



**TO:** Legislative Committee

**DATE:** May 16, 2016

**FROM:** Jennifer Capitolo, Senior Policy Advisor  
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**RE:** Strategic Grant Services Program: Grants Update

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**Background:**

On September 1, 2014, Nossaman began working with the County's Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division (IGLA) on a new grant services program strategically aimed at securing funding for the County's top priority projects. In June 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved the continuation of the contract with Nossaman and increased the amount of priority projects to be worked on from 10-12 to 12-15 in the 2015-16 fiscal year. For all other projects, Nossaman will continually research potential grants and alert the County of those grant opportunities.

The designation of "priority projects" which Nossaman has/or will work on is based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with the Board's Strategic Initiatives & Milestones
- Alignment with the Board's Legislative Program / Legislative Priorities
- Timing of grant opportunities
- Ability to meet grant requirements
- Grant matching fund requirements
- Probability of receiving funding

**Priority Projects Currently Working on:**

We would like to update the Legislative Committee on the priority projects Nossaman has been working with the County on:

- ***Tracking Progress Made:*** Attached is a comprehensive list of the Board's Strategic Initiatives paired with the related work accomplished through the Strategic Grant Services Program. This tracking sheet will be used moving forward to ensure the Program is meeting the goals of the Board.
- ***Updated Supervisor and Department Needs:*** With the County's new hire of the Grants Coordinator, Nossaman worked with the IGLA office to meet with each of the Supervisors and 17 Departments to discuss detailed funding needs

and to update our master project tracking list. We are currently scheduling meetings with the remaining departments and working on updating the master project list for presentation to the Legislative Committee and Board.

- ***Water Resources Agency Projects:*** Nossaman has updated the funding opportunity matrix for the Interlake Tunnel Project and reviewed two upcoming grant opportunities with the Water Resources Agency, the Proposition 1 Restoration Grant (Department of Fish and Wildlife) and the California Streamflow Enhancement Program (Wildlife Conservation Board). The Restoration grant is due June 24 and could provide significant planning dollars for the Interlake Tunnel Project. On Wednesday, May 18, Nossaman has arranged a meeting for Nick Chiulos with Kevin Hunting, Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife to discuss the Interlake Tunnel Project. Lastly, Nossaman was asked to provide a simplified version of the funding matrix for Assemblyman Alejo to use in his meetings with his legislative colleagues regarding AB 1585.
- ***Violence Prevention:*** Nossaman, CAO-IGLA, the CAO Office of Community Engagement & Strategic Advocacy, the Sheriff's Department, Probation, Behavioral Health and the District Attorney's office continue to meet to discuss holistic approaches to grant funding for violence prevention. The Departments each sent a list of their priority projects to evaluate and find overlap or potential opportunities to work together. Nossaman has discussed several funding opportunities with the group, such as the Pay for Success Program, the JAG program, the COPS Community Policing Development Program, the COPS Hiring Program, the DOJ Safe and Thriving Communities program, and the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Strategies and Program.
- ***Victims Services:*** In a collaborative effort, the Strategic Grant Services Program is finalizing an application to add and improve services to victims of crimes. The collaborative includes Nossaman, the IGLA office, Assistant CAO Manny Gonzalez, Rosemary Soto, the Sheriff's Department, Probation, Health, the District Attorney's office, Social Services, Seaside PD, Salinas PD, and Greenfield PD, the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, the YWCA, and Voices for Children CASA. If awarded, the project will be led and managed by the office of Assistant CAO Manny Gonzalez.
- ***Beverage Container Recycling at Parks:*** The Strategic Grant Services Program is facilitating cooperation between nonprofit the Offset Project and the Parks Department on a grant application to improve recycling and waste facilities throughout County parks. The Offset Project will take the lead on writing and managing the grant, relieving Parks staff from the time investment. The County's Go Green Program is providing technical assistance on the application.
- ***San Lucas Pipeline Project:*** Nossaman, the IGLA office, and RMA worked to vet the Proposition 1 State Water Board Technical Assistance program as a

feasible potential funding source for pre-construction costs for a project to provide clean drinking water to the community of San Lucas. At the recommendation of the State, we also provided the County with the California Financing Coordinating Committee form to be filled out and submitted to the State. The State takes the information provided, and in turn outlines potential grant funding opportunities. We continue to monitor this process to provide assistance negotiating with the State Water Board as needed.

- **Job Training for Probation Population:** Coordinated with Economic Development to arrange a multi-departmental grant application meeting and provide review. Application is to fund a project to provide career training services for those on probation to reduce recidivism and provide improved access to the job market.
- **Veterans Court:** Nossaman worked with the Violence Prevention group to vet the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program as a potential funding opportunity. After several meetings to discuss the program internally, as well as meetings with the grant program manager, it was determined that the Veterans Court was not eligible for funding. The applicant must have a program up and running for one year as of September 2016. We learned that the County's Veteran's Court has only been operational since January 2016, and therefore the County Courts are not eligible for funding this year. If this program is available next year, the County Courts would become eligible for funding.
- **Active Transportation Program:** The County is taking the lead on several ATP applications, with Nossaman providing support and review services as needed. The following applications will be submitted:
  - Public Works - Moss Landing Scenic Trail Project
  - Public Works - Las Lomas
  - Public Works – San Ardo Safe Routes to Schools Project
  - Public Works – San Lucas Safe Routes to Schools Project
  - Health Department – TAMC Safe Routes to Schools Project

While the County Departments are taking the lead on the applications, Nossaman has met with each department to discuss strategy of competitiveness and offered review and support completing the application as needed. Applications are due June 15, 2016.

- **Cal OES Pre-Disaster and Flood Mitigation Grant:** The Resource Management Agency took the lead on submitting an application for the Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Program (CRFREE). Nossaman is working with RMA to gather support letters from the County's Legislative Representatives to urge funding this important project.

- ***COPS Hiring Program:*** Nossaman is working with the Sheriff's Department to vet this program for the hiring of an additional officer. While the County's project would be eligible, there is a 25% cash match required that may prohibit the County from applying for funding. The Sheriff's Department is currently discussing this issue internally.

#### **Pending Grant Applications:**

- ***U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Congressional Earmark for the Lower Carmel River and Lagoon Floodplain Restoration and Enhancement Project:*** Facilitated the preparation of bid for environmental review of project, a prerequisite step before funds can be released. RMA is currently working with consultants to move forward on environmental review.

#### **Near-Term Future Funding Opportunities:**

Looking ahead for the next few months, Nossaman views the following funding programs as potential opportunities that need to be vetted with the County. Some of these opportunities include potential projects that have been identified.

- Integrated Regional Water Management Program
  - TBD
- Active Transportation Program
  - Public Works - Moss Landing Scenic Trail Project
  - Public Works - Las Lomas
  - Public Works – San Ardo Safe Routes to Schools Project
  - Public Works – San Lucas Safe Routes to Schools Project
  - Health Department – TAMC Safe Routes to Schools Project
- California Energy Commission, Energy Partnership Program
  - CEC offers technical assistance grants to provide counties with an energy audit of facilities. County working to identify projects.
- California Energy Commission Energy Efficiency Low Interest Loans
  - CEC offers 1% loans for energy efficiency projects. County working to identify projects.
- Proposition 1 Ocean Protection Council Program
  - Carmel Lagoon and Scenic Road Protective Structure
- Proposition 1 Coastal Conservancy Program
  - Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project
- Proposition 1 Restoration Grant, Department of Fish and Wildlife Program
  - Interlake Tunnel Project
  - Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project
- Water-Energy Grant Program
  - County working to identify projects.