

**TO:** Legislative Committee**DATE:** October 10, 2016**FROM:** Jennifer Capitolo, Senior Policy Advisor, Nossaman LLP  
Ashley Walker, Policy Advisor, Nossaman LLP  
Paul Hierling, Grants Coordinator, County of Monterey**RE:** Strategic Grant Services Program: Grants Update

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**Background:**

This memo provides an update on the activities of the Strategic Grant Services Program, and provides summaries of grants recently awarded, grant applications recently submitted, grant applications currently in progress, and upcoming grant opportunities which will be strategically evaluated.

The Strategic Grants Services Program focuses on identifying funding for the County's priority funding needs. Priorities are defined by the Board's Strategic Initiatives, the Board's Legislative Priorities, availability of grant funding, ability to meet grant requirements, and a strategic analysis of the County's ability to submit a competitive grant application. The program is managed by the County Administrative Office, Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs Division, with assistance from Nossaman LLP.

**SB 831 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Monterey County Water Resources Agency: Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio**

Over the last nine months, Nossaman has been working with Assemblyman Alejo to secure funding for the Interlake Tunnel project. Early efforts focused on AB 1585 and an earmark in the State Budget. Nossaman participated in multiple meetings with Assemblyman Alejo and his staff and provided Assemblyman Alejo with multiple versions of informative documents to support his efforts in securing an earmark. Although we were not successful in June in securing an earmark through the state budget, late in the legislative session, Assemblyman Alejo was able to secure another legislative vehicle, SB 831. Nossaman met with Assemblyman Alejo's office multiple times in support of this legislative effort. On the very last day of session, the bill was heard in the Senate Budget Committee. Assemblyman Alejo presented the bill alongside Senator Monning and Senator Cannella and Nossaman testified in support on behalf of the County and the Water Resources Agency. Also in support, were the State Building and Construction Trades of California, Salinas Valley Sustainable Water Group and Western Growers – no one spoke in opposition of the bill. The bill received a unanimous vote in support, by all present Senators. The bill was then heard in on the Senate floor and Senator Monning presented the bill with support from Senator Cannella and Senator Nielsen. The bill passed off the floor with most Senators voting in support (36-2).

On September 13, 2016, Governor Brown signed SB 831 which will provide \$10 million to the Water Resources Agency for the Interlake Tunnel project. Nossaman met with Martha Guzman Aceves in the Governor's office the morning the bill was signed and she gave no indication that the Governor was going to sign the bill and only "we are giving it full consideration." Nossaman facilitated her request for follow up information, which the Governor's office may have needed to respond to media inquiries.

The funding authorized under SB 831 will be provided via a grant agreement between the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and WRA. Nossaman is currently in contact with leadership at the Department of Water Resources to better understand the steps necessary to draw down the funds. Nossaman has provided preliminary information to WRA regarding what are likely to be acceptable items to be included in the funding agreement. The Water Resources Agency had an initial meeting on October 6, 2016 with staff members from the Financial Assistance Branch of the DWR.

**Grant Awards (2016):**

- ***County Victim Services Program (CalOES)***
  - **Project:** Improve services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child victims of crimes, and other victims
  - **Amount:** \$508,500
  - **Submitted:** May 24, 2016
  - **Awarded:** October 5, 2016
  - **Role:** Coordinated, drafted, and submitted the application
  - **Department/Partner(s):** Community Engagement and Advocacy, Health Department - Sexual Assault Response Team (SART ), District Attorney – Victims Unit, Probation, Monterey County Voices for Children Court Appointed Special Advocates, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center (MCRCC), Monterey County YWCA, Seaside Police Department, Greenfield Police Department
- ***Proposition 1 Technical Assistance Program (CA EPA)***
  - **Project:** Program will fund an income study for Chualar to potentially qualify them for additional Proposition 1 funding to repair and upgrade the community's sewer system
  - **Amount:** TBD based on pre-project meetings with grantor
  - **Submitted:** July 2016
  - **Awarded:** September 19, 2016
  - **Role:** Confirmed project **eligibility** with grantor, wrote draft application narrative, facilitated application
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA
- ***Supervised Population Workforce Training Grant 2.0 (CA Workforce Investment Board)***
  - **Project:** Improving training and access to the job market for the Monterey County probation population
  - **Amount:** \$400,000
  - **Submitted:** May 2, 2016
  - **Awarded:** May 15, 2016

- **Role:** Gathered support letters from the County's Legislative Representatives, reviewed the application, and assisted with submittal
- **Department/Partner(s):** Economic Development, Probation
- ***Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant (CA Water Resources)***
  - **Project:** To assess groundwater basin levels in the Salinas Valley and monitor basin aquifer water levels
  - **Amount:** \$250,000
  - **Submitted:** December 8, 2015
  - **Awarded:** March 25, 2016
  - **Role:** Prepared an application in cooperation with RMA and WRA
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA, WRA

**Grant Applications Submitted (2016):**

- ***State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund (SRAFPF) and Tree Mortality (TM) Grant (CalFire)***
  - **Project:** Mowing for fire prevention along County roads in high fire risk areas including Big Sur, Carmel Valley, Cachagua, Robinson Canyon, and Prunedale.
  - **Amount:** \$250,000
  - **Submitted:** September 28, 2016
  - **Award Announcements Expected:** November, 2016.
  - **Role:** Vetted the grant for RMA, advised on project design, coordinated all grant meetings, co-wrote narrative, advised on budget strategy, circulated drafts for review.
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA – Public Works.
- ***Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Grant***
  - **Project:** Prevent introduction of invasive Quagga and Zebra mussels into Lakes Nacimiento and San Antonio. If introduced, these mussels would damage reservoir infrastructure and the environment.
  - **Amount:** \$250,000
  - **Submitted:** September 15, 2016
  - **Award Announcements Expected:** December 2016
  - **Role:** Compiled and submitted application in cooperation with RMA.
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA
- ***Proposition 1 Stream Flow Enhancement Program (Wildlife Conservation Board)***
  - **Project:** Construction of the Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Program (CRFREE)
  - **Amount:** \$4.2 Million
  - **Submitted:** August 31, 2016
  - **Awards:** December 2016
  - **Role:** Advised on grant writing strategy and gathered support letters.
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA
- ***Unserved/Underserved Child and Youth Advocacy Grant (CalOES)***
  - **Project:** Reestablishment of a victim focused Center in King City to serve children/youth who are victims of violent crimes

- **Amount:** \$372,000
- **Submitted:** August 25, 2016
- **Award Announcements Expected:** December, 2016
- **Role:** Notified DA's office of the opportunity. Review of final draft application.
- **Department/Partner(s):** District Attorney – Victims Unit
  
- ***California Department of Fish and Wildlife - Proposition 1***
  - **Project:** Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Program (CRFREE)
  - **Amount:** \$4.2 Million
  - **Submitted:** June 24, 2016
  - **Award Announcements Expected:** November 2016
  - **Role:** Gathered support letters from the County's Legislative Representatives, reviewed the application, and assisted with submittal
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA, Big Sur Land Trust
  
- ***Safe and Thriving Communities Program (DOJ)***
  - **Project:** Establish crises teams to respond to violent crimes to discourage retaliation and promote healing
  - **Amount:** \$1 Million
  - **Submitted:** June 21, 2016
  - **Award Announcements Expected:** November 2016
  - **Role:** Provided guidance on application process, reviewed application, provided assistance with application
  - **Department/Partner(s):** CAO – Community Engagement and Advocacy, NMC, Health, Seaside Police Department, Greenfield Police Department
  
- ***Active Transportation Program***
  - **Project:** Moss Landing Section of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail
  - **Amount:** \$7.5 Million
  - **Submitted:** June 15, 2016
  - **Award Announcement Expected:** October 2016
  - **Role:** Reviewed application, helped obtain letters of support from legislators
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA-Public Works
  
- ***Active Transportation Program***
  - **Project:** Improvement of curbs and sidewalks in Los Lomas
  - **Amount:** \$2.8 Million
  - **Submitted:** June 15, 2016
  - **Award Announcement Expected:** October 2016
  - **Role:** Reviewed application, helped obtain letters of support from legislators
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA - Public Works
  
- ***Active Transportation Program***
  - **Project:** Safe Routes to Schools Project
  - **Amount:** \$965,000
  - **Submitted:** June 15, 2016
  - **Award Announcement Expected:** October 2016
  - **Role:** Reviewed application

- **Department/Partner(s):** Health, TAMC
- ***Beverage Container Recycling Grant (CalRecycle)***
  - **Project:** Provide additional recycling and waste facilities and a new refuse collection truck to County Parks, diverting approximately 300,000 more recyclable beverage containers away from landfills each year, and provide educational signage.
  - **Amount:** \$249,000
  - **Submitted:** July 5, 2016
  - **Award Announcements Expected:** December 2016
  - **Role:** Facilitated cooperation between nonprofit the Offset Project and the Parks Department on application, provided budget support, reviewed application
  - **Department/Partner(s):** Parks, Health -Environmental Health Bureau, CAO-Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs GoGreen Program, and The Offset Project. If awarded, the Offset Project will take the lead managing the grant.

**Work in Progress (2016):**

- ***Cap and Trade Funding Increase (AB 1613)***
  - **Project:** The Legislature has increased funding for the Cap and Trade program which provides \$900 million for programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The following grants from the Cap and Trade program closely align with County's priority needs:
    - \$10 million for the Active Transportation Program to fund bicycle and pedestrian programs that make walking or biking to school and work safer and easier
    - \$25 million for the Healthy Forest program, which preserves existing forests by reducing the threat of wildfires by reducing fuels, removing dead trees, and providing long-term protection to forest land
    - \$80 million for the Urban Greening program to create green spaces and parks in communities in California that lack green space
    - \$15 million to continue the successful Urban Forestry program which helps urban disadvantaged communities plant trees in their neighborhood
  - **Role:** Nossaman will actively engage in the implementation of grant programs on behalf of the County
  - **Department/Partner(s):** Several County departments may benefit from these programs
- ***Proposition 1 Technical Assistance Program (CA EPA)***
  - **Project:** Planning for clean water for the South County community of San Lucas
  - **Application:** Will be submitted in 2016/17 depending on project meetings and needs
  - **Awards:** Rolling, awards are made as applications are reviewed
  - **Role:** Informed RMA of opportunity, explained program, advised on application strategy
  - **Department/Partner(s):** RMA
- ***Congressional Earmark for the Lower Carmel River and Lagoon Floodplain Restoration and Enhancement Project: (US EPA)***
  - **Project:** Flood reduction and stormwater improvements in unincorporated Carmel neighborhoods near Highway 1
  - **Amount:** \$485,000
  - **Application:** Submission TBD
  - **Awards:** TBD

- **Role:** Facilitated the preparation of bid for environmental review of project, a prerequisite step before funds can become available. A consultant was chosen to work on the project and a contract is being executed. Consultant work expected to start Winter 2016/17, grant funds expected by Winter 2016/17.
- **Department/Partner(s):** RMA
- ***Water Resources Agency Projects***
  - We continue to be in communication with Assemblyman Alejo regarding the draw down of \$10 million provided by SB 831 for the Interlake Tunnel Project.
  - We have alerted WRA of the Proposition 1 Groundwater program, Proposition 1 Technical Assistance program for well-head treatment and planning in disadvantaged communities like Castroville and Pajaro, Proposition 1 Stream Flow Enhancement Program, Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Program Proposition 1 Urban Rivers Grant Program, and Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Management Planning and Disadvantaged Community Programs.
- ***Funding Opportunity Alerts***
  - Sent 68 funding opportunity alerts to County departments and nonprofit partners on topics such as homelessness, children's services, services for victims of crimes, and redevelopment since January 1, 2016.