

Positioned to Win: Preparing for Federal and State Funding

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Federal and State Funding

Status and Forecast

Federal and State Investments

- ▶ **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)/Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)—Funding over 5 Years**
 - State Revolving Fund (SRF)—\$6 billion (California)
 - \$1.8 billion for DWSRF (\$1 billion) and CWSRF (\$800 million)
 - State expected to receive the funding **this year**
 - Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Grants Program
 - WIIN Act application solicitation **open now**—\$550 million
 - Large Scale Water Recycling and Reuse Grant Program—\$450 million
 - Under development; draft program criteria expected **late summer (September)**
- ▶ **Congressionally Directed Spending Requests (Earmarks)**
 - FY 22 earmark requests still pending without passage of appropriations bills
 - FY 23 process delayed, but still anticipated by **mid-year**
- ▶ **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)**
 - Biennial approval process ongoing for the water resources bill **this year**

Federal and State Investments, Cont'd.

▶ 2021-22 State Budget Act

- State Revolving Fund (SRF)—\$1.3 billion
 - DWSRF (\$650 million) and CWSRF (\$650 million)
 - State Water Board currently amending Intended Use Plans for distribution **this year**
- Groundwater (GWGP) and Water Recycling (WRFP)—\$350 million
 - State Water Board currently conducting outreach to finalize distribution process (**April 2022**)

▶ 2022-23 State Budget Proposal

- Governor is proposing \$750 million in funding for water-related activities
- Priority on conservation and drought, including a \$250 million contingency
- WaterReuse requesting an additional \$750 million in grants for recycled water

▶ Legislative Budget Requests

- Governor is anticipating nearly \$21 billion in General Fund surplus
- Legislature will likely have another opportunity for district funding requests



Positioned to Win

PHASE Your Project

PHASE Your Project



Plan



Hunt



Act



Support



Execute

PHASE—Plan

► Organize capital plans and prioritize projects

- To qualify for funding and to build a compelling application, you must document the need and benefits of your projects. This includes organizing and updating plans.
 - Gather all capital planning documents
 - Update plans (if necessary)
 - Prioritize your project wish list



PHASE—Hunt

▸ Research and funding opportunity selection

- To give yourself the best chance of securing funding, you need to pick agencies and programs whose goals match your projects. Experience and relationships with funding agencies is key to making this phase successful.
 - List potential funding programs
 - Match programs to projects
 - Engage with funding agencies to understand their priorities



PHASE—Act

► Create an application schedule and workplan

- Once you identify the appropriate funding opportunities, you can back out from the application deadline to create a workplan. Experience with knowing processes and managing deadlines to successfully execute applications is critical.
 - Identify deadlines
 - List application requirements
 - Create workplan and assign tasks



PHASE—Support

► Educate and build support for your project

- Having the backing of your political leaders and community can make the difference in whether your project wins funding. Craft letters of support, engage with key stakeholders, and work with the community to get them on board.
 - Educate partners and elected officials and solicit letters of support
 - Schedule community workshops or meetings
 - Coordinate meetings for your governing body and funding agency officials



PHASE—Execute

▸ Develop, submit and advocate for your applications

- It is essential that your funding applications tell a story and clearly express the benefits of your chosen project. Focus on what a winning application looks like and work to develop the most compelling documents.
 - Explain why your project matters
 - Illustrate the risks of not acting
 - Describe the benefits to the environment, economy, and people





Questions