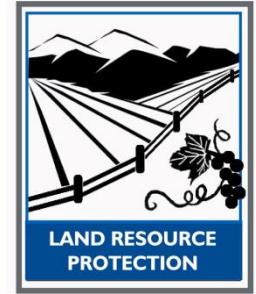


California  
Strategic Growth Council



# Sustainable Community Planning Grants and Incentives Program Round 3

Applications Due February 28, 2014,  
no later than 5:00P.M.

# Online Application Tool

- Grant applications are submitted through the online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST)
- The FAAST tool is maintained by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)
- FAAST: <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov/>
- Forms are posted at:  
[http://www.sgc.ca.gov/planning\\_grants.html](http://www.sgc.ca.gov/planning_grants.html)

# Round 3 Timeline

**December 6th**

Request for  
Proposals  
published

**February 28<sup>th</sup>**

Applications  
due online  
by 5pm

**June**

Funding  
decisions  
announced

December 2013 through February 28, 2014 - Staff available for guidance, consultation

- Approximately \$16M for local and regional governments to conduct a wide range of activities to support the planning and development of sustainable communities
- For example:
  - ▶ Specific Plans / Infill Plans / Zoning Ordinances /Code Updates
  - ▶ Regional and Local Climate Action Plans
  - ▶ Targeted General Plan Updates or Elements
  - ▶ Community Basic Infrastructure Plans
  - ▶ Local and Regional Coastal Plans
  - ▶ Multi-Jurisdictional Corridor Plans
  - ▶ Transit Oriented Development Plans
  - ▶ Sustainable Communities Strategies
  - ▶ Natural Communities Conservation Plans
  - ▶ Regional Greenprint Plans
  - ▶ Rural Blueprint Plans
  - ▶ Interregional Plans
  - ▶ Nexus Studies for Infill Fee Reduction
  - ▶ Affordable Housing Preservation Strategies
  - ▶ Plans to Support Sustainability in Rural and Agricultural Communities
  - ▶ Innovative Strategies to Reduce GHG

# Focus Areas

*Apply to one of the following*

- **Focus Area 1: Innovative Incentives for Sustainable Development Implementation**
  - Cities, Counties, MPOs, RTPAs, JPAs, and COGs/CAGs
- **Focus Area 2: Sustainable Community Planning for Transit Priority Areas**
  - Cities, Counties, MPOs, RTPAs, JPAs, and COGs/CAGs
- **Focus Area 3: Collaborative Community Planning in Preparation for High-Speed Rail**
  - Cities, Counties, MPOs, RTPAs, JPAs, and COGs/CAGs

# Environmental Justice (EJ) Set-Aside

Proposed project serves an environmental justice community.

- a. Proposed plan area must include all or part of at least one community that receives a score in the top ten percent (10%) of statewide scores using the CalEnviroScreen methodology.
- b. Proposal must be located in and directly benefit the EJ communities identified.
- c. Proposals that apply to the EJ set-aside must address one of the three Focus Areas.
- The local match Threshold Requirement and “leveraging additional resources” points are automatically awarded for proposals that are eligible for the EJ set-aside.

# Environmental Justice (EJ) Set-Aside (continued)

Environmental Justice Community:  
defined as those communities that receive the top ten percent (10%) of statewide scores using the latest published version of the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) CalEnviroScreen tool as of the release date of this grant solicitation.

# Objectives

Of the objectives listed in the Glossary in Appendix B-3, identify no more than three Primary Objectives.

In addition, applicants will need to identify co-benefits. Co-benefits are defined in the Glossary. Example - policies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions also have other equally important benefits such as energy savings, air quality benefits, etc.



# Objectives (continued)

Effective indicators will:

- Link to the long-range outcomes
- Show change related to actions from the proposed work
- Signal difficulties and possible alternative approaches

Proposed indicators should be measurable and specific.

- Baseline data
- Correspond with Primary Objectives
- Be accessible and understandable to the public

# Priority Considerations

Consistent with the goal of the program, the following areas have been identified as priorities in awarding grants. In evaluating proposals, the State may also consider factors including, but not limited to, geographic distribution of bond funds, environmental justice, and partial funding.

- Proposal adds or enhances elements of a regional plan not funded with federal dollars;
- Proposal demonstrates on-going collaboration with various levels of government (including federal, state, regional, local, school and special districts); internal coordination amongst applicant departments;
- Proposal creates best practices to serve as models for communities across the state or region;
- Proposal is leveraged with resources in addition to those required as a threshold for funding

# Organizational Capacity

Organization demonstrates the capacity to successfully execute proposed work on time and within budget

1. What is your organization's experience in completing this type of proposal or similar proposals? Is the expertise needed for the successful execution for the proposed work in-house? If not, how does the applicant plan to build capacity within the organization?
2. How will the Proposal be kept on schedule and within budget? If the Proposal goes over budget, what is the contingency plan to cover the cost?
3. Do you have active partners that will help develop the Proposal? Who? How will they help?

Organization and its partners demonstrate readiness and capacity to implement proposed work upon completion of plan

1. Have funding sources for implementation been identified?
2. For past SGC grantees, briefly describe the current implementation status of the plan.

## For More Information

- **RFP, Guidelines and other information:** [http://sgc.ca.gov/planning\\_grants.html](http://sgc.ca.gov/planning_grants.html)
- **Listserv:** <http://sgc.ca.gov>
- **Contact: Sustainable Communities Planning Grants Program**  
Phone: (916) 322-3439  
Email: [SGCSustainableCommunities@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:SGCSustainableCommunities@conservation.ca.gov)