

Agenda Item 5: Receive Report and Discuss Funding Opportunities for Baseline GHG Development for Natural and Working Lands (excepting agriculture, which is already underway) - Cathy

The MCCAAC recommends that Mendocino County Board of Supervisors pursue funding for establishing baseline GHG emissions and Carbon sequestration data in the county. The data will be used to monitor and provide evidence to the county about where resources should be applied in reducing GHG emissions and increasing carbon storage over time.

This project will not overlap with the RCD baseline work in Agriculture. It would be for wildland (conifer and oak forests, and rangelands), energy, transportation.

The MCCAAC has volunteers who will work on the grant writing and interact with the funding agencies in coordination with the county. Below is a list of potential funding sources for such work. The MCCAAC and the BOS would work together on securing the requisite expertise for the project and monitoring their progress.

Active Grant Opportunities

Local Early Action Planning (LEAP)

<https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/leap.shtml>

LEAP provides one-time grant funding to cities and counties to update their planning documents and implement process improvements that will facilitate the acceleration of housing production and help local governments prepare for their 6th cycle RHNA, much like the SB2 Planning Grants. Eligible activities may be part of a larger planning effort and may include a variety of planning documents and processes (e.g., rezoning, general plans, specific plans, sustainable communities strategies, local coastal programs). However, eligible activities must demonstrate an increase in housing-related planning activities and facilitate accelerated housing production.

This program does not require a local funding match. Minimum award amount is \$25,000 and maximum is \$1,500,000. Award maximums are based on jurisdiction population. Refer to grant website for details.

Applications are due January 31, 2021.

Regional Early Action Planning (REAP)

<https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/reap.shtml>

This program allows councils of governments (COGs) and other regional entities to collaborate on projects that have a broader regional impact on housing. Grant funding is intended to help regional entities and governments facilitate local housing production that will assist local governments in meeting their Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA). Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, developing an improved methodology for the distribution of the sixth cycle regional housing needs assessment (RHNA); providing jurisdictions and other local agencies with technical assistance, planning, temporary staffing or consultant needs associated with updating local planning and zoning documents,

expediting application processing, and other actions to accelerate additional housing production; and administrative costs related to the three main categories listed above.

This program does not require a local funding match. Maximum award amounts are based on population estimates of jurisdiction. Refer to grant website for details.

Applications are due January 31, 2021.

Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP)

Implementation Grants https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/msprog/step/step_ig_app_e_project_eligibility.pdf Planning & Capacity Building Grants https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/msprog/step/step_pg_app_e_project_eligibility.pdf

STEP is a new transportation equity pilot that aims to address community residents' transportation needs, increase access to key destinations, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by funding planning, clean transportation, and supporting projects. STEP's overarching purpose is to increase transportation equity in disadvantaged and low-income communities throughout California via two types of grants: Planning and Capacity Building Grants and Implementation Grants. Within these two grant types, CARB currently has up to \$22 million available.

Planning and Capacity Building Grants do not require local funding matches. Implementation Grants require 20% match funding.

Applications are due August 31, 2020.

Active Transportation Program (ATP)

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/active-transportation-program/general-and-technical-information>

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) announced the ATP Cycle 5 Call for Projects on March 25, 2020. Cycle 5 is expected to include about \$440M in ATP funding made up of Federal funding, State SB1 and State Highway Account (SHA) funding. The funding/programming years include the 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25 fiscal years.

Pursuant to statute, the purpose of the program is to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. The goals of ATP are to:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking.
- Increase the safety and mobility of non-motorized users.
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals as established pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) and Senate Bill 391 (Chapter 585, Statutes of 2009).
- Enhance public health, including reduction of childhood obesity through the use of programs including, but not limited to, projects eligible for Safe Routes to School Program funding.
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program.
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.

This program does not require a local funding match.

Applications are due September 15, 2020.

VW Mitigation Trust

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/volkswagen-environmental-mitigation-trust-california/about>

The Volkswagen (VW) Environmental Mitigation Trust (Trust) provides about \$423 million for California to mitigate the excess nitrogen oxide (NOX) emissions caused by VW's use of illegal emissions testing defeat devices in certain VW diesel vehicles. The Trust provides funding opportunities for specified eligible actions that are focused mostly on "scrap and replace" projects for the heavy-duty sector, including on-road freight trucks, transit and shuttle buses, school buses, forklifts and port cargo handling equipment, commercial marine vessels, and freight switcher locomotives.

This program does not require a local funding match. Minimum award amount of \$150,000 and maximum award amount of \$250,000.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Blueprints for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2020-07/gfo-20-601-blueprints-medium-and-heavy-duty-zero-emission-vehicle>

Grant funds are available for blueprints that will identify actions and milestones needed for implementation of medium and heavy duty zero emission vehicles and the related electric charging and/or hydrogen refueling infrastructure.

This program does not require a local funding match. Maximum award amount of \$200,000.

Applications are due September 17, 2020.

Resilient Sierra Nevada Communities Directed Grant Program

<https://sierranevada.ca.gov/funding/snc-grants/>

This grant program will support the planning and implementation of projects that are specifically designed to confront issues that impact the environment, economy, and communities. This may include a broad array of projects, such as the protection of public infrastructure from wildfire, workforce development through the implementation of natural resource management activities or the development of community resource facilities, the implementation of climate adaptation initiatives, or wildfire recovery efforts for current and future community resiliency.

This program does not require a local funding match.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Closed Grant Opportunities with Possible Rounds of Future Funding

Climate Ready Program

<https://scc.ca.gov/climate-change/climate-ready-program/>

The Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Program is helping natural resources and human communities along California's coast and San Francisco Bay adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Conservancy is also working to capture greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through the conservation of natural and working lands. The Conservancy seeks to support multi-benefit projects that use natural systems to assist communities in adapting to the impacts of climate change.

This program was not open for 2020 but has had five rounds of funding in the past. We expect this opportunity to reopen in the future.

Urban Greening Program

<https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/grants/Urban-Greening-Program-Guidelines--Round-Four.pdf?la=en&hash=22C38AE8A133E05D86B473482258A8B3F709222F>

Urban Greening Program will fund projects that reduce greenhouse gases by sequestering carbon, decreasing energy consumption and reducing vehicle miles traveled, while also transforming the built environment into places that are more sustainable, enjoyable, and effective in creating healthy and vibrant communities. These projects will establish and enhance parks and open space, using natural solutions to improving air and water quality and reducing energy consumption, and creating more walkable and bike-able trails.

This program does not require local match funding.

There have been four rounds of funding for this program thus far and we expect this opportunity to reopen in the future.

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC)

<https://sgc.ca.gov/programs/salc/>

These planning grants provide funds to develop and implement plans for the protection of agricultural land at risk of conversion to non-agricultural uses, maintaining the economic viability of the region's agricultural lands, and developing the economic viability of regional food systems and infrastructure to support the production, aggregation, processing and distribution of agricultural products. This component of SALC incentivizes local and regional governments to work closely with local stakeholders to develop local and regional land use policies and implementation activities that integrate agricultural

land conservation in a way that reduces or avoids greenhouse gas emissions, supports job creation, and benefits priority populations.

This program requires a 10% local funding match. Maximum award amount of \$250,000.

This is a recurring program and we expect this opportunity to reopen in the future.

California Climate Investments Cal FIRE Prevention Grant

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/fire-prevention-grants/>

The CCI Fire Prevention Grant Program aims to reduce the risk of wildland fires to habitable structures and communities, while maximizing carbon sequestration in healthy wildland habitat and minimizing the uncontrolled release of emissions emitted by wildfires. The three qualifying projects and activities include those related to hazardous fuel reduction and removal of dead, dying, or diseased trees, fire prevention planning, and fire prevention education.

This is a recurring program and we expect this opportunity to reopen in the future.