



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

santa monica bay restoration commission ✂ 320 west 4th street, ste 200; los angeles, california 90013
213/576-6615 phone ✂ 213/576-6646 fax ✂ santamonocabay.org

Request for Proposals Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Proposition 84 Grant Program

On August 22, 2008, The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission will begin accepting applications for the Proposition 84 Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program to support projects that protect the water quality of beaches and coastal waters in Santa Monica Bay.

Background

The SMBRC is an independent, non-regulatory State agency charged with promoting comprehensive watershed and coastal resources management of Santa Monica Bay.

Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, was passed by the voters of California on November 7, 2006. Proposition 84 allocates \$90 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for coastal water quality improvement projects pursuant to the Clean Beaches Program (PRC §30915). Of this amount, \$18 million is available to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) for projects that protect Santa Monica Bay beaches and coastal waters, including projects to prevent contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, and projects to protect and restore the Bay's marine, freshwater, and terrestrial habitats. Proposition 84 requires the SMBRC and State Water Board to work together to ensure that all projects are consistent with State requirements.

The implementing legislation for the Proposition 84 SMBRC funds requires that the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF) review and recommend projects to the State Water Board for approval. The State Water Board, at their September 2, 2008 meeting, will consider adding members of the SMBRC Technical Advisory Committee, which was first appointed at the SMBRC Governing Board Meeting on December 13, 2007, to the CBTF to assist in project reviews. This expert panel will be known as the Clean Beaches Santa Monica Bay Task Force (CBSMB Task Force) and will be comprised of technical experts from local agencies, academia, government, and scientific research organizations. The CBSMB Task Force will assist SMBRC staff in reviewing and recommending projects to the Governing Board of the Commission for approval, and to the State Water Board for funding under the Proposition 84 CBSMB Grant Program.

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Approximately \$10.5 million will be available under this invitation to submit proposals. An additional \$6 million will be targeted to specific projects at a later date. Projects funded under this grant program will be implemented through the execution of a standard grant agreement between the project proponent and the State Water Board. The State Water Board and SMBRC staff will be jointly responsible for the management and oversight of Prop 84 projects.

Project Eligibility

The purpose of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program is to provide funds to capital improvement projects that restore and protect the Bay's water quality and help to achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Zero dry-weather beach closures at Santa Monica Bay beaches.
- Significant reduction in mile-days that Santa Monica Bay beaches are posted.
- Significant reduction of trash to the Bay.
- Significant reduction of other 303d listed pollutants.

Priority will be given to projects that address the following:

- Contribute expeditiously and measurably to the attainment and long-term maintenance of water quality standards by implementing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and/or MS4 permit requirements;
- Implement Low Impact Development (LID) and green building techniques in the Santa Monica Bay watershed which improve water quality;
- Use best management practices to capture and treat stormwater and/or dry-weather runoff for beneficial re-use;
- Provide multiple-benefits (i.e. improved water quality and habitat protection/restoration, etc.).

In addition to meeting the above program priorities, preference will be given to projects that:

- Are consistent with adopted Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Plans (ICWMP) and/or Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMP);
- Are consistent with local Low Impact Development policies or ordinances;
- Demonstrate public-private partnerships.

Projects funded under Proposition 84 must also meet the eligibility requirements in the enabling legislation (Attachment 1). Grant applicants are strongly

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encouraged to contact SMBRC staff to ensure projects meet eligibility requirements and conform to SMBRC priorities prior to application submittal.

Project Timing, Fund Limits, Cost Match, and Other Requirements

Approximately \$10.5 Million will be available under this RFP. There is no minimum award, but a maximum of \$5 million can be awarded to any one project. A minimum match of 15% is required, but may be reduced for projects that directly benefit a disadvantaged community. Match may include, but is not limited to, federal or local funding, donated and volunteer services, and other funding sources.

All projects funded under this grant program must be located within and primarily benefit the waters, habitats, natural resources, or other beneficial uses of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds.

As a condition of funding, all projects must be properly monitored, operated, and maintained. Pre-project planning, design, and monitoring associated with proposed project(s) may qualify for funding. However, operations and maintenance of the project is not eligible for funding.

If possible, applicants should demonstrate stakeholder support for their projects (letters of support, neighborhood council resolutions, etc) as part of their proposal. However, support must be documented prior to project approval by the State Water Board.

All CEQA documents must be completed prior to grant execution.

Certain projects funded under this grant program will be required to develop Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans to protect against the introduction and spread of invasive species. HACCP plans must be submitted and approved prior to any on-the-ground activities (pre-project monitoring, construction, etc.).

Who May Apply

Any public entity or non-profit organization established pursuant to the laws of the State of California and qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(5) is eligible to apply for grant funds under this program. Joint proposals between multiple organizations involved in similar or related activities are strongly encouraged. However, grant funds may only be encumbered by one organization per agreement. There is no limit to the number

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of applications an organization may submit.

Proposal Solicitation, Review, and Selection Process

The application solicitation is a competitive two-step process: 1) Proposal, which will be used to determine eligibility for funding; and 2) Detailed work plan, which will be used to develop an executable grant agreement.

Applicants requesting funds from this Grant Program must submit an electronic application between **August 22, 2008 and 5:00 PM on Friday, October 17, 2008** using the State Water Board's online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) system at <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov>. Late applications will be kept on file and may qualify for funding at a later date. To be considered complete, the electronic applications must include all of the **required** items in Attachment 2.

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will be evaluated and screened by SMBRC staff for completeness, adherence to enabling legislation and SMBRC priorities. If the above criteria are met, SMBRC staff will submit proposals to the CBSMB Task Force. The Task Force will evaluate and recommend projects based on technical merit. SMBRC staff may request additional information from grantees during the review and selection process. All proposals that are deemed eligible and recommended by the Task Force for funding will be incorporated into a Recommended Project List and presented to the SMBRC's Governing Board and the State Water Board for approval.

Applicants whose projects are on the Recommended Project List will be invited to submit detailed work plans which will be used as the basis for grant agreements with the State Water Resources Control Board.

Placement on the Recommended Project List will **not** be a commitment to disburse grant funds. Commitment of grant funds to a specific project will be based on adherence to enabling legislation, SMBRC priorities, the ability of the proponent to implement the project as described, technical feasibility, implementation readiness, stakeholder support, the applicant's past performance in implementing projects, and the availability of funding.

Because the number of qualifying proposals on the Recommended Project List may exceed the available funding, detailed work plans will be reviewed on a first come first serve basis, and grants executed in order of readiness until the initial \$10.5 million is encumbered.

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S T E W A R D S O F S A N T A M O N I C A B A Y

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For additional information, contact:

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Time Line

August 08, 2008	SMBRC issues Request for Proposals.
August 22, 2008	Applications available at https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov
September 2, 2008 (1:00 – 2:30 PM)	Mandatory workshop for applicants. Location: SMBRC – Downtown L.A. Office
October 17, 2008 (5:00 PM).	Deadline for submitting proposal applications
Oct. – Nov. 2008	SMBRC staff and CBSMB Task Force evaluate concept proposals
November 2008	Evaluation results compiled and Recommended Project List developed.
December 2008	Recommended Project List is submitted to SMBRC Governing Board and State Water Board for approval.
Jan. 09 – Ongoing	Work plan review and grant execution.
June 30, 2010/11	Last day to execute grant agreements (depending on funding allocations).
June 30, 2012/13	Deadline for completing projects (depending on funding allocations).

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Attachment 1.

Eligible Project Types as Required by Proposition 84

Proposition 84 mandates that eligible projects must implement at least one of the following:

- Improve water quality at public beaches and make improvements to ensure that coastal waters adjacent to public beaches meet bacteriological standards
- Make improvements to existing sewer collection systems and septic systems for the restoration and protection of coastal water quality; or,
- Implement stormwater and runoff pollution reduction and prevention programs, or for the implementation of best management practices, for the restoration and protection of coastal water quality.

The implementing statute of the Proposition requires that:

- The projects funded are consistent with State's Nonpoint Source (NPS) control program, as revised to meet the requirements of Section 6217 of the Federal Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization and Section 319 of the Federal Clean Water Act
- The project demonstrates capability of contributing to sustain, long-term water quality, or environmental restoration/protection benefits for a period of 20 years, address the causes of degradation, rather than the symptoms, and be consistent with water quality and resource protection plans prepared, implemented, or adopted by the State Water Board, the applicable Regional Water Board, and the State Coastal Conservancy;
- The applicant for funds must submit a monitoring and reporting plan that does all of the following:
 1. Identifies the nonpoint source or sources of pollution to be prevented or reduced by the project.
 2. Describes the baseline water quality or environmental quality to be addressed.
 3. Describes the manner in which the project will be effective in preventing or reducing pollution and in demonstrating the desired environmental results.
 4. Describes the monitoring program, including, but not limited to, the methodology, and the frequency and duration of monitoring.

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- Upon completion of the project, a recipient of funds shall submit a report that summarizes the completed activities and indicates whether the purposes of the project have been met. The report shall include information collected by the recipient in accordance with the project monitoring and reporting plan, including a determination of the effectiveness of the project in preventing or reducing pollution, and the results of the monitoring program. The report will be made available to the public, watershed groups, and federal, state, and local agencies.
- An applicant for funds shall inform the SMBRC of any necessary public agency approvals, entitlements, and permits that may be necessary to implement the project. The application shall certify, at the appropriate time that those approvals, entitlements, and permits have been granted.
- The project is consistent with recovery plans for Coho salmon, steelhead trout, or other threatened or endangered species, and to the extent feasible, must seek to implement actions specified in those plans where those plans exist.

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Attachment 2.

Application Attachment Checklist

Required: Project description - May include summarized application information, photos, designs, or any additional information that helps describe the project (4-page MAXIMUM).

Required: Map(s) of project location- Map should include watershed boundary and project location (3-page MAXIMUM).

Optional: Summary of water quality data if available.

Optional: CEQA Documents if available.

Optional: Stakeholder support documents if available.

Documents are submitted electronically during the FAAST application process.

