

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
DECEMBER 3, 2013**

**ITEM 3**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO AWARD \$25,000 IN PROPOSITION 84 STORMWATER GRANT PROGRAM (SWGPP) PLANNING AND MONITORING FUNDS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION (LGC) TO UPDATE THE AHWAHNEE WATER PRINCIPLES GUIDEBOOK.

**DISCUSSION**

The *Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006* (Public Resources Code (PRC) §75001 et seq.) (Proposition 84), was approved by California voters in 2006. Proposition 84 provided \$90 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for grants for the reduction and prevention of storm water contamination of rivers, lakes, and streams (PRC § 75050[m]). After bond and program administration costs, approximately \$82 million was available for grants through the SWGPP.

The State Water Board appointed a Storm Water Advisory Task Force (SWATF) to help develop SWGPP project selection and evaluation Guidelines (Water Code §13383.8) (Guidelines). The Guidelines establish the process and criteria that the Division of Financial Assistance (Division) uses to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants. The SWGPP Guidelines were adopted by the State Water Board on February 17, 2009 ([Resolution No. 2009-0017](#)) and revised on August 20, 2013 ([Resolution 2013-0024](#)).

Proposition 84 allows for up to \$9 million to finance planning and monitoring projects necessary for the successful design, selection, and implementation of SWGPP projects (PRC §75072). Approximately \$8.945 million of the available \$9 million Planning and Monitoring funding was awarded during the first project solicitation, with \$55,000 remaining. Given the small amount of remaining Planning and Monitoring funds that were available, the revised Guidelines allocated the remaining Planning and Monitoring funds for use in implementation projects.

Following the adoption of the revised Guidelines, the LGC requested \$25,000 to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook and provide educational materials to relevant stakeholders (Project). The Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook was developed in 2006 by the LGC. The LGC also developed fact sheets to disseminate the Water Principles to the public and government officials. Changes in the MS4 requirements for cities under 100,000 people necessitate an update that reflects new opportunities for local governments to better manage stormwater and groundwater recharge through requirements found in the new MS4 permits .

Staff proposes to utilize some of the unused Proposition 84 Planning and Monitoring funding for the LGC to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook. The State Water Board is authorized to directly award Proposition 84 SWGP Planning and Monitoring funds, but must waive the revised Guidelines for this Project and use a directed action process in order to do so. State Water Board staff have determined that the Project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act requirements (Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning studies) and will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. Staff will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse should the State Water Board approve the Project.

## **POLICY ISSUE**

Should the State Water Board:

1. Waive the SWGP Guidelines for this Project and award \$25,000 of Proposition 84 SWGP Planning and Monitoring funds to the LGC to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook?

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Proposition 84 appropriations are adequate to fund the Project. Staff costs will be funded by the Proposition 84 administrative set-aside.

## **REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the State Water Board approve the proposed Resolution.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to implement strategies to fully support the beneficial uses for all 2006 listed water bodies by 2030. In particular, approval of this item will: (1) address Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and (2) manage urban runoff to reduce pollutant loadings.

# DRAFT

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2013-

TO AWARD \$25,000 IN PROPOSITION 84 STORMWATER GRANT PROGRAM (SWGP) PLANNING AND MONITORING FUNDS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION (LGC) TO UPDATE THE AHWAHNEE WATER PRINCIPLES GUIDEBOOK.

### WHEREAS:

1. The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Pub. Resources Code, §75001 et seq.) (Proposition 84) provided the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) with \$90 million for grants for the reduction and prevention of stormwater contamination of rivers, lakes, and streams.
2. Proposition 84 allows up to \$9 million to finance Planning and Monitoring projects necessary for the successful design, selection, and implementation of SWGP projects (Pub. Resources Code § 75072). Approximately \$8,945,000 was awarded to Planning and Monitoring proposals during Round 1, with approximately \$55,000 remaining.
3. The SWGP Guidelines (Guidelines) were adopted by the State Water Board on February 17, 2009 ([Resolution No. 2009-0017](#)) and revised on August 20, 2013 ([Resolution No. 2013-0024](#)). The remaining \$55,000 Planning and Monitoring funds were insufficient to fund another Planning or Monitoring project, and consequently the revised Guidelines allocated remaining Planning and Monitoring funds for use in implementation projects.
4. The Ahwahnee Water Principles Guidebook was developed in 2006 in an effort to engage local governments and water managers in addressing resource-efficient water use at the local level. Changes in stormwater management and permitting, such as the adoption of the Phase II MS4 permit, have opened new opportunities for Low Impact Development and stormwater management that require updates to the Ahwahnee Principles.
5. Following the adoption of the revised Guidelines, the Local Government Commission requested \$25,000 to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook and produce educational materials for relevant stakeholders.
6. The updated Ahwahnee Water Principles Guidebook and related educational material (Project) will provide a valuable resource for water managers in California.
7. The State Water Board is authorized to directly award Proposition 84 SWGP Planning and Monitoring funds, but must waive the revised Guidelines for this Project and use a directed action process in order to do so.

# DRAFT

8. State Water Board staff has determined that the Project to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook and produce educational materials is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act requirements [Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning studies] and will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. The State Water Board staff will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse upon adoption of this resolution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Waives the SWGP Guidelines for this Project and awards \$25,000 of Proposition 84 SWGP Planning and Monitoring funds to the Local Government Commission to update the Ahwahnee Principles Guidebook.

## CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on December 3, 2013.

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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board