



TO: Monterey County Legislative Committee

FROM: Ashley S. Walker, Senior Policy Advisor

DATE: March 9, 2020

RE: Strategic Grant Services Program: Grants Update

Summary of Recent Program Efforts

- A. I-Bank Funding for Dam/Spillway Projects:** Nossaman is reviewing potential financing opportunities through the California I-Bank to assist in funding the County's dam and spillway projects. The Infrastructure State Revolving Fund (ISRF) Program provides financing to public agencies and non-profit corporations, sponsored by public agencies, for a wide variety of infrastructure and economic development projects (excluding housing). ISRF Program funding is available in amounts ranging from \$50,000 to \$25 million with loan terms for the useful life of the project up to a maximum of 30 years. The loan provide below-market rate interest rates, there are no matching funds required, and is fairly simple in terms of applying.
- B. CalOES Hazard Mitigation Grant for Carmel River/Lagoon:** RMA has received indication from CalOES and FEMA that this grant is likely to be funded once the environmental documents are completed for the Carmel project, as well as the Carmel Area Wastewater District project. That is likely to take about 9 months. If funded, the grant will provide over \$28 million to address flood management and floodplain habitat loss within the lower Carmel River Basin by improving the natural and historic functions and values of the lower Carmel River and Carmel Lagoon through the hydraulic reconnection of the Carmel River, its southern floodplain, and the lagoon.
- C. Sustainability Funding:** Nossaman met with the County's new Sustainability Program Manager to discuss needs in terms of funding for related projects. We did identify the need for funding an update to the County's current Climate Action Plan. Nossaman is researching potential funding opportunities for updating the plan, including SB 1 funds for climate adaptation planning. We will continue to work closely with the Sustainability Program Manager to find funding opportunities that pair with the County's suitability goals and projects.
- D. Go-BIZ Cannabis Equity Grant:** The IGLA office has taken the lead on a Cannabis Equity Grant application, requesting \$150,000 to conduct a cannabis equity assessment. The assessment will be in partnership with California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB). The County has preliminarily identified two groups that have been disproportionately impacted by the War on Drugs: the Latinx community that represents a majority of both population and workforce of the legal cannabis industry within Monterey County, and rural communities that were subject to frequent searches and seizures. The application is due March 9. Nossaman participated in all the County meetings regarding the application,

provided feedback and suggestions on the grant strategy and content, and reviewed the narrative.

- E. Proposition 64 (BSCC) Public Health and Safety Grant:** The purpose of this grant program is to fund projects that assist with law enforcement efforts, fire protection efforts, or other local projects addressing public health and safety associated with the implementation of the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA). Nossaman recently participated in a meeting with several County Department to discuss a potential application for this program. The County's initial proposal idea will be to improve health outcomes through integrated county wide initiatives utilizing three project purpose areas (PPA) within the grant solicitation: 1) youth development and prevention, 2) public health and 3) public safety with an overarching goal to educate on the risks of cannabis consumption and black market products. Strategies will include surveillance, customer and retail education, and enforcement provided by a county wide partnership between the IGLA office, County Health Department (Public Health and Environmental Health Bureaus) and the District Attorney's Office. The County will collaborate with Sun Street Centers (a local non-profit) to provide a comprehensive youth program, Road to Success and drugged driving education within high school health classes. Grant proposals are due April 3, 2020.
- F. San Lucas Water Project:** RMA recently reported that the income study being completed for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund application for San Lucas, will be complete in just a couple of weeks. Once that is complete, the State Resources Water Control Board can pick back up with the review and approval of the application to design and construct a project that will bring safe clean drinking water to the community. Nossaman is working with the State Board to better understand timing of approval of the application.
- G. Grants Matrix:** See attached.