



**TO:** Monterey County Legislative Committee

**FROM:** Ashley S. Walker, Senior Policy Advisor

**DATE:** December 2, 2024

**RE:** Strategic Grant Services Program: Grants Update

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**Summary of Recent Program Efforts:**

- a. Dam Safety Grant Program:** The Water Resources Agency submitted a grant application to request funding from the Dam Safety Grant Program on October 21, 2024. The Agency's proposal is to make improvements to the low-level outlet works at San Antonio Dam to compliment its ongoing efforts to replace the dam spillway, as mandated by the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams. Nossaman helped secure a letter of support from Senator Laird and has requested on from Speaker Rivas for the pending application.
- b. Proposition 4:** Proposition 4 - Authorizes Bonds for Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, and Protecting Communities and Natural Lands From Climate Risks, was approved by the voters in November. Nossaman has evaluated the funding opportunities in the Bond that the County could potentially benefit from, and has provided that in a separate memo. In summary, those funding opportunities include:
- **Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience (\$3.8 billion)**
    - \$1.9 billion for increasing water availability and quality, including storage and purification.
    - \$1.1 billion for flood risk mitigation via dam repairs and stormwater reuse.
    - \$800 million for river and lake restoration.
  - **Wildfire and Forest Resilience (\$1.5 billion)**
    - Tree thinning, vegetation clearing, and wildfire risk reduction near communities.
    - Home-hardening initiatives to prevent damage from wildfires.
    - Wildfire mitigation grants.
  - **Coastal Resilience and Sea-Level Rise Mitigation (\$1.2 billion)**
    - \$890 million for restoring wetlands and coastal areas to buffer sea-level rise.
    - \$310 million for improving marine habitats and protecting wildlife.
  - **Land Conservation and Habitat Restoration (\$1.2 billion)**
    - Focus on protecting and restoring natural areas, including land acquisition for conservation.
  - **Parks and Recreational Access (\$700 million)**
    - \$300 million for park trail expansions and climate resilience improvements.
    - \$200 million for new or renovated local parks.
    - \$200 million for repairing state parks and promoting environmental education.
- c. Grant Track:** See attached.