

# Memorandum

**To:** Chairman and Commissioners

**Date:** July 13, 2000

**From:** Robert I. Remen

**File No:** K38.7  
BOOK ITEM 4.9  
ACTION

**Ref:** ADOPTION OF THE FY 2000-01 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM

**Issue:** Should the California Transportation Commission approve the \$10 million 2000-01 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program as scored and prioritized by the State Resources Agency, with conditions recommended by Commission staff (see attached Resolution and project lists)?

**Recommendation:** For the FY 2000-01 EEM Program, the Resources Agency evaluated 150 projects with a total cost of over \$33 million, all competing for \$10 million -- the amount included in the FY 2000-01 budget for this program. From this list of projects, the Agency recommended to the Commission 87 projects with a total cost of over \$19 million. Eight of these projects were in excess of the Agency's generally established limit of \$250,000. At the May Commission meeting, the Agency was asked to provide individual justification for the eight projects. The Agency's May 25 response is attached. Commission staff has reviewed the response and concurs with the Agency's justifications.

Staff has also reviewed the Agency's prioritized project list and is recommending that the Commission program 44 projects: 14 projects in the North, at an estimated cost of \$3,993,780, and 30 projects in the South, at an estimated cost of \$6,006,220, for an estimated statewide total cost of \$10 million.

In the North, staff is recommending that the Commission fund the Agency's 14 highest ranked projects. In the South, staff is recommending that the Commission fund the Agency's 30 highest ranked projects. There is one project in the North with a recommended contingency. In addition, there is one project in the South with a recommended funding reduction that is necessary to stay within the \$10 million budgetary limit.

The contingency involves the third ranked project in the North, the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge property acquisition. The applicant has agreed not to bill the EEM program for relocation costs associated with the acquisition.

The funding reduction involves the last project in the South, which is recommended for funding, the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board's Fish Passage project. The reduction is from \$24,020 to \$20,885. The applicant has agreed to complete the project as scoped in the original application.

**Background:** Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 establishes the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program. This program provides \$10 million annually to fund environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are directly or indirectly related to transportation projects. Such projects must provide environmental enhancements and mitigation over and above that otherwise called for under CEQA or NEPA.

The general categories of Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation projects eligible for funding are:

- Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide through the planting of trees and other suitable plants. Projects may be within or outside the right-of-way of the related transportation facility. Projects within the right-of-way, however, are not intended to supplant or augment highway landscaping that would normally be funded by the responsible public agency. Any planting within public road rights-of-way shall be limited to trees only.
- Resource Lands acquisition, restoration or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way, acquired for proposed transportation improvements. Resource lands include natural areas, wetlands, forests, woodlands, meadows, streams, or other areas containing fish or wildlife habitat. Enhancement of resource lands may include the restoration of wildlife corridors.
- Roadside Recreational acquisition and/or development of roadside recreational opportunities, including roadside rests, scenic overlooks, trails, trailheads, sno-parks, and parks.

Any local, state or federal agency or nonprofit entity may apply for and receive grants. The applicant is not required to be a transportation organization but must be able to demonstrate adequate charter or enabling authority to carry out the type of project proposed. Two or more entities may participate in a joint project.

The statute mandates the Resources Agency to adopt procedures and criteria for this program, to evaluate proposals, and recommend projects for funding. The Agency's procedures and criteria contain a detailed, quantitative scoring mechanism that is used to evaluate and rank projects in priority order by assigning point scores to each project. The statute mandates the California Transportation Commission to award grants to fund proposals recommended by the Resources Agency. An attempt to maintain a 40/60 North/South split is required in the adopted procedures and criteria (copy attached).

#### Attachments

trosnow/gumz/eem/Bkitem-June2000.DOC/07/13/2000

California Transportation Commission

ADOPTION OF THE 2000-01 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT  
AND MITIGATION PROGRAM

Resolution G-00-

WHEREAS Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56, establishes the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program; and

WHEREAS this program provides \$10 million annually for environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying existing transportation facilities or for the design, construction or expansion of new transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS the Resources Agency is charged with evaluating proposals submitted for this program and providing a list of proposals recommended for funding to the California Transportation Commission; and

WHEREAS the California Transportation Commission is responsible for awarding grants to fund proposals that are included on the list prepared by the Resources Agency; and

WHEREAS the Resources Agency has prepared such a list, and that list has been reviewed and reduced by Commission staff from just over \$19 million in projects to \$10 million in projects.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission adopts the 2000-01 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation program, as indicated in the attached lists of projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge property acquisition is not to be used for relocation costs associated with the acquisition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intent of the Commission to allocate available funds for these projects during State Fiscal Year 2000-01, and that all funds so allocated should be expended on a timely basis, preferably by the end of State Fiscal Year 2001-02; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for projects that include land acquisition, the Commission would encourage grant recipients to reduce overall project costs by exploring the feasibility of acquiring easements rather than fee title when appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that due to the uniqueness of the individual projects in this program, the Commission hereby directs Caltrans to be especially diligent in the on-site inspection and auditing of the projects included in this program.

Attachments

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT & MITIGATION PROGRAM**

**NORTHERN COUNTIES**

App No.	Applicant	Project	Funding
4	DEPT OF FISH AND GAME	VISITOR CENTER	250,000
18	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	HOYT'S CROSSING TRAIL	227,930
22	STONE LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE	ACQUISITION OF TWO PROPERTIES	262,000
85	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	SPANNO RIVER RANCH	500,000
15	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	BIG SUR SCENIC HWY REC & HABITAT ENHANCEMENT	250,000
39	CITY OF FOLSOM	HUMBUG-WILLOW CREEK/LAKE NATOMA TRAIL CONNECTION	245,350
72	SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY	SOLANO BIKEWAY	250,000
79	CITY OF DAVIS	I-80 DAVIS/CAUSEWAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT	190,000
140	CITY OF SAN JOSE	SAN TOMAS AQUINO/SARATOGA CREEK TRAIL, REACH 6	250,000
88	TUOLUMNE COUNTY LAND TRUST	ANDREW CREEK/TABLE MOUNTAIN ACQUISITION	248,500
86	THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND	VARIAN RANCH ACQUISITION	500,000
58	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	LASSEN FOOTHILLS-FOOR RANCH EASEMENT ACQUISITION	400,000
42	CITY OF MONTEREY	WINDOW ON THE BAY MONTEREY BAY PARK PH III	170,000
34	MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST	GUSTIN PROPERTY ACQUISITION	250,000
		<b>TOTAL NORTHERN COUNTIES</b>	3,993,780

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT & MITIGATION PROGRAM  
FISCAL YEAR 2000-01  
SOUTHERN COUNTIES**

Ap p No.	Applicant	Project	Funding
82	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	MORRO PALISADES ACQUISITION	500,000
121	ORANGE COUNTY	LAUREL CANYON STAGING AREA	250,000
68	THE BACK COUNTRY LAND TRUST	WRIGHT'S FIELD ACQUISITION, PHASE II	500,000
33	CITY OF SOUTH GATE	SOUTH GATE REFORESTATION	165,951
89	MOUNTAINS REC & CONSERVATION AUTH	CORRAL CANYON COASTAL TRAIL AND TRAILHEAD	145,000
127	NORTH EAST TREES	LOS ANGELES RIVER/ARROYO SECO MINIPARKS	250,000
94	IRON MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY	IRON MOUNTAIN RIDGE PRESERVATION	250,000
49	LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS	BIKEWAYS AND GREENWAYS	250,000
17	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	LOS PENASQUITOS MARSH NATURAL PRESERVE WETLANDS PROTECT	140,585
37	MOUNTAINS REC & CONSERVATION AUTH	LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER PARK & RIVER ACCESS PATHWAY	230,000
65	CITY OF PASADENA	NATURAL AREA RESTORATION PARK & STREET TREE PLANTING	203,230
116	GREENSPACE - THE CAMBRIA LAND TRUST	STRAWBERRY CANYON ACQUISITION & RESTORATION	250,000
100	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIV FOUNDATION	THE GYMNOSPERM FOREST	37,040
9	VENTURA COUNTY	PIRU-CAMULOS RECREATION TRAIL	250,000
35	CITY OF LOS ANGELES	PLANTING HEALTHY SCHOOL ROUTES	250,000
102	THE HOLLYWOOD BEAUTIFICATION TEAM	CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES	178,155
133	SAN DIEGO COUNTY	SAN DIEGUITO RIVER/LUSARDI CREEK ACQUISITION	250,000
146	TREE PEOPLE	EXPOSITION RIGHT OF WAY GREENWAY	89,626
21	CITY OF PISMO BEACH	PISMO ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE SUPPORT FACILITY ACQUISITION	250,000
118	COMM SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING	ROUTE 198/99 OAK TREE REFORESTATION	90,080
130	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY	CATHEDRAL OAKS CLASS I BICYCLE PATH	250,000
5	CITY OF POWAY	BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE - PAVED PUBLIC PARKING LOT	250,000
126	TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES	VISITOR CENTER CONNECTOR PATHS	132,000
147	CITY OF SANTA CLARITA	GATEWAY BEAUTIFICATION	237,353
57	CITY OF DELANO	LANDSCAPING MIT/ENH COUNTY LINE RD - 99 INTERCHANGE	51,400
83	CITY OF PARAMOUNT	RALPH C. DILLS PARK EXPANSION ACQUISITION	250,000
137	THE NATURE SCHOOL	ROSE CREEK RESTORATION & NATURE EDUCATION PRESERVE	239,495
144	CITY OF SAN DIEGO	CARMEL VALLEY REST & ENHANCEMENT-EXOTIC PLANT REMOVAL	17,900
111	CITY OF IRVINE	CULVER DRIVE/MICHELSON DRIVE LANDSCAPING	27,520
69	CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BD.	FISH PASSAGE ENH TO SH 1 BRIDGE: SALSIPUEDES CREEK	20,885
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,006,220</b>

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM  
FISCAL YEAR 2000-01  
NORTHERN PROJECTS**

APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
4	VISITOR CENTER. Install salmon & steelhead exhibits at Nimbus Hatchery in Rancho Cordova.	DEPT OF FISH AND GAME	93.00	250,000	250,000	7/01	12/03
18	HOYT'S CROSSING TRAIL. Improve trail along Yuba River from Hwy. 49 making river access safe for visitors.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	92.67	227,930	477,930	9/00	2/01
22	ACQUISITION OF TWO PROPERTIES. Acquire 223 acres (2 properties) bordering I-5, to benefit at risk wildlife species.	STONE LAKES NAT'L WILDLIFE REFUGE	92.00	262,000	739,930	10/00	4/01
85	SPANO RIVER RANCH. Acquire ±65 acres on 500-acre Spano River Ranch along San Joaquin River in Fresno to mitigate & enhance Hwy. 41 improvements.	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	91.00	500,000	1,239,930	10/00	4/01
15	BIG SUR SCENIC HWY REC & HABITAT ENHANCEMENT. Remove abandoned Pt. Sur Naval bldgs. and convert area to a visitor center & park tour staging area, & restore dune & seasonal wetlands with native plants.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	87.67	250,000	1,489,930	10/00	10/01
39	HUMBUG-WILLOW CREEK (HBWC)/LAKE NATOMA TRAIL CONNECTION. Construct 1,200' bike/ped bridges & trail at Blue Ravine Rd. connecting 11-mile HBWC & Lake Natoma trails.	CITY OF FOLSOM	87.33	245,350	1,735,280	7/00	12/01
72	SOLANO BIKEWAY. Construct 1.8 mile trail east of I-80 in Solano County, which will complete a major regional gap between the Bay Area & Sacramento and Vallejo & Fairfield.	SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY	86.33	250,000	1,985,280	7/00	7/01
79	I-80 DAVIS/CAUSEWAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT. Work w/Caltrans to repair & expand bike/ped. corridor between Mace Blvd. & Yolo Causeway.	CITY OF DAVIS	86.00	190,000	2,175,280	7/00	6/02
140	SAN TOMAS AQUINO/SARATOGA CREEK TRAIL, REACH 6. Construct 3000' bike/ped path along Saratoga Creek between Murdock Park & Bollinger Rd. adjacent to Lawrence Expressway.	CITY OF SAN JOSE	86.00	250,000	2,425,280	8/00	10/02
88	ANDREW CREEK/TABLE MOUNTAIN ACQ. Acquire 37 acres as part of adjacent 7,100 acre Red Hills area.	TUOLUMNE COUNTY LAND TRUST	86.00	248,500	2,673,780	8/00	4/01
86	VARIAN RANCH ACQUISITION. Purchase easement on Varian Ranch property in Monterey & Fresno Counties providing mitigation beyond required for widening Hwy 46.	THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND	85.33	500,000	3,173,780	7/00	12/00
58	LASSEN FOOTHILLS-FOOR RANCH EASEMENT ACQ. Acquire 1,600-acre easement to protect rare vernal pool habitat, a wetland community unique to Central Valley.	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	84.33	400,000	3,573,780	7/00	10/00

APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
42	WINDOW ON THE BAY MONTEREY BAY PARK PH III. Create parkland adjacent to Del Monte Ave.	CITY OF MONTEREY	84.33	170,000	3,743,780	8/00	11/00
34	GUSTIN PROPERTY ACQ. Acquire 80 acres in Franklin Ridge located within 2 miles of SR 4 Gap Closure Project.	MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST	84.00	250,000	3,993,780	12/00	6/02
19	NORTH FORK LAKE ACCESS TRAIL. Construct 8-mile unpaved multi-purpose trail (2 bridges & 14 drainage crossings) at Lake Oroville State Recreation Area.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	83.67	-0-	3,993,780	10/00	6/02
46	MONTEREY HIGHWAY GREENING. Plant 1,600 trees along 7.7 miles to mitigate impacts of 1994 hwy. construction that removed 2,000 trees. Volunteer opportunities provided.	OUR CITY FOREST	81.67	-0-	3,993,780	1/01	6/02
84	CASPER HEADLANDS. Acquire ±20 acres to mitigate widening Hwy. 1 left turn lane & retrofit Russian of Gulch, Jughandle & Hare Creek Bridges.	CALIFORNIA COASTAL CONSERVANCY	81.00	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	12/00
71	WETLAND RESTORATION & REC TRAIL. Construct bridge & access rec. trail within 68-acre park to mitigate St. Mary Rd. improvement impacts.	CITY OF LAFAYETTE	79.00	-0-	3,993,780	6/01	11/01
16	GRASSLAND - SOUTH FORK WOLF CREEK. Purchase 16.54 acres of prime resource grassland habitat adjacent to Empire Mines State Historic Park.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	79.00	-0-	3,993,780	9/00	12/00
90	STONE VALLEY ROAD REPLANTING & BEAUTIFICATION. Mitigate vehicular emissions caused by widening Stone Valley Rd (main thoroughfare thru Alamo).	CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	78.67	-0-	3,993,780	3/01	9/01
64	TREE PLANTING-UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD-CAPITOL CORRIDOR (UPRR). Screen UPRR tracks from Martinez Shoreline Park & landscape new Amtrak station.	CITY OF MARTINEZ	76.00	-0-	3,993,780	3/01	6/01
67	SEASIDE BEACH ENHANCEMENT. Improve parking, restrooms & habitat on both sides of Hwy 1 to provide safe recreational facilities while protecting coastal resources.	COASTAL LAND TRUST	76.00	-0-	3,993,780	10/00	5/02
24	ANTELOPE CREEK TRAIL. Construct 10 ft wide concrete 1 1/2 mile bike/ped trail & 2' decomposed granite shoulders.	CITY OF ROSEVILLE	73.67	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	10/02
12	ANGELS CAMP HIGHWAY LANDSCAPING. Plant ±1500 trees, shrubs & flowers along Hwys. 49 & 4, & retrofit ped walkways for landscape enhancements.	CITY OF ANGELS	72.67	-0-	3,993,780	3/01	12/02
138	BAYVIEW RANCH ACQ. Expand 225 acre Wildlife Sanc. by 290 acres along Humboldt Bay; restore local creeks & Gannon Slough wetlands; & develop a public ped trail.	CITY OF ARCATA	72.67	-0-	3,993,780	8/00	5/01
41	RIVERVIEW RANCH ACQ. Acquire 20 acres around historic home for a parkway welcome & trail staging center.	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER PKWY & CONS TRUST	72.67	-0-	3,993,780	11/00	7/01
6	ALBANY URBAN FORESTRY PROG. Private contractors install 300 trees & continue educational programs.	CITY OF ALBANY	72.33	-0-	3,993,780	11/00	6/01

APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
1	SCOTTSDALE POND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT. Excavate, create habitat island & berm, to install pond aerators & landscape 11± acres of Scottsdale Pond.	CITY OF NOVATO	71.67	-0-	3,993,780	5/01	9/01
38	DRY CREEK PARKWAY ACQUISITION. Acquire 45 acres for a 5-mile corridor, which provides nesting & breeding habitat for sensitive species.	SACRAMENTO COUNTY	71.00	-0-	3,993,780	6/01	10/01
62	MARSH RESTORATION AT THE MARTINEZ REGIONAL SHORELINE. Restore ±6 acres of wetlands for habitat & natural flood capacity purposes.	CITY OF MARTINEZ	70.67	-0-	3,993,780	9/00	6/01
11	MOTHER LODE FAIR. Plant trees & vegetation at barren parking, roadway and activity areas.	MOTHER LODE FAIR	69.33	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	12/01
81	CITY OF SAN LEANDRO URBAN FORESTRY. Plant ± 650 trees throughout city to mitigate I-880 widening effects and provide a community education program.	CITY OF SAN LEANDRO	68.67	-0-	3,993,780	9/00	9/02
10	MERCED COUNTY FAIR. Plant trees in barren parking, roadside & activity areas to provide vegetation linkage with adjacent greenbelt corridors.	MERCED COUNTY FAIR	67.33	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	12/01
13	CHOWCHILLA MADERA COUNTY FAIR. Plant trees in parking, roadside & activity areas linking vegetation with adjacent greenbelt corridors.	CHOWCHILLA MADERA COUNTY FAIR	67.33	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	12/01
80	AMADOR STREET FORESTATION. Plant 40 trees, 130 shrubs & 330 vines to mitigate carbon dioxide emission on Amador St. resulting from I-80 improvements.	CITY OF SAN PABLO	67.33	-0-	3,993,780	10/00	1/01
122	SAN CARLOS STREET LANDSCAPING. Plant along recently repaved street to reduce speeding & mitigate safety.	CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA	67.33	-0-	3,993,780	7/02	9/02
20	WEST RIDGE ROAD REMOVAL, PRAIRIE CREEK REDWOODS STATE PARK. Remove road to mitigate sediment spill in creek from a Caltrans highway project eliminating a future sediment source from creek that has significant Coho & Chinook spawning.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	65.00	-0-	3,993,780	1/01	12/01
149	MCCORMICK SANCTUARY RANCH ROAD DECOMMISSIONING & TRAIL. Establish trail through Sanctuary integrating Sugarloaf State Park & State owned McCormick Sanctuary & construct solar toilet at trailhead.	LAND PATHS	64.00	-0-	3,993,780	7/00	12/01
112	ROUTE 41 LEMOORE LANDSCAPING. Landscape ±5 acres of Hwy. 41 ROW to provide wildlife corridor & future bike trails.	DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	64.00	-0-	3,993,780	9/00	3/02

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM  
FISCAL YEAR 2000-01  
SOUTHERN PROJECTS**

APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
82	MORRO PALISADES ACQUISITION. Purchase ±34 acres within Morro Palisades property to protect endangered species' habitat & mitigate Chorro Creek bridge construction.	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	92.00	500,000	500,000	7/00	12/00
121	LAUREL CANYON STAGING AREA. Construct access road, parking and picnic areas, two vehicle/ped bridges & signage to provide trails along Laguna Canyon Road to Aliso & Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.	ORANGE COUNTY	91.33	250,000	750,000	3/01	8/02
68	WRIGHT'S FIELD ACQUISITION, PHASE II. Acquire 120 acres of rare habitat adding to the 80-acre Phase I project furthering the 500-acre total acquisition.	THE BACK COUNTRY LAND TRUST	91.00	500,000	1,250,000	7/00	12/00
33	SOUTH GATE REFORESTATION. Plant 2,215 trees to offset vehicle & train emissions from Alameda Corridor.	CITY OF SOUTH GATE	90.33	165,951	1,415,951	3/01	4/02
89	CORRAL CANYON COASTAL TRAIL & TRAILHEAD. Construct 15 space (ADA) parking lot/staging area, 1.75 mile trail, restroom & landscaping in the Santa Monica Mtns. to provide beach access and habitat restoration.	MOUNTAINS REC & CONSERVATION AUTH	87.33	145,000	1,560,951	1/01	4/01
127	LOS ANGELES RIVER/ARROYO SECO MINIPARKS. Plant 1730 trees to provide mitigation for 2 local projects.	NORTH EAST TREES	87.33	250,000	1,810,951	9/00	6/03
94	IRON MOUNTAIN RIDGE PRESERVATION. Conservation easements near Scripps-Poway Parkway junction with SH 67 to protect the endangered gnatcatcher, other sensitive species, & wildlife corridors.	IRON MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY	87.33	250,000	2,060,951	7/00	6/01
49	BIKEWAYS AND GREENWAYS. Plant 1,280 trees in Inglewood & Culver City areas affected by additional I-405 HOV lanes between I-90 and I-101.	LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS	87.00	250,000	2,310,951	7/00	6/01
17	LOS PENASQUITOS MARSH NATURAL PRESERVE WETLANDS PROTECTION. Construct desilting basin & energy dissipater to intercept fresh water runoff & sediment flows that are degrading rare salt marsh habitat.	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	85.67	140,585	2,451,536	9/01	11/01
37	LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER PARK & RIVER ACCESS PATHWAY. Pathway along San Fernando Rd. adjacent to park south to I-5 Freeway underpass. Park features bike racks, running stream, restrooms, benches, signage, gates, drinking fountain, reconstructing a wall.	MOUNTAINS REC & CONSERVATION AUTH	85.00	230,000	2,681,536	9/00	12/01

APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
65	NATURAL AREA RESTORATION PARK & STREET TREE PLANTING. Plant 150 trees & 400 shrubs in Arroyo Seco Park, Brookside, & throughout Pasadena.	CITY OF PASADENA	82.00	203,230	2,884,766	7/00	7/02
116	STRAWBERRY CANYON ACQUISITION & RESTORATION. Acquire 12.2 acres of native Cambria Monterey pine forest adjacent to Greenspace's 3.8 acres & replant seedlings, expand trails & install display signs.	GREENSPACE - THE CAMBRIA LAND TRUST	81.33	250,000	3,134,766	7/00	6/03
100	THE GYMNOSPERM FOREST. Plant 181 trees to mitigate environmental impacts related to Loop Road realignment designed to route traffic around campus.	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIV FOUNDATION	81.00	37,040	3,171,806	7/00	6/03
9	PIRU-CAMULOS RECREATION TRAIL. Construct 2.1 mile bike/ped trail east of Piru to Rancho Camulos, a site considered for designation as an historical landmark.	VENTURA COUNTY	81.00	250,000	3,421,806	9/00	3/01
35	PLANTING HEALTHY SCHOOL ROUTES. At-risk youths and volunteers to plant 1,000 trees along school routes.	CITY OF LOS ANGELES	80.33	250,000	3,671,806	11/00	4/02
102	CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES. Landscape & plant 850 trees to mitigate vehicular air & noise pollution from nearby freeways & rail projects.	THE HOLLYWOOD BEAUTIFICATION TEAM	79.67	178,155	3,849,961	9/00	12/00
133	SAN DIEGUITO RIVER/LUSARDI CREEK ACQ. Acquire ± 24 acres to mitigate habitat loss from Hwy. 76 construction.	SAN DIEGO COUNTY	78.00	250,000	4,099,961	7/00	12/00
146	EXPOSITION RIGHT OF WAY GREENWAY. Plant trees & ground surface treatment along 1800' of abandoned railroad ROW in City of L.A. in order to connect new green space to an adjacent greenway being constructed.	TREE PEOPLE	77.67	89,626	4,189,587	11/00	1/01
21	PISMO ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE SUPPORT FACILITY ACQ. Phase 1: Purchase 1-acre parcel on 4th street (only street access to Preserve); Phase 2: Trail construction, remove non-native species & revegetation of degraded areas. Phase 3: Develop parking and picnic area for educational purposes.	CITY OF PISMO BEACH	77.67	250,000	4,439,587	7/00	1/01
118	ROUTE 198/99 OAK TREE REFORESTATION. Plant 235 trees to mitigate Rte. 198 Gap Closure Project utilizing Tulare County Conservation Corps to complete the project.	COMM SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING	77.33	90,080	4,529,667	8/00	6/01
130	CATHEDRAL OAKS CLASS I BICYCLE PATH. Construct Class I bike path along Cathedral Oaks Rd. between Paseo de Pinion & Hwy. 101 in Goleta.	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY	77.33	250,000	4,779,667	8/00	10/02
5	BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE--PAVED PUBLIC PARKING LOT. Provide ± 75 public parking spaces to include irrigation, landscaping, bike parking & info kiosk.	CITY OF POWAY	76.67	250,000	5,029,667	9/00	9/01
126	VISITOR CENTER CONNECTOR PATHS. Provides 2 paths 10'	TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES	74.00	132,000	5,161,667	9/00	12/00

	wide & 900' & 700' long to main path & visitor center.						
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APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
147	GATEWAY BEAUTIFICATION. Provide trees to two surrounding Metrolink station sites & add tree buffers east of Newhall station.	CITY OF SANTA CLARITA	73.33	237,353	5,399,020	9/00	4/01
57	LANDSCAPING MIT/ENH COUNTY LINE RD-99 INTERCHANGE. Plant ±55 trees to northbound on/off ramps to mitigate loss of center median landscaping & enhance environmental impacts of adjacent commercial development.	CITY OF DELANO	73.00	51,400	5,450,420	7/00	8/01
83	RALPH C. DILLS PARK EXPANSION ACQ. Phase 2 Park Expansion: Acquire .3 acre Ayala/Orlandini property along east bank of L.A. River to mitigate I-105 construction.	CITY OF PARAMOUNT	73.00	250,000	5,700,420	7/00	12/00
137	ROSE CREEK RESTORATION & NATURE EDUCATION PRESERVE. Restore 12 acres of resource lands to mitigate adverse environmental impact at 6 locations near project site.	THE NATURE SCHOOL	72.67	239,495	5,939,915	7/00	6/01
144	CARMEL VALLEY RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT-EXOTIC PLANT REMOVAL. Remove exotic plant species from Carmel Valley Restoration & Enhancement Project.	CITY OF SAN DIEGO	72.67	17,900	5,957,815	8/00	7/01
111	CULVER DRIVE/MICHELSON DRIVE LANDSCAPING. Provide trees to area that serves as gateway to neighborhoods mitigating impacts from increased traffic & emissions.	CITY OF IRVINE	72.67	27,520	5,985,335	1/01	6/01
69	FISH PASSAGE ENHANCEMENT TO STATE HIGHWAY 1 BRIDGE: SALSIPUEDES CREEK, SANTA BARBARA. Strategically place river rock to redirect low-volume flow & create migration path for fish during these low flow periods.	CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BD.	72.33	20,885	6,006,220	7/01	8/01
75	SHAFTER BICYCLE SAFETY & LANDSCAPING PROJECT. Construct 3,000' Class 1 bike trail, plant 2,000 trees & shrubs, & add Greenway Gateway at south city limit.	CITY OF SHAFTER	72.00	-0-	6,006,220	1/01	3/02
73	SANTA ROSA CREEK RESTORATION PROJ. Halt erosion & restore habitat along Hwy. 246 & Santos Rd. by constructing 2 grade-control structures & side drains..	CALIFORNIA COASTAL CONSERVANCY	71.67	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	12/00
136	RANCHO CUCAMONGA METROLINK STATION BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT. Plant 850 shrubs & 85 trees on 3-acre site to reduce wind & dust exposure to passengers.	CITY OF RANCHO CUCAMONGA	71.33	-0-	6,006,220	8/00	12/01
36	AMARGOSA CREEK PATHWAY. Construct 1.5 mile path along SR-14 connecting the City's existing bikeway system with Antelope Valley Fairgrounds.	CITY OF LANCASTER	71.00	-0-	6,006,220	8/00	7/01
150	PATRICIA LANE PARK PHASE TWO: DEVELOPMENT. Develop 9 residential properties into a park to mitigate impact of I-5 widening project.	CITY OF SANTA ANA	71.00	-0-	6,006,220	1/01	5/01
45	AYERS PROPERTY ACQUISITION. Acquire 242 acres in the	CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO	70.67	-0-	6,006,220	10/00	6/01

	Irish Hills for public benefit purposes.						
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APP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	APPLICANT NAME	POINT SCORE	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
40	MACARTHUR BOULEVARD STREETScape. Landscape & irrigate 4.4 acres adjacent to MacArthur Blvd. ROW. Project is part of Bonita Canyon Sports Park project.	CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH	69.33	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	3/01
76	DINUBA LANDSCAPING & SAFETY TRAILS PROJECT. Install 3,000' Class I bike/ped trail; plant 2,000 trees & 2,100 bushes along Alta Ave., Rd. 72 & Kamm Crawford Park.	CITY OF DINUBA	68.33	-0-	6,006,220	2/01	6/02
95	SOUTH BALDWIN LAKE WATERSHED ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE PROJECT. Use reclaimed wastewater maximizing long-term benefits in order to expand wet meadow & riparian habitat & species along Pacific Flyway used by Bald Eagles.	NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION	68.00	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	2/01
25	EXPANSION OF HELLER'S BEND PRESERVE. Acquire ±20 acres of wetlands as part of wildlife corridor along Ostrich Farms Creek.	FALLBROOK LAND CONSERVANCY	68.00	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	12/00
44	VETERANS PARKWAY - WILSHIRE BLVD IN L.A. Add landscape & trees to Wilshire Blvd. to mitigate loss of natural habitat, inject calm & create a place of national meaning.	VETERANS PARK	67.67	-0-	6,006,220	12/00	4/01
131	DEHY PARK ENHANCEMENT. Improve public access, recreational information services, ADA playground equipment, landscaping, & enhance trail & recycle projects.	INYO COUNTY	66.67	-0-	6,006,220	12/00	12/01
148	PATRICIA LANE PARK PHASE 1: ACQ. Acquire 9 parcels from I-5 Widening project for park development.	CITY OF SANTA ANA	66.67	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	9/00
30	DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL BICYCLE TRAIL. Phase 1 of 3: Construct Class I bike trail through L.A. & Carson cities to provide transportation corridor for bikes & recreational use.	LOS ANGELES COUNTY	66.33	-0-	6,006,220	1/01	10/01
120	HABITAT RESTORATION AT ALISO & WOOD CANYON WILDERNESS PARK. Plant riparian habitat & construct erosion control to offset impacts of Wood Canyon Drive & long-term urban growth.	ORANGE COUNTY	66.00	-0-	6,006,220	1/01	12/02
110	HARVARD AVENUE SPINE. Landscape parkway area to mitigate construction of second main-line railroad track.	CITY OF IRVINE	65.00	-0-	6,006,220	10/02	6/03
104	DOWNTOWN STREETScape EXPANSION. Add trees, irrigation system & lights in public downtown ROW.	CITY OF BAKERSFIELD	64.67	-0-	6,006,220	7/00	12/01
101	PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CAMPUS FORESTATION. Plant 1000 trees to mitigate increased vehicular pollutant effects.	PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	64.00		6,006,220	8/00	12/01

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# The Resources Agency

Gray Davis  
Governor



## of California

REC'D BY CTC

MAY 25 2000

Mary D. Nichols  
Secretary

California Conservation Corps • Department of Boating & Waterways • Department of Conservation  
Department of Fish & Game • Department of Forestry & Fire Protection • Department of Parks & Recreation • Department of Water Resources

MAY 25 2000

TO: Robert Remen, Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, (MS-52)  
Sacramento, California 95814

FROM: Don Wallace   
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Justification for EEM Projects Above \$250,000 Funding Limit

At the May 11, 2000 meeting of the Commission, you raised a question regarding the Resources Agency's recommendation to award Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation grants for selected project proposals in excess of the generally established limit of \$250,000. Attached, you will find our reasoning for each of the projects we have recommended in excess of this amount.

A little historical perspective may assist the Commission in considering this issue. The statute authorizing the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program allows the Commission to award grants in an amount not to exceed \$5 million each from an amount of \$10 million when appropriated by the Legislature for such purposes. The Resources Agency, in accordance with its statutory responsibility to establish procedures and criteria for the program, limited grant awards to \$500,000 each for both construction and acquisition project proposals.

Subsequently, beginning with the 1993-94 grant cycle, the limit was reduced to \$250,000 each, with an allowance to exceed this limit for specified benefits to the public. The Procedures and Criteria indicated that consideration would be given primarily to resource lands acquisition proposals. This change was made to increase the number of grant projects fundable from the limited resources available to the EEMP. (Applications typically totaled in excess of \$70 million each year while funding was limited to \$10 million.) For 1997-98, the limit was increased to \$350,000.

The Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-5656 FAX (916) 653-8102  
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Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy • Colorado River Board of California • Energy Resources, Conservation & Development Commission  
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Robert Remen, Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
Page 2

MAY 25 2000

The 1998-99 grant cycle returned the limit to \$250,000 to increase the total number of grant awards each year, without the necessity of making budget reductions to applicants proposals. The Procedures and Criteria now specify that grants in excess of \$250,000 will only be considered for resource lands acquisitions. Those exceptions are based upon consideration of unique or unusual factors, including but not limited to, maximum benefits in a one-time or limited opportunity, acquisitions of considerable size, substantial leveraging of funds, and/or projects with high statewide significance. While the lower funding limits could be applied to acquisition projects, as well as to construction proposals, we believe that the foregoing criteria ensures that the public will derive significant benefits from projects with larger grant awards as recommended by the Resources Agency.

There are other considerations for the Commission on this issue, as well. In our dealings with program applicants, we have received only one or two calls for grants in excess of \$250,000 for non-acquisition projects. And, in early program grant cycles, proposals in excess of \$250,000 for Highway Landscaping and Urban Forestry category projects typically were considered less cost effective for the program, in-as-much as such projects included high cost elements for irrigation systems and other hardscape developments such as cement medians. Since the program was significantly over-subscribed, such proposals typically were not recommended by the Resources Agency to the Commission for funding.

In addition, EEMP appropriations are available for encumbrance for only one year, and applicants must complete projects within a total of three fiscal years. There have been a number of reappropriations made by the Legislature for funding of EEMP construction projects when such projects could not be completed within these time limits. Large, costly construction proposals which are only conceptual, and for which engineered working drawings have not been completed before the Commission allocates funding, are not likely to be completed within the time period allotted. On the other hand, acquisition projects, regardless of the cost, are typically ready to be completed as soon as the Commission approves the allocation of funds.

The Resources Agency continues to recommend that construction projects be limited to \$250,000 but that resource lands acquisition proposals in excess of \$250,000 be considered when justified.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 653-9709.

Attachment

**Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program****Recommended Grant Awards Exceeding \$250,000  
2000-01 Grant Cycle****1. Acquisition of Two Properties in Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, \$262,000**

This grant to the National Wildlife Refuge will be matched by \$640,000 in other funding to purchase fee title interest in two properties offered by willing sellers totaling 223 acres along Interstate 5 in Sacramento County. The properties offer scenic, historic, cultural, and natural resources and help protect migratory wildlife species. The acquisition provides additional mitigation for the bridge-widening project over Morrison Creek on Interstate 5. This project is of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**2. Spano River Ranch, \$500,000**

This grant to the Wildlife Conservation Board will be matched by \$1 million in other funding to acquire 65 acres of critical habitat along the San Joaquin River in Fresno County. This project is part of a larger effort to acquire the 500 acre Spano property to help create the San Joaquin River Parkway. This project provides additional mitigation for Highway 41 bridge improvements, new interchange and freeway. This project is a one-time opportunity of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**3. Varian Ranch Acquisition, \$500,000**

This grant to the Trust for Public Lands will be matched by \$400,000 in private funds to purchase a conservation easement on the Varian Ranch in Monterey and Fresno counties. This will contribute to the effort to protect the entire 17,000 acre ranch from development. The acreage contains oak woodlands and various habitats for wildlife including golden eagles, kit fox, black tailed deer, mountains lions and kangaroo rats. The ranch is adjacent to a DFG management area and BLM owned lands. The acquisition provides additional mitigation for the widening of Highway 46 from two lanes to a four lane expressway. This project is a one-time opportunity of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**4. Lassen Foothills - Foor Ranch Easement Acquisition, \$400,000**

This grant to the Nature Conservancy will be matched by \$250,000 in other funding to purchase a conservation easement over 1,600 acres of the Foor Ranch in Tehama County. The project will protect vernal pool habitat unique to the central valley. The Ranch is located adjacent to the existing 4,500 acre Vina Plains Preserve. It provides additional mitigation for the construction of a passing lane on Highway 99. This project is of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**5. Casper Headlands, \$500,000**

This grant to the California Coastal Conservancy will be matched by \$600,000 in other funding to acquire 20 acres along the Casper Headlands on the Mendocino Coast. It will protect riparian habitat along Casper Creek and habitat for coho salmon, osprey, and great blue heron, as well as, preserving coastal views between Highway 1 and the ocean. The project provides additional mitigation for the widening and channelization of a left turn lane on Highway 1 and the retrofit of the Russian Gulch, Jughandle and Hare Creek bridges. This project is of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**6. Bayview Ranch Acquisition, \$400,000**

This grant to the City of Arcata will be matched by \$271,780 in other funding for the acquisition of 290 acres to expand the 225 acre Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary in Humboldt County. The project protects riparian habitat and coastal wetlands on Humboldt Bay. The project provides additional mitigation for the retrofit of the Gannon Slough Bridge. This project is of high statewide significance.

**7. Morro Palisades Acquisition, \$500,000**

This grant to the Wildlife Conservation Board will be matched by \$500,000 in other funding to purchase 34 acres of critical habitat near Los Osos in San Luis Obispo County. Acquisition will help protect a number of endangered species for which the Morro Palisades property provides habitat. The project will provide additional mitigation for the construction of a bridge over Chorro Creek which runs through the property. This project is of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

**8. Wright's Field Acquisition, Phase II, \$500,000**

This grant to the Back Country Land Trust will be matched by \$350,000 in other funding to acquire 120 acres of rare California habitats in San Diego County. The project provides additional mitigation for the widening of Route 8 from Harbison Canyon undercrossing to the Viejas Creek Bridge. This project is of high statewide significance and provides a substantial leverage of funds.

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# The Resources Agency



## of California

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Secretary

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Department of Fish & Game • Department of Forestry & Fire Protection • Department of Parks & Recreation • Department of Water Resources

August 1999

**TO: 2000-2001 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION (EEM) PROGRAM GRANT APPLICANTS**

Enclosed is an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program application packet for the 2000-01 grant cycle. This packet includes EEM program Procedures and Criteria, application forms, and supplementary information to assist you in preparing an application for grant funding.

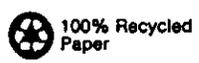
The final application submission date is Monday, November 15, 1999. Applications must be postmarked by this date or delivered to the Resources Agency, Suite 1311, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento 95814, no later than 5 p.m. on that day to be considered by the Resources Agency for recommendation to the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

All required documents must be included with the application (original and three copies), except for board resolutions which are required for local and non-profit agencies. Board resolutions may be submitted separately at a later date for reason of timing. The schedules for proposed projects must provide for project start and completion within three fiscal years. Grants generally will be limited to \$250,000 each.

The Resources Agency will transmit its recommendations to the CTC by April 15, 2000. Applicants will be notified of the Agency's recommendations shortly thereafter.

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San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission



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It is anticipated that the CTC will consider recommended projects for funding at its July 2000 meeting. Applicants with projects recommended for funding must submit environmental clearance documents to the CTC in May 2000. Projects without environmental clearance will not be considered for funding by the CTC.

If you have any questions on these Procedures and Criteria, or on the EEM Program please call the EEM Program Coordinator at (916) 653-5656.



Mary D. Nichols  
Secretary for Resources

Enclosures

RESOURCES AGENCY  
State of California

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-653-5656

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM  
PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA  
2000-2001 Grant Cycle**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1-1. Purpose and Authority

These procedures and criteria guide the evaluation and selection of projects under the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) program. This program provides grants to State, local and federal agencies and non-profit organizations to mitigate the environmental impact of modified or new public transportation facilities.

The EEM program was established by the enactment of the Transportation Blueprint Legislation of 1989 (AB 471, Katz). This legislation states that it is the intent of the Legislature to allocate \$10 million annually to this program for grant purposes for a 10-year period from Fiscal Year 1991-92 to Fiscal Year 2000-01.

The legislation provides the following delegation of responsibilities for the EEM program. The Resources Agency prescribes procedures and criteria to evaluate grant proposals. Based on its evaluation, the Agency prepares and submits a list of proposals recommended for funding to the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The CTC annually awards grants to fund proposals from the Agency's list.

1-2. Eligible Applicants

Any State, local or federal agency or 501(c)(3) non-profit entity may apply for and receive grants. The agency or entity is not required to be a transportation or highway related organization, but must be able to demonstrate adequate charter or enabling authority to carry out the type of project proposed. Two or more entities may participate in a project with one designated as the lead agency.

1-3. Implementation Timeline

Applications for funding in the 2000-01 fiscal year (July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001) must be postmarked no later than Monday, November 15, 1999 or delivered to the Resources Agency by 5 p.m. that day.

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria  
August 1999  
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The Resources Agency will send a list of recommended projects and funding amounts to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by April 15, 2000. All project applicants will be notified of the status of their application at that time.

In July 2000, it is anticipated that the CTC will give preliminary approval to projects to be funded, with funding allocations to be considered at a subsequent Commission meeting upon contract approval. The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) administers contracts for approved grant projects.

Environmental clearance documents for Agency recommended projects are required by the CTC, and must be submitted to the CTC in May 2000 for projects to be considered at the July 2000 meeting. Projects without environmental clearance documents will not be considered for funding.

Grant funds should be expended as soon as possible after the grant is awarded by the CTC (second funding allocation vote), preferably within the first fiscal year. However, all expenditures must be made within three fiscal years.

1-4. Project Magnitude

Grants for individual project are generally limited to \$250,000. However, the Resources Agency may recommend awards exceeding the \$250,000 guideline for acquisition projects only, based on the consideration of unique or unusual factors, including, but not limited to, maximum benefits in a one-time or limited opportunity, acquisition of resource lands of a considerable size, substantial leveraging, and/or projects with high statewide significance.

1-5. North/South Split

In accordance with the provisions of Section 187 and 188 of the Streets and Highways Code, an attempt will be made to allocate 40 percent of the total amount recommended to projects in northern counties and 60 percent of the total amount to projects in southern counties. The southern counties are: San Luis Obispo, Kern, Mono, Tulare, Inyo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial. For purposes of this north/south split, all other counties are considered northern counties.

**2. PROJECT GUIDELINES**

2-1. Eligible Projects

The categories of environmental enhancement and mitigation projects eligible for funding are:

Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry -- Projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide through the planting of trees and other suitable plants. Projects may be within or outside the right-of-way of a related transportation facility. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted within the public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

Resource Lands -- Projects for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for proposed transportation improvements. Resource lands include natural areas, wetlands, forests, woodlands, meadows, streams or other areas containing fish or wildlife habitat. Enhancement of resource lands may include the restoration of wildlife corridors. Additionally, resource lands may contain features of archaeological or historical value.

Roadside Recreation -- Projects which provide for the acquisition and/or development of roadside recreational opportunities, including parks and greenways, roadside rests, scenic overlooks, trails, and sno-parks.

2-2. Related Transportation Facility

To be eligible for consideration, each environmental enhancement and mitigation project must be directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility (CA Constitution, Art. XIX, Sec. 1) or construction of new transportation facility.

For purposes of this program, a transportation facility is defined as a public street, highway, mass transit guideway or their appurtenant features (e.g. park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, transit stations, etc.) Additionally, the "related transportation facility" must be 1) a project where construction began after January 1, 1990; or 2) a project which is not yet under

construction, but is included in an adopted State transportation program or in a locally adopted and certified capital outlay program.

If a transportation facility is to be constructed in separate and distinct phases, each phase may be considered a separate project for purposes of this definition, provided that each phase creates an operable transportation improvement.

### 2-3. Minimum Project Requirements

Projects which fail to meet these minimum requirements will not be considered further:

- a. All projects must demonstrate a direct or indirect relationship with the environmental impact of modifying an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility.
- b. All projects must provide mitigation or enhancement in addition to the mitigation required as part of the transportation project to which they are related. The EEM project cannot supplant mitigation required of the transportation project.
- c. The mitigation, if in or near the right-of-way, must be compatible with and not interfere with the operation or safety of the transportation facilities.
- d. The mitigation must not limit currently planned or anticipated future improvements to the transportation facility.

### **3. PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA**

All projects will be evaluated by the Resources Agency using the following criteria and assigning values based on a point system within the ranges indicated. A maximum of 100 points may be assigned to any one project. Projects will be evaluated on the General Criteria (up to 55 points) and the appropriate Project Category Criteria (up to 45 points) In summary, the scoring allocation is as follows:

**General Criteria (55 points)**

- Increased Mitigation and Enhancement (0-20 points)
- Statewide Project Goals and Local Cash Contributions (0-20 points)
- Project Readiness (0-15 points)

**Project Category Criteria (45 points)**

I. Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry

- Suitability and Sustainability (0-20 points)
- Cost Effectiveness (0-20 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

-OR-

II. Resource Lands

- Important Resource Values (0-30 points)
- Sustainability (0-10 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

-OR-

III. Roadside Recreation

- Need for the Project (0-30 points)
- Sustainability (0-10 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

3-1. General Criteria

All projects will be evaluated on the following general criteria:

**a. Increased Mitigation and Enhancement (0-20 points)**

Projects that will provide the greatest and most appropriate degree of mitigation or enhancement over and above that required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be rated the highest. Consideration will be given to the degree the project reinforces, complements, or fills a deficiency

or need in a larger area, complex, or system, or has been identified as a statewide priority in plans, policies, or other pronouncements.

For example, a project that preserves wildlife habitat lands adjacent to other protected wildlife habitat lands, may provide greater protection than a smaller, separate habitat lands project. Also, for example, an addition to an existing greenbelt or trail system may provide greater mitigation benefits than a smaller, separate urban forestry or recreation project.

Applicants must provide a concise, but complete explanation of the mitigation which will be undertaken as part of the related transportation project and the additional mitigation or enhancement to be funded under the EEM program.

**b. Statewide Project Goals and Local Cash Contributions (0-20 points)**

Consistent with the intent of the program, the Resources Agency seeks to fund projects that serve the largest number of people in the widest area possible. Consequently, projects that demonstrate their relevance to larger planning processes (i.e. regional, city, county, State) and have obtained outside financial support will be given priority in this category.

**Statewide Resource Priorities:** Projects that contribute the most to statewide resource priorities -- comprehensive, regional, and preventive initiatives to protect and enhance the State's natural heritage -- will be rated the highest. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Habitat/Ecosystem Restoration and Protection, including conservation of agricultural lands
- Wetlands Protection and Acquisition
- Recreational Access
- State Park Stewardship -- enhancement, expansion, and maintenance of the State Park System

**Local Cash Contributions:** Projects that include the greatest proportion of other sources of monetary funding to project development will be rated the highest. Contributions made prior to Commission approval of the EEM project, as well as contributions to on-going project maintenance will not be given credit. To be evaluated and given appropriate credit, the value of cash contributions

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must be estimated and included in the project cost estimate and budget. If a project is ultimately approved for funding, the ratio of EEM funds to "Other Sources of Funding" specified in the project application budget will be used by Caltrans for the purposes of reimbursement.

**c. Project Readiness (0-15 points)**

EEM program funds must be expended within a three-year period. Therefore, projects which can most readily be started and completed will be given higher ratings. Key items in the evaluation of this criteria include:

Are project designs completed?

Have funds been specifically appropriated for the related transportation facility?

Are matching funds readily available?

Will the proposed mitigation project require any permits or lengthy environmental clearance?

Is the project consistent with State, regional, and local plans?

**4. PROJECT CATEGORY CRITERIA**

**4-1. Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry Projects**

Projects in the Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**a. Suitability and Sustainability (0-20 points)**

Projects that demonstrate the ability to provide maximum environmental benefits over the long term will be ranked the highest. Projects that serve the greatest area, and are consistent with statewide resource priorities, regional habitat management, and/or regional conservation objectives will be given priority in this category.

An important consideration is whether plantings, once established, will thrive without the need for supplemental irrigation. Other considerations for sustainability and suitability are:

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Will trees and other plants be environmentally tolerant to drought, smog, soil compaction, frost, wind, etc.?

Will the project be designed in such a manner as to provide for species diversity to reduce the effects of insects and diseases? For aesthetic reasons, one variety of tree may be planted along a certain street provided that other varieties are planted on other nearby street, thus providing an adequate mix.

Will the trees and other plant species selected be ecologically and physically appropriate for the function to be performed in the planting space available, and will the initial size selected for the planting area have a good chance for survival and growth on the project site?

Will the largest crowning trees possible be used to provide maximum environmental benefits for mitigating heat islands, ultra-violet light, the

greenhouse effect, and pollution problems, while saving energy by providing shade?

What are the environmental benefits of the species selected?

Have adequate provisions been made for plant establishment and long-term maintenance? If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

Will the project use recycled or reclaimed water?

Does the project have a tracking system for required maintenance?

What provisions have been made for plantings that fail (e.g. a budget for removal and/or replacement of plants and trees that die)?

**b. Cost Effectiveness (0-20 points)**

Projects that provide the greatest number of trees and plants and yield the greatest potential for long-term carbon dioxide uptake at the least cost, will be ranked highest under this criteria. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted in public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

Other cost effectiveness considerations include:

How many trees will be planted in how much space?

What species of trees and plants will be used? (Please include both the scientific and common names)

What will be the size and cost for each of the trees and plants proposed?

If trees larger than 15-gallon container size are used, what is the justification?

What type of irrigation system will be installed? What is the water source and cost?

What will be the establishment cost per tree, considering species and installation over the first five years following planting?

Does the project require costly construction (e.g. metal grates)?

**c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Roadside Recreation and Resource Lands) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, increased public access and recreational opportunities, preservation of wildlife habitat, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project. For example:

If the project is outside the right-of-way of the related transportation project, will the trees and other plants be planted in an area that provides reasonable public access or recreational opportunities?

Will the project provide for enhanced wildlife habitat?

If the project is outside of the related transportation facility right-of-way, will the project maximize citizen involvement in project planning and implementation and provide stewardship opportunities for long-term maintenance of the trees?

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

4-2. Resource Lands Projects

Projects in the Resource Lands category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**a. Important Resource Values (0-30 points)**

Resource lands that protect or enhance ecosystems, watersheds, and/or other statewide natural resource priorities will be rated the highest. Important natural resource values include, but are not limited to, lands containing rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats, lands containing special wildlife values such as wildlife corridors, nesting and breeding areas, wetlands, woodlands, and riparian habitat, and agricultural lands.

**b. Sustainability (0-10 points)**

Projects which provide the most reasonable assurance that the resource lands to be acquired or enhanced will be maintained and protected will be ranked the highest under this criteria. If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

**c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry and Roadside Recreation) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, increased public access and recreational opportunities, increased opportunities for interpretive and/or environmental education, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project.

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community

support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

4-3. Roadside Recreation Projects

Projects in the Roadside Recreation category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**a. Need for the Project (0-30 points)**

Applications that demonstrate the greatest need for the particular recreational facility will be ranked the highest. Projects with statewide significance, such as State Park Stewardship, will be given priority in this category. For example:

Will current or potential recreational opportunities be impacted by the modified or proposed transportation facility?

Why should this particular project be funded?

Is there a deficiency of similar opportunities?

Who will be served by this project, and what is the estimated visitor use?

Does the project connect to or complement other recreation areas or facilities?

Are there any barriers to public access?

**b. Sustainability (0-10 points)**

Entities that demonstrate the greatest ability to operate and maintain the proposed recreational facility will be given the highest ranking under this criteria. For example:

What is your experience in operating/maintaining this type of project or other recreation project?

How do you propose to maintain and operate the project? If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

How will materials and equipment be resistant to or protected from vandalism?

**c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry and Resource Lands) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, the use of plants and trees to offset vehicular emissions, preservation of wildlife and natural habitat, increased opportunities for interpretive and/or environmental education, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project. Examples that address this criteria might include:

Self-guided nature walks utilizing interpretive signs and displays at the project entrance and/or key viewing points.

Litter abatement and beverage container recycling opportunities.

Involvement of volunteers or citizen organizations in interpretive and educational activities, litter cleanup, and maintenance.

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

**5. COSTS AND ACCOUNTING**

**5-1. Eligible EEM Project Costs**

The Resources Agency may recommend projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) with unallocated reductions in grant funding or with specific line item reductions. In such cases, the applicant may elect to

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use non-grant sources of funding if it is deemed necessary to complete the project as planned.

Only project-related costs incurred during the project performance period specified in the project budget and grant agreement will be eligible for reimbursement. All such costs are funded on a reimbursement basis, and will be held to the ratio of EEM funds to Other Sources of Funding designated in the budget and grant agreement, which is generally the ratio specified by the applicant in the original project proposal. All costs submitted for reimbursement must be supported by appropriate invoices, purchase orders, canceled warrants, and other records.

Costs incurred in advance of a signed contract with the State and approval by the Commission are not eligible for reimbursement. All State requirements must be met and an agreement signed and approved between the State and applicant before any costs are incurred against the grant in order to be assured of reimbursement.

Only direct costs are eligible. General program administrative costs, general overhead costs (e.g., telephone, fax, and space rental), and ongoing project maintenance are not eligible for reimbursement.

5-2 Specific EEM Project Costs

**a. Preliminary Project Costs**

Preliminary project costs (e.g. construction plans, appraisals, acquisition negotiations, etc.) are eligible for reimbursement. However, costs incurred prior to both the execution of an agreement between the State and the applicant and the allocation vote by the California Transportation Commission will not be reimbursed.

**b. Personnel and Employee Services**

Services of the applicant's employees directly engaged in project execution are eligible costs. These costs must be computed according to the applicant's prevailing wage or salary scales and may include fringe benefit costs such as vacations, sick leave, social security contributions, etc. that are customarily charged to the applicant's projects. Costs charged to the project

must be computed on actual time spent on the project and be supported by time and attendance records describing the work performed on the project. Overtime costs may be allowed under the applicant's established policy, provided that the regular work time was devoted to the same project.

Salaries and wages claimed for employees working on State grant funded projects must not exceed the applicant's established rates for similar positions.

**c. Consultant Services**

The costs of consultant services necessary for the project are eligible. Consultants must be paid by the customary or established method and rate of the applicant. No consultant fee may be paid to the applicant's own employees without prior approval or unless specifically agreed to by the State.

**d. Construction Equipment**

The following conditions apply to the allocation of costs for construction equipment:

Equipment owned by the applicant may be charged to the project for each use. Equipment use charges must be made in accordance with the applicant's normal accounting practices. The equipment rental rates published by the State Department of Transportation may be used as a guide.

If the applicant's equipment is used, a report or source document must describe the work performed, indicate the hours used, and relate the use to the project. This document must be signed by the operator and supervisor.

Equipment may be leased, rented, or purchased, whichever is most economical. If equipment is purchased, its residual market value must be credited to the project costs on completion.

**e. Construction Costs**

The cost of all necessary construction activities from site preparation (including excavation, grading, etc.) to the completion of a structure or facility is eligible. Also eligible are contract costs for tree planting and irrigation systems.

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**f. Trees, Supplies, and Materials**

Trees, supplies, and materials, including irrigation equipment may be purchased for a specific project or may be drawn from a central stock, provided that they are claimed at a cost no higher than that paid by the applicant. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted within public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

**g. Acquisition Costs**

The costs of acquiring real property are eligible and may include the purchase price of the property, appraisals, surveys, preliminary title reports, escrow fees, and title insurance fees. Grant applicants are encouraged to explore the feasibility of acquiring easements rather than fee title when appropriate.

**h. Other Expenditures**

In addition to the major categories of expenditures, reimbursements may be made for miscellaneous costs necessary for execution of the project. Some of these costs are:

Premiums on hazard and liability insurance to cover personnel and/or property.

Work performed by another section or department of the applicant's agency.

Transportation costs for moving equipment and/or personnel.

**6. Additional Information on the Program and Procedures**

Additional information on eligible costs and accounting procedures can be obtained from the local Caltrans, District Local Assistance Office, (see the attached list for specific locations).

Completed applications and questions regarding the EEM program procedures and criteria should be directed to the EEMP Coordinator, California Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento 95814, 916-653-5656.

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**Checklist for Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program Applications**

The following items, as applicable, are required for the EEM program application. Submit a total of four copies of all materials (original plus three copies.) Please assemble your application in the order listed below.

**Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program**

1. **Signed Application Face-Sheet and Assurances (see attached)**
2. **Table of Contents (with page number references)**
3. **Environmental Project Summary**

Brief description of project scope, location, and purpose, and amount of request

Explanation for grant request that exceeds the specified funding limitation, if applicable

4. **Agency Eligibility**

Authorizing resolution to apply for grant, required for local agencies and nonprofit organizations. (sample attached)

Statement of related prior experience for local agencies and nonprofit applicants (include IRS determination letter of Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, if applicable)

5. **Related Transportation Project**

Discussion of related transportation project and required mitigation, and the additional mitigation proposed by the EEM project.

Transportation project lead agency form letter (provided in this application package)

**6. General Criteria**

Narrative and quantitative explanations for each of the General Criteria

**7. Project Category Criteria**

Narrative and quantitative explanations for each of the Project Category Criteria  
— for the category of grant project being proposed

**8. Exhibits**

- a. Statement of project consistency with local, State, and/or federal plans, and list of permits and approvals needed and applications filed with involved agencies.
- b. Project cost estimate (by line item-object of expense).
- c. Proposed project development budget showing sources of cash funding. (If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please discuss their value separately from monetary contributions under the Other Benefits and Community Participation criteria.)
- d. Project completion schedule.
- e. Quarterly project development cash expenditure plan.
- f. Project location map.
- g. Project site photos.
- h. Project designs or concept drawings.
- i. Acquisition schedule, if applicable.
- j. Acquisition map, if applicable (boundaries and parcel numbers).
- k. Certification for projects involving tree planting by a certified arborist, registered professional forester, or registered landscape architect, including:

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appropriateness of species for location and carbon dioxide uptake capability  
optimal initial tree size for survival  
proper planting and maintenance ensured  
compliance with local ordinances  
compliance with specified nursery stock standards

- l. For all projects involving plantings, a description of the number of plantings, species, size, density, and locations
- m. All other exhibits (e.g. agreements with other involved agencies, etc.)
- n. Lastly, letters of endorsement (if any -- not required)