Fee or Easement</th>
<th>Willing Seller Name and Address</th>
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#### ACQUISITION COST ESTIMATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>EEM Grant</th>
<th>Other Funding Source (Name)</th>
<th>Other Funding Source (Name)</th>
<th>Other Funding Source (Name)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Fair Market Value of Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acquisition Costs</td>
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<td>Preliminary Title Reports, Appraisal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs</td>
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<td>Surveying (includes boundary line adjustment)</td>
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<td>Direct Costs (legal and consultants - limited to $25,000 per grant)</td>
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<td>State appraiser appraisal, transaction review, etc. (Recommend budgeting $30,000)</td>
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<td>Contingency (not to exceed 10% of total grant)</td>
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<td>Funding Administration Sign - (Appendix G) (Required)</td>
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<td>Other (specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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**Acquisition Schedule**:
- Completed Appraisal
- Draft Appraisal, purchase orders and title reports date
- Grant Escrow, Request Advance/El Paso
- Submit Instruments of Conveyance
- Close Escrow, Borrower Advances, to El Paso
- Submit proof of title and conveyance documents to State
- Install Bond Acknowledgement Sign

*Note: Client should submit evidence of progress on the acquisition within 90 days of grant execution.*
Environmental Review for EEM Project

• Notice of Exemption

• Notice of Determination and copy of Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration/Final Environmental Impact Report and Initial Study

• Must be filed and stamped by County Clerks Office

• Must be submitted with the application.
Site Plan

• Provide sufficient detail and clarity to allow reviewers to visualize the Project

• Clearly display and identify proposed project components
Plant Palette

• Plant selection must be appropriate for your specific project, site and climate zone

• Native, drought tolerant and low water use

• Letter form Certified Arborist, Registered Professional Forester or Landscape Architect
• Willing Participant

• Willing to Enter Negotiations

• Willing to sell for no more than Fair Market Value

• Cannot substitute another property
Cohesion of Application Package

- Project Description
- One Page Summary
- General Criteria
- Project Criteria
- CEQA
- Site Plan
- Site Control/Land Tenure Documents
- Cost Estimate
- Timeline

Please be consistent and use the same terminology for the same items throughout the application.
Clear
• What, why, & how much
• Clear nexus to program requirements

Concise
• Be deliberate

Complete
• Compare the documents submitted to the checklist provided.

CALL US!
Final Tips

• Cold Read

• Multiple Benefits

• Contact Changes

• Call with Questions
Selection Process

**Competitive Process –**

1) Review for completeness and initial eligibility
2) In-depth review for eligibility and competitiveness
3) Site visits for select projects
4) Final evaluation/recommendations to Agency Secretary
5) Recommendations to the California Transportation Commission
6) Funding awards announced
Anticipated Timeline

April 23 – May 15, 2018         Technical Assistance Workshops
Now – Submission               Technical Assistance Available
Now – May 21, 2018             One-Page Concept Proposal (Optional)
June 20, 2018                  Applications must be submitted electronically to SOAR by 5 PM
June 22, 2018                  Hard copy applications must be mailed (postmarked)
June 2018 – Dec. 2018          Application review and site visits
January 2019                   Recommendations finalized
March 2019                     CTC Awards Grants from Agency’s List and Awards Announced
Contact Information

California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Program Assistance: (916) 653-2812 eemcoordinator@resources.ca.gov
SOAR Helpdesk: (916) 653-6138 SOAR.ADMIN@resources.ca.gov

http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/