

East Valley Water District (EVWD) has been very successful at securing and completing projects with the help of grant funding. Using this experience, the District continues to develop a strategy for the approach and prioritization of funding in a manner that supports the District's Strategic Plan. Funding opportunities may include methods such as competitive grants, appropriations, formula-based funding and per capita allocations to reduce ratepayer expenses.

### EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES



#### Board of Directors

- Review, advise and adopt the Grant Strategy.
- Consider approval of Resolutions, delegation of authority, applications, letters of support and other policy level documentation, as necessary.
- Consider signing acknowledgements and certifications, as necessary.
- Should the consideration of a grant opportunity not be consistent with the adopted Strategic Initiatives, Five-Year Plan or other adopted planning document, the Board of Directors would consider authorizing the application prior to submission.



#### General Manager/CEO & Staff

- Update the Grant Strategy, as approved by the Board of Directors.
- Monitor grant availability and evaluate the potential benefits to the District.
- Coordinate Grant Strategy with the Board of Directors to promote the interests of EVWD to decision makers at all levels of government.
- The General Manager/CEO is authorized to submit grant program applications on behalf of the Board of Directors, so long as the grant is consistent with the adopted Strategic Initiatives, Five-Year Plan, and other adopted planning documents.
- Participate in meetings with funding agency representatives, legislators, Board of Directors and other public officials, as needed.
- Work with Consultants to develop grant applications, maintain application logs and priorities and maintain Grant Strategy, as needed.
- Develop and submit grant reporting requirements as required by secured funding sources.
- The General Manager/CEO and designated staff may participate in grant discussions on behalf of the District, so long as it is consistent with the Strategic Initiatives and Grant Strategy.



#### Consultant

- Monitor, review, and advise staff of funding opportunities that align with the District's Grant Strategy.
- As necessary, work with District staff to draft grant applications in a manner that is both competitive and consistent with the organizational priorities and application requirements.
- As necessary, assist with grant management and reporting requirements.
- Provide an exceptional level of transparency, ethics, and customer service in representing East Valley Water District's interest to all funding agency officials, staff, and agencies.
- As necessary, participate in workshops, technical discussions, and agency interactions on behalf of the District.



# Organizational Evaluation

The Grant Strategy reflects the priorities adopted by the Board of Directors through the Strategic Initiatives, Five-Year Plan, and other planning documents. It is designed to serve as a guide for EVWD's efforts in pursuit of funding from local, State, and Federal agencies.

## PLANNING EFFORTS

East Valley Water District puts extensive effort into developing Planning Documents that balance the needs of proactive efforts with day-to-day needs. These documents are developed in a collaborative setting and have been adopted by the Governing Board including, but not limited to:

- Strategic Initiatives (Organization Vision, Core Values, Agency Goals and Objectives)
- Annual Budget
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Five-Year Plan
- Capital Improvement Plan
- Legislative Platform
- Water/ Wastewater Master Plans
- Internal Policies

## FINANCIAL ELEMENTS

Grant funding can be a resourceful means of financing projects while minimizing the impact on ratepayers. These programs are ideal when the Strategic Priorities of the District align with the funding agency. While there are many funding sources available, few will be consistent with the District's planning efforts. When considering the submission of a grant application, the District shall assess the following financial considerations:

- The District should monitor the cost for active grant funded projects and ensure that they will not interfere with existing funding and that there are adequate resources to ensure the application commitments could be fulfilled.
- Recognize that the cost for application preparation averages 10% of the request including staff and consultant expenditures. When pursued, this is an investment in the District that will not be reimbursable by the grant, if successful.
- Understand the funding requirements of the grant including maximum request amount, funding match requirement, and reporting/audit requirements.
- Utilization of specialized grant consultants can strategically invest resources in the pursuit and monitoring of constantly changing funding opportunities.

## PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

In addition to financial consideration, each grant or loan opportunity will be focused to support the funding agencies priorities and regulatory obligations. When monitoring calls for application and considering grant opportunities, the District should ensure that programs are consistent with existing strategic planning efforts. The grants, appropriations, formula-based funding, and per capita allocations should assess:

- Evaluating programs to determine where the District will be the most competitive.
- Previous experience, if any, with the funding agency.
- Cost benefit review to pursuing the funding source, considering commitments, reporting requirements, staff resources, and funding request amount. In general, this amount should be no less than \$100,000 to justify necessary funding administration efforts.
- The funding source's consistency with the District's plan and vision as identified in the planning documents.
- The planned program timing and the alignment with the District's effort. Understand that if successful, funding awards typically occur no less than six months after application submittal, and in many cases 12-18 months later.
- Funding source schedule and whether the source is cyclical to assess the cycle the District would be the most competitive.
- Upcoming and new legislation incentivizing the District's participation in the funding program.
- District's access to the data requested in the application or in the subsequent reporting requirements.
- Current staff capacity to seek, pursue and manage the particular grant.



# Grant Funding

SUCCESSFUL GRANT AWARDS

| PROJECT   | ENTITY   | TYPE   | GRANT        | LOAN           |
|---|--|--|--------------|----------------|
| SNRC Project  | State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) /Department of Natural Resources / CAEATFA | SRF/Prop 1 /Urban Greening Grant / Sales Tax Exclusion | \$ 6,742,125 | \$ 150,257,875 |
| Arroyo Verde Consolidation  | SWRCB (CA Department of Public Health)   | Safe Drinking Water                                    | 676,209      | 169,052        |
| Baseline Gardens Consolidation  | SWRCB (CA Department of Public Health)   | Safe Drinking Water                                    | 3,475,835    |                |
| AMI Meter Water/Energy  | Department of Natural Re-sources   | 2014 Water-Energy Grant Program                        | 1,990,612    |                |
| Eastwood Farms Consolidation  | SWRCB (CA Department of Public Health)   | Safe Drinking Water                                    | 1,561,929    | 390,482        |
| Plant 134 Cook Creek Bridge   | FEMA   | Disaster Reimbursement                                 | 607,939      |                |
| Earthquake Seismic Valve Study  | California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)                                       | HMGP   | 124,918      |                |
| Santa Ana River Water Transmission line (North Fork Canal Replacement | FEMA/CalOES  |  | 4,135,793    |                |



# Potential Grant Funding

As a California Special District that provides water and wastewater services, the District is eligible to submit applications for many grants offered by multiple state and federal agencies. Funding agency initiatives that are consistent with District projects include: disaster mitigation, water quality, alternative energy/waste diversion, and carbon emission reduction. While new funding opportunities are generated following the implementation of legislation, the following are examples of potential funding agencies with goals that align with the District's priorities:

| AGENCY | GENERAL PROJECT TYPE | GRANT/ LOAN | POTENTIAL PROJECTS |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
|--------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

|                                     |  |               |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| Office of Emergency Services        | Planning, Disaster Mitigation, Disaster Recovery | Grants        | Pipeline Replacement, Reservoir Study, Emergency Cost Recovery |
| Department of Natural Resources     | Carbon Emission Reduction, Park Space            | Grants        | SNRC Public Space  |
| Energy Commission                   | Alternative Energy Generation                    | Grants/ Loans | SNRC Digesters   |
| CalRecycle                          | Waste Diversion, Alternative Energy Generation   | Grants        | SNRC Digester  |
| State Water Resources Control Board | Planning, Capital Construction                   | Grants/ Loans | Surface Water Treatment Plant, Facility Treatment              |

## FEDERAL

|                                     |  |        |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|--|
| Bureau of Reclamation               | Water Efficiency                                 | Grants | Conservation Planning, Capital Projects, Water Conservation Rebates  |
| Environmental Protection Agency     | Water infrastructure, Water quality              | Grants | Pipeline Replacement, Reservoir Construction, Surface Water Treatment Plant, Facility Treatment Enhancements |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency | Planning, Disaster Mitigation, Disaster Recovery | Grants | Reservoir Construction, Pipeline Replacement, Generator Installation, Emergency Cost Recovery                |