Grant Support for Small Community Water/Wastewater Systems Serving Disadvantaged Communities in the Santa Ana River Watershed

Mark Norton, Water Resources & Planning Manager
SAWPA Commission | August 17, 2021
Item No. 6.A.
Assistance Fund for Small Systems that serve DACs

- **Purpose:** Provide support for small systems with chronic issues that lack the staffing and technical expertise to apply for grants

- **Scope of Assistance:**
  - Assemble project information
  - Prepare OWOW and DWR grant applications

- **Outcome:**
  - Prepare Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM grant applications for up to ten small systems serving DACs
Assistance Fund – Proposal Overview

- Build on information from SAWPA’s recently completed Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI)
- Partner with Cal Rural Water Association (CRWA)
  - CRWA would assist in preparing grant applications
- Prepare applications for up to 10 small systems (with DACs) for OWOW Prop 1 Round 2
High Need Small Systems supporting DACs in watershed
Steering Committee approves Prop 1 Policy

Nov 2018

DWR Releases Draft R2 Grant Guidelines

Aug 2021

Scoring Criteria Adopted by Steering Committee

Sep 2021

OWOW R2 Call for Projects

Oct 2021 – Jan 2022

DWR Releases Final R2 Grant Guidelines

Dec 2021

SAWPA finalizes R2 grant agreement

Feb 2023

R2 Application Submittal to DWR

Sep 2022

Steering Committee Approves R2 Projects

Mar 2022

Staff Review & Participatory Budgeting

Jan 2022

Small Community Water/Wastewater System-Grant applications due
Proposed Grant Application Support

- Budget estimate:
  - Up to $150,000 for up to 10 applications
- CRWA has worked with 6 communities through SAWPA’s DCI Technical Assistance program
  - The 6 communities are within or near three SAWPA member agency service areas
- Additional small communities in the watershed also may be ready to apply for grant funding
## Proposal Options, Costs, and Member Agency Share

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Total Cost Estimate</th>
<th>SAWPA Member Agency Cost</th>
<th>Support Timing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – No project</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2- Equal share</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>Thru Sept. 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>3- Proportionate share</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$69,250 SBVMWD $46,150 OCWD $17,300 EMWD $17,300 WMWD $0 IEUA</td>
<td>Thru Sept. 2022</td>
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SAWPA does not intend to reflect future costs related to project implementation; however, this topic has been raised as a potential issue.
Assistance Fund - Benefits

- Builds on outcomes of the SAWPA's Prop 1 IRWM DCI program
- Supports small systems serving DACs in our watershed
- Creates working relationships with communities most in need
- Supports DWRs initiatives for DAC assistance in IRWM regions
- Supports OWOW Plan Update 2018 implementation
- Continues SAWPA's OWOW leadership role in the region on compelling issues
Recommendation

- Provide direction to the SAWPA staff on the following options regarding the implementation of the grant application assistance program for small community water/wastewater systems serving disadvantaged communities in the Santa Ana River Watershed.
  - 1) Take no action
  - 2) Proceed with the program funded by equal shares of $30,000/SAWPA member agency
  - 3) Proceed with the program funded by each SAWPA member agency proportionate to the number of identified high need small community systems (13 identified) within or near each SAWPA member agency. This implies member agency shares could vary from approximately $0K to $69K
Questions?