

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
PRELIMINARY FUNDING COMMITMENT (PFC)
CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM
FAAST PIN: 25649

RECIPIENT: SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT (SCCSD)

PROJECT TITLE: SOQUEL PUMP STATION FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT (PROJECT)

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$5,024,959

TOTAL CBI GRANT REQUEST: \$1,240,134

GRANT MANAGER: Rachid Ait-Lasri, Water Resource Control Engineer (916-341-5825 or Rachid.Ait-Lasri@Waterboards.ca.gov)

AUTHORITY

The Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) Grant Program provides funding for projects that restore and protect the water quality and the environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and near shore waters. The CBI Grant Program was initiated in response to the poor water quality and significant exceedances of bacterial indicators revealed by Assembly Bill (AB) 411 monitoring at California's beaches. Funding is available from the *Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act* (Proposition 84). In addition, there are unused or re-appropriated funds remaining from the *California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 40) and the *Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 50).

The State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2012-0020 on June 5, 2012, which revised the CBI Guidelines used to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants for Proposition 84, Chapter 7 funds, and any unused or re-appropriated Proposition 40 and 50 CBI funds. The resolution authorized the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance (Division) to approve proposed projects, execute grant agreements and amendments to implement the proposed projects and utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects recommended by the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF), or augment the scope and budget of projects previously awarded.

The Concept Proposal for this Project was submitted to the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) on May 28, 2013. The CBTF met on October 11, 2013 and recommended this Project be invited to submit a detailed application. The applicant submitted a detailed application to FAAST on December 22, 2014, and it has been determined to be complete. SCCSD had originally requested a grant of \$898,141 with a match of \$2,684,390 for the Project. However, since submission of the concept proposal, the Project scope was modified due to findings from additional hydraulic studies. This led to an increase in both the requested grant funds and the match amount proposed by SCCSD. Therefore, the total eligible cost of the Project is \$5,024,959. SCCSD requested a CBI grant amount of \$1,240,134. This PFC shall be posted on the State Water Board's internet website, and circulated to the CBTF for review and comment prior to the Deputy Director executing a grant agreement.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The Project will reduce human bacteria sources in Soquel Creek and Capitola Beach by: 1) constructing a new sewer force main line to replace the old line; 2) rehabilitating and improving the Soquel Pump Station to reduce the chance of wet weather failure and spills.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

SSCSD proposes to replace the sewage force main under Soquel Creek and upgrade components of the Soquel Pump Station. This Project will help protect and may improve water quality at Capitola Beach by reducing the threat of a force main failure, with possible sanitary sewer overflow into Soquel Creek, and will increase sewer system operational reliability, flexibility, and response time. Capitola Beach is located approximately 1 mile downstream from the Project site. Capitola Beach is the main attraction in Capitola, a cornerstone of the local economy, and one of the most popular beaches in Santa Cruz County. Lifeguards estimate that attendance exceeds 250,000 visitors per year. Each summer over 900 children ages 9-17 participate in the Junior Lifeguard program on the beach. Capitola Beach is the terminus for Soquel Creek, where it forms Soquel Creek Lagoon. Soquel Creek contains 31.9 miles of salmonid habitat and a viable steelhead population.

The 40-year-old sewage force main that runs under Soquel Creek is suspected of being corroded. SSCSD has recently replaced pipelines of similar age and composition elsewhere within SSCSD's service area and found them to be severely damaged. Recent data from a groundwater monitoring well in the vicinity of Soquel Pump Station show that groundwater elevation rises when pumps at the station are running. This increase in water elevation may be related to seepage from the force main, and/or operational limitations at the pump station. Under certain unexplained conditions that are still being investigated, the inflow versus outflow data at Soquel Pump Station indicate a potential sewage leak at or near this site. There have not been any spills into Soquel Creek. There has been surcharging (high water) in the pump station.

Using a new alignment, SSCSD will construct approximately 1,140 linear feet (LF) of 24-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipeline to replace the existing pipe running under Soquel Creek. A system capacity evaluation determined the current peak wet weather flow estimate, for the 10-year, 2-hour peak flow event, is 10.4 million gallons per day. The new force main will accommodate the full peak wet weather flow. Higher flows from potential modifications to the conveyance system upstream can also be accommodated, increasing the operational flexibility of the system. The new pipeline will be constructed using horizontal directional drilling (800 feet) under the creek and open cut trenching (340 feet) in the residential streets. The expected useful life of the new pipe is well over 30 years. Two, two-inch conduits will be installed with the new pipeline for future fiber optic crossings of the creek. If possible, SSCSD will repair the old force main for future use. If that is not possible, it will be cleaned, capped, and left in place.

Improvements to the pump station include replacement of isolation and check valves and addition of a surge valve, magnetic flow meter, bypass flow connection, and piping improvements to accommodate the new mechanical appurtenances. Operational reliability and response times will be increased with the addition of a surge valve and a flow meter with remote monitoring capability, and replacement of existing manual valves with new automated control valves. Concrete repairs within the pump station are

needed to provide proper support for the new equipment and for safety. In addition, odor control was addressed as a CEQA mitigation and has been added to the scope of work.

Designs for the Project are over 90% complete. The Project requires four easements. Three easements are on City of Capitola property. SCCSD has discussed the Project with the City of Capitola and incorporated their concerns in the Project design. Easement discussion with Capitola began after CEQA was completed in August 2014. The other easement is a temporary construction easement and a small permanent easement on a commercial property. Preliminary discussions with the private landowner have begun, and no acquisition issues are anticipated.

SCCSD had originally requested a grant of \$898,141 with a match of \$2,684,390 for the Project. However, since submission of the concept proposal, the Project scope was modified due to findings from additional hydraulic studies. This led to an increase in both the requested grant funds and the match amount proposed by SCCSD. Therefore, the total eligible cost of the Project is \$5,024,959. SCCSD requested a CBI grant amount of \$1,240,134.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

For California Environmental Quality Act compliance, SCCSD prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on May 22, 2014, and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the County of Santa Cruz and the State Clearinghouse (SCH #2014052085) on August 8, 2014.

The IS/MND and the associated environmental documents provided an adequate disclosure of the environmental relationships of all water quality aspects of the Project. Mitigation measures will avoid or substantially reduce other potentially significant environmental impacts. The Project will not result in any significant adverse water quality impacts. For details on the mitigation measures, refer to the MND, "Santa Cruz County Sanitation District – Soquel Pump Station Force Main Replacement Project – Final Mitigated Negative Declaration" (July 30, 2014).

FISCAL IMPACT

As of July 1, 2014, the cumulative balance available for the CBI Grant Program funded by Propositions 40, 50, and 84 is:

July 1, 2014:	\$40,334,726
Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Approved PFCs:	\$8,538,709
Draft PFCs (proposed commitments):	\$1,557,224
Santa Cruz CSD - FFAST PIN 25649:	<u>\$1,240,134</u>
Funds Remaining for Future Commitments:	\$28,998,659

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

The Central Coast Regional Water Board and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality support the Project.

ROUTINE, NON-CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT

The proposed Project is routine and non-controversial based on Division staff's consideration of the documents and information provided by SCCSD, regulatory agencies, and written responses from the general public. There has been no indication of a protest or controversy regarding the proposed Project.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The PFC will be posted on the State Water Board's internet website for public review for 10 days.

APPROVAL

Using the authority delegated by the State Water Resources Control Board on June 05, 2012, in Resolution No. 2012-0020, I hereby:

Approve a Clean Beaches Initiative Grant Program Preliminary Funding Commitment of \$1,240,134 for SCCSD's Soquel Pump Station Force Main Replacement Project.

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance

Date

Reviewed by:
Office of Chief Counsel
Date: