



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Board of Directors
Title: Grant Program Update
From: Shaun Horne, Watershed Resources Director
Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager
Meeting Date: April 16, 2024

TYPE OF ACTION: Action X Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Receive a staff update on the District’s recent grant activities

SUMMARY: Staff will provide an update on recent grant activities.

DISCUSSION: The District continues to track and apply for state and federal grant funding opportunities as they become available. Staff will provide a detailed presentation of recent grant applications and awards, as well as upcoming funding opportunities. The table below describes the status of grant applications since January 2023 and ongoing grants currently managed.

Summary of Grant Awards and Applications				
Project	Funder	Amount	Status	Date
Rain Harvesting Rebates	Marin County (MCSTOPPP)	\$15,032	Agreement going to BOS 4/16/24	April 2024
AMI Expansion	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	\$1,000,000	Decision Pending	February 2024
One Tam Forest Health Strategy	Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)	\$6,447,687	Awarded	February 2024
Lagunitas Creek Restoration Phase II	California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Fisheries & Restoration (FRGP)	\$600,000	Awarded	December 2023

San Geronimo Treatment Plant Clarifiers	CalOES/FEMA	\$22,000,000	Decision Pending	December 2023
Lagunitas Creek Restoration	(CDFW) Prop 1	\$4,600,000	Awarded	November 2023
Automated Meter Infrastructure Expansion	USBR WaterSMART Applied Sciences	\$4.8M	Decision Pending	October 2023
Climate Adaptation Strategies: A Precipitation Modeling Initiative	USBR WaterSmart Energy Efficiency	\$150,628.00	Decision Pending	October 2023
Lagunitas Creek Restoration Project	USBR Environmental Restoration Project	\$1,400,000	Awarded	August 2023
Reservoir Water Quality	CA Division of Boating & Waterways	\$86,800	Awarded	July 2023
Lagunitas Creek Gravel Spawning Gravel Improvement Project	Department of Water Resources (DWR) Riverine Stewardship	\$590,000	Awarded	June 2023
Desalination Feasibility Study	USBR	\$200,000	Decision Pending	February 2023
Azalea Hill Trail Restoration	California State Parks	\$952,657	Awarded	February 2023
Watershed Vegetation Management	Conservation Corp North Bay (CCNB)	\$500,000	Awarded	January 2023
Marin City/San Rafael Water Supply Resiliency Project	DWR Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP)	\$6,500,000	Awarded	January 2023
Fire Resilience in Mt. Tam Watershed	CCC Forestry Corps	\$374,000	Awarded	December 2022
San Geronimo Emergency Generator Project	State Member Request (Levine)	\$1,000,000	Awarded	July 2022

Water Conservation	USBR WaterSmart & Energy Efficiency (Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership)	\$722,925	Awarded	April 2022
Water Supply Alternatives	DWR Urban and Multi Benefit Drought Relief	\$2,000,000	Awarded	March 2022
Forest Health	California Coastal Conservancy	1,088,610	Awarded	June 2021
Water Conservation	Prop 1 IRWMP	\$222,477	Awarded	June 2020
Water Resources Development Act of 2022				
Regional Water Supply	WRDA	\$28M	Passed/Authorized/Awaiting Workplan	December 2022

REVIEW OF GRANT FUNDING ACTIVITIES

The District tracks various grant programs and works with industry associations to monitor upcoming grant funding opportunities. District staff work inter-departmentally to evaluate funding opportunities and to pair grant programs with District projects. Recent District grant efforts have resulted in funding for main and lateral replacements in Marin City and San Rafael, funding to restore Lagunitas Creek, CCNB Forestry Corps work on Mt. Tamalpais and additional funding to implement the BIFFIP. The District currently has pending applications for retrofitting of the San Geronimo Treatment Plant Clarifiers, One Tam Forest Health Project, and Climate Adaption Strategies: Precipitation Modeling and for AMI expansion in the District’s service area. In addition to grant applications, the District has submitted federal earmark requests for Pine Mountain Tunnel Tank Replacement Project and for the Soulajule Pipeline Project.

In 2023, the District applied for and received funding from DWR, CDFW and USBR fully funding implementation of Phase I of the Lagunitas Creek Restoration and design work for Phase II. In 2024 the Wildlife Conservation Board funded the District as part of the One Tam Collaborative proposal to support the Forest Health Strategy. The District was awarded a grant from the CA Division of Boating & Waterways for Reservoir Water Quality Monitoring. The District also received notice that it was not awarded any additional funding through DWR 2021/22 Drought Funding programs. Finally, the District received notices in April that both AmeriCorps applications for the Watershed Stewardship Program (2 Fellows) and Grizzly Corps Program (1 Fellow) were accepted as site sponsor for 2024.

Water Resources Development Act of 2022

In 2022, the District was written into the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 (WRDA) for \$28 million for Water Supply Projects in Marin. In March of 2024, the District coordinated a site visit with Congressman Huffman and USACE staff to review the Soulajule Pipeline Project and the USACE Work Plan process for funding WRDA EI Projects. The USACE has 60 days from the federal budget approval date to finalize their annual Work Plan. The District will be notified if appropriated funds will be available for District water supply projects. In the meantime the District is continuing outreach to the Division and Headquarters to help advance Marin Water’s Water Supply funding needs.

Associations

The District utilizes membership in the following industry associations to stay up to date on policy and fundraising opportunities.

- ACWA
- TOGETHER Bay Area (formerly Bay Area Open Space Council)
- One Tam Steering & Funding Committee
- North Bay Watershed Association
- North Bay Water Reuse Program

As member of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), District staff serve on a variety of the group's committees, including the Legal Affairs Committee, Communications Committee, Water Management Committee, and the State Legislative Committee (SLC). Staff also participates as members of One Tam. The Steering and Funding Committees meeting monthly to discuss possible cross jurisdictional grants for projects that benefit Mt. Tamalpais. As members of TOGETHER Bay Area District staff members participate in a Legislative Committee Working Group to help advance funding needs and priorities relating to resilient lands and communities. The District is also a member of the North Bay Water Association and North Bay Water Reuse Program, which have been influential in advancing and securing funding that benefit regional water supply projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not Applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.