



**September 5, 2019**

**To:** Regional Planning and Highways Committee

**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** 2019 Project X - Tier 1 Call for Projects Programming Recommendations

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Environmental Cleanup Program provides Measure M2 funding for water quality improvement projects to address transportation-generated pollution. The fiscal year 2019-20 Tier 1 Grant Program call for projects was issued on March 11, 2019. Evaluations are now complete, and a list of projects and funding allocations are presented for review and approval.

### **Recommendations**

- A. Approve the 2019 Tier 1 Environmental Cleanup Program's programming recommendation to fund ten projects, in the amount of \$1,962,452.
- B. Approve the 2019 Tier 1 Environmental Cleanup Program's programming recommendation to fund one project in the City of Fullerton, in the amount of \$82,782, subject to receipt of a revised city council resolution.

### **Background**

In May 2010, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) approved a two-tiered approach to fund the Measure M2 Project X Environmental Cleanup Program (ECP). The Tier 1 Grant Program is designed to mitigate the more visible forms of pollutants, such as litter and debris, which collect on roadways and in catch basins (storm drains) prior to being deposited in waterways and the ocean. The Tier 2 Grant Program consists of funding larger (projects treating catchment areas of 50 acres or greater), potentially multi-jurisdictional, capital-intensive structural treatment best management practice (BMP) projects.

Tier 1 funds are available for Orange County local governments to purchase equipment and upgrades for existing catch basins and other related BMPs that supplement current requirements. Examples include screens, filters, and inserts for catch basins, as well as other devices designed to remove the above-mentioned pollutants. Proposed projects must demonstrate a direct nexus to the reduction of transportation-related pollution, as developed and defined by the OCTA Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee (ECAC).

To date, the Board has approved funding for 166 Tier 1 project phases, totaling approximately \$22 million. An estimated one million cubic feet of trash has been captured as a result of the installation of Tier 1 devices since the inception of the Tier 1 Program in 2011.

The Board approved issuance of the 2019 ECP Tier 1 call for projects (call) on March 11, 2019.

### ***Discussion***

The 2019 ECP Tier 1 call deadline to submit applications was May 9, 2019. Eleven applications were submitted from ten local agencies (the City of Mission Viejo submitted two project applications) prior to the deadline. Applications were reviewed and evaluated by an evaluation committee consisting of OCTA staff, the ECAC Chairman, and an additional member of the ECAC. Project applications were ranked based on the following Board-approved criteria:

- Proposed project's effectiveness at removing trash and debris;
- Cost/benefit analysis of the proposed project;
- Drainage and flowrate analysis of the proposed project;
- Operations and maintenance plan adequate to maintain the efficiency of the proposed BMP(s) for regularly scheduled inspections, maintenance, and cleaning/disposal of pollutants;
- Clear and detailed work plan with a specific implementation period; and
- Project readiness.

The ECAC, which met on August 8, 2019, is recommending all 11 projects for funding for a total amount of \$2,045,234, based on final scores provided in Attachment A. All of the projects scored above 70 points and met overall program objectives and criteria. It should be noted that the City of Fullerton's programming recommendation is contingent upon receipt of a final revised city council resolution, which required a slight revision and is expected to be provided soon.

The Tier 1 projects recommended for funding primarily consist of catch basin debris screen devices. This recommendation would fund the construction of 1,028 connector pipe screens, 667 automatic retractable screens, a bio-clean debris separating baffle box, two bioretention basins, one full capture trash screen vault, which would include a sedimentation chamber, two infiltration wells, and one pre-treatment vault. More detailed project descriptions are outlined in Attachment A, and a brief overview of project types is provided below.

- Catch basin debris screen devices. These screens prevent debris from entering the storm drain system.
- Debris separating baffle box (DSBB). The DSBB is an advanced stormwater treatment system utilizing a non-clogging screen technology and hydrodynamic separation to capture pollutants. The screening system stores trash and debris in a dry state, suspended above the sedimentation chambers, and allows for easier maintenance.
- Bioretention basins. This project consists of two bioretention basins to intercept and infiltrate dry weather flows and stormwater flows. The bioretention basin will intercept flows and remove pollutants, effectively preventing their entry into the storm drain system.
- Drain extension and storm water infiltration system. This project consists of a full capture trash screen vault and related improvements.

As part of this grant program, local agencies agree to contribute a minimum cash match of 20 percent of the project cost. Three of the ten cities are providing overmatch.

#### **Next Steps**

If these recommendations are approved by the OCTA Board, each funded agency will be required to execute a letter amendment prior to project implementation. OCTA will continue to monitor project status and project delivery through the Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs semi-annual review process.

#### **Summary**

Staff is seeking Board approval to program \$2,045,234 to fund 11 projects. Of this amount, \$87,782 for the City of Fullerton's project is being recommend for programming subject to receipt of corrected city council resolution, which is anticipated soon.

***Attachment***

- A. Project X 2019 Tier 1 Call for Projects, Programming Recommendations

**Prepared by:**



Alfonso Hernandez  
Senior Transportation Funding  
Specialist  
(714) 560-5857

**Approved by:**



Kia Mortazavi  
Executive Director, Planning  
(714) 560-5741