CivicSpark Fellows

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Local Government Commission
Leaders for Livable Communities

Corporation for National & Community Service

California Volunteers
Office of the Governor

What is CivicSpark ?

CivicSpark is a Governor's Initiative AmeriCorps program dedicated to **building capacity** for local governments in California to address community resilience issues such as climate change, water resource management, and access to opportunities.

What is a Fellow?

Fellowships are a way to augment academic studies with the experience necessary to succeed in a chosen field.

The CivicSpark fellowship provides young adults who hold at least a bachelor's degree the opportunity to gain hands-on, entry level experience in the fields they are seeking to enter professionally.

What do Fellows do?

- Fellows work exclusively on the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program.
- Fellows serve 1500 hours of service over 11 months
- Fellows also dedicate time to volunteer projects and professional development

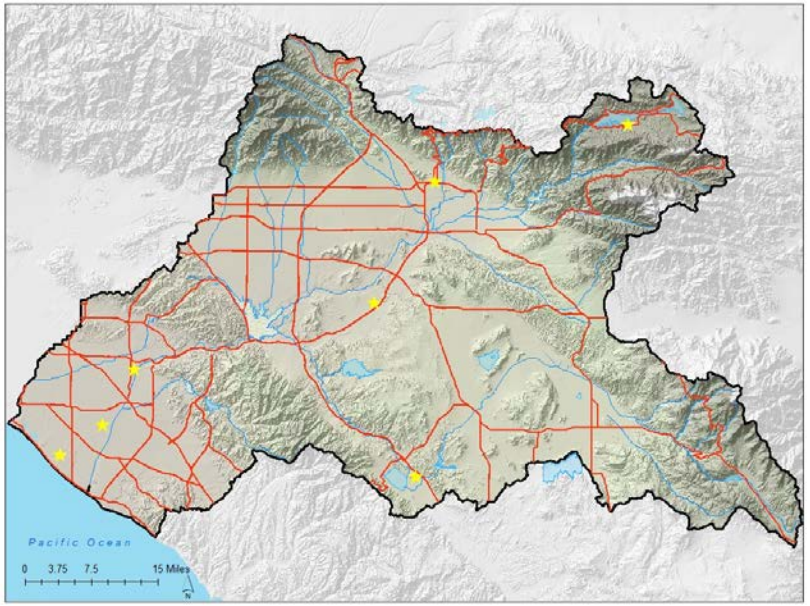
CivicSpark Year in Pictures

Community Water Internship Program

- The Community Water Internship program provides paid internship opportunities to Community College, CSU, and UC students in the SARW to work on water related projects that benefit disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.
- Fellows facilitate the program through recruitment of project partners and interns, through check-ins and monthly cohort trainings, and through the dissemination of professional development curriculum for the interns to further advance their careers.
- Interns currently placed at:

Community Water Ethnography

- Fellows contributed to a strengths and needs assessment of the Santa Ana River Watershed
- Fellows interviewed representatives from 12 water agencies throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed

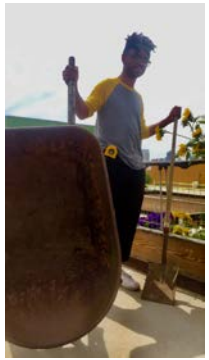


Intersections of Homelessness and Water

- Fellows conducted research on the intersections of homelessness and water
- Fellows helped organize a 2nd homelessness and water symposium
- Fellows produced a fact sheet for the Homelessness and Water Symposium

Volunteer Engagement Projects

- Fellows have teamed up with other Fellows placed at EMWD, LACI, and LA County Public Health to initiate the development of a food security garden in Riverside in partnership with the Riverside Office of Homeless Solutions, Riverside Garden Council, and Path of Life Ministries
- Also involved in a food justice volunteer engagement project with Fellows at SCAG, City of Santa Monica, and LACI and helped a fellow from the City of Lynwood on the 2018 Lynwood Earth Day event.



Service Days

- CivicSpark Fellows participate in a minimum of 4 service days
- Our service days:
  - Lincoln High School-restoration and beautification of a historic East LA high school
  - Huerta Del Valle-helping care for a food justice garden in Ontario
  - Ventura Land Trust-assisting clean-up efforts following fires and mudslides
  - Arlanza Community Garden-garden maintenance and community cookout

Miscellaneous Research & Tasks

- Fellows have taken on research projects and tasks:
  - Weekly DCI program progress surveys and team updates
  - Organization of cohort reading group as a database
  - Research on
    - Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts
    - Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities
    - Tribal leader contacts for outreach
    - Gentrification and displacement
    - California Climate Investments
    - SB1000

One Water One Watershed Steering Committee Meeting

July 26, 2018

OWOW Program Status Update

OWOW Program

1

OWOW Plan Update 2018

2

Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program

3

Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grants

OWOW Plan Update 2018

Pillar Chapters	• Ten chapters submitted by the end of May 2018 • Posted for review by participating stakeholders • Copy-edit to be completed by Dudek & SAWPA staff
"Non-Pillar" Chapters	• SAWPA Staff and consultant Dudek reviewing and completing updates
Call for Projects to be in the plan	• Remains underway • Twenty-four groups have submitted over 100 projects
Next Steps:	• Assembly of administrative draft for public comment • August public comment period • November adoption

Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program

PE 1

Strengths & Needs Assessment

- Nearing completion, report due in the late fall

PE 2

Education / Engagement

- Some items underway (internships, planning for trainings)
- Trust the Tap – kick off meeting August 1
- Other items beginning in 2019 (trainings, workshops)

PE 3

Project Development

- Technical Assistance to Communities
- TAC Meeting August 14 to continue vetting TA projects to undertake.

Prop 1 IRWM Grants - Latest from DWR

Activity	Timeline
Conversations with Regional Stakeholders	May 2017 – August 2018
Release draft PSP for 45-day public comment period	September
Three public meetings (north, central, south)	October
Draft PSP comment period closes	October
Final PSP released	Fall
Round 1 Grants due to DWR*	Starting April 2019
Round 1 awards	2019
Round 2 solicitation	2020

* DWR intends to work with grant applicants on a Funding Area Basis following the release of the Final PSP and prior to the submittal of the grant application.

State of the Santa Ana River Watershed Conference

March 29, 2019

WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

University Conference Center @
California State University Fullerton

OWOW Program

Prop 1 Implementation Grant

Rating & Ranking Criteria

OWOW Steering Committee Meeting
July 26, 2018

Three recommended actions:

1. Approve minor changes to the 2016 OWOW Steering Committee approved Eligibility Criteria and adopt as the *Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Eligibility – OWOW Program Policy*.
2. Approve and adopt the OWOW Program Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation grants Rating & Ranking system, inclusive of eligibility criteria, benefit classes and scoring procedures, for evaluating projects which submit to compete for the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation grants expected to be released by DWR this Fall.
3. Approve and adopt the described system whereby large budget projects compete against one another and small budget projects compete against one another for separate allocations of grant funds.

How we got to today

- OWOW and OWOW 2.0
- Proposition 1
- 2016 OWOW SC Eligibility Criteria
- OWOW SC Meetings (March, May, Today)
- Stakeholder processes
  - Pillar Integration Meetings (April, June)
  - Pillar Chair Special Meetings (May, June)

Changes to the 2016 document

- That document refers to OWOW 2.0 Plan, and required minor changes to reference OWOW Plan Update 2018 instead.
- It is currently called “Eligibility Criteria”, these words are now doing a different job in the OWOW Program, therefore, a new proposed name:
  - *Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Eligibility – OWOW Program Policy*

Rating & Ranking Criteria

- Selecting a suite of projects to propose to DWR for Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grants.
- Developed over time in the OWOW Program, and updated for this grant opportunity.
- Designed to be a transparent, replicable system understandable to all.
- Accountability shared by OWOW SC, SAWPA, and the stakeholders

The system presented today has support from the Pillar Chairs.

Sequence of grant-seeking

Eligibility vs. Rating vs. Ranking

Eligibility:

- Is the project compliant with OWOW Program Policy, and Proposition 1?

Rating:

- How do the benefits of each project compare to the other proposed projects?

Ranking:

- How do we choose which projects will be part of the grant proposal to the state?

Eligibility Criteria	Indicator (yes / no)
Collaborative Projects	More than one org providing resources ($, labor, land, etc.)
Contains at least two benefits	Benefits claimed in at least two classes
Consistent with CA Water Action Plan	Identify (select from a list) and explain
All benefits accrue to members of disadvantaged communities	If asserted, the * below becomes *Not Applicable*
Has identified required 50% match*	Describe the secured, eligible source of match funds
If construction project, CEQA timeline*	CEQA ready six months from grant award *(detail pending DWR action)*
Is a sustainable project resilient to changing conditions	Describe in the context of climate change, land use, population change, economic conditions, etc.
Benefits are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another	Describe the analysis conducted to assert this answer. How was your conclusion reached?

Benefit Classes

(what projects can provide the watershed)

- Following slides contains an edited list of benefits enumerated by the OWOW Steering Committee on 7/7/16
  - edits merged similar benefits
- At April 2018 Pillar Integration Workshop ~30 stakeholders provided their prioritization of these benefits
  - The average of scores created the weighting

Benefit Classes	Weighting	Indicators
Water supply reliability, conservation, efficiency	9.2	Gallons per year of water supply made newly available in the watershed by the project
Groundwater recharge and management	8.9	Gallons per year of new groundwater recharge from any source or new groundwater treated
Reclaim water, treat and convey	8.5	Gallons per year of new reclaimed water treated or distributed
Multipurpose flood & Stormwater (monitor, capture, storage, cleanup, treat, manage)	8.4	Acres of watershed managed by project
Watershed / ecosystem / wetland protection, restoration	7.7	Acres of watershed managed by project
Benefits to members of disadvantaged communities	7.7	Percent of benefits accruing to disadvantaged communities
Benefits large area of watershed	7.6	Acres of the watershed receiving benefits from the program
Drinking water treatment, distribution	7.4	Gallons per year of water treated or distributed
Contains public education component	7.4	Estimated number of person-contacts per year
Non-point source pollution, reduce, manage, monitor	7.1	Gallons per year managed (reduced, treated, monitored) by the project
Fisheries restoration / protection	6.9	Acres of the watershed managed by the project
Removal invasive non-native species	6.3	Acres of watershed managed by project

For each benefit class, the project providing the most benefits (MAX) receives full points.

All other projects are then scored along a spectrum from MAX to Zero.

Each project competes in each benefit class for points.

Sum of points earned in each benefit class gives project score.

The Calculation

An example, four projects, one benefit class

Project #	Acres Managed	Proportion of MAX	Points Earned
1	120 (MAX)	100%	20
2	30	25%	5
3	12	10%	2
4	0	0%	0

An example, one project, all benefit classes

Test Project 1 - stormwater runoff to groundwater	Weighting	Earned Points	Subtotal
Water supply reliability, conservation, efficiency	9.2	16	147
Groundwater recharge and management	8.9	12	107
Reclaim water, treat and convey	8.5	0	0
Multipurpose flood & Stormwater (monitor, capture, storage, cleanup, treat, manage)	8.4	10	84
Watershed / ecosystem / wetland protection, restoration	7.7	10	77
Benefits to members of disadvantaged communities	7.7	4	31
Benefits large area of watershed	7.6	6	46
Drinking water treatment, distribution	7.4	0	0
Contains public education component	7.4	2	15
Non-point source pollution, reduce, manage, monitor	7.1	11	78
Fisheries restoration / protection	6.9	0	0
Removal invasive non-native species	6.3	0	0
		Total	585

Public Accountability

- Step 1: Submitted Projects
- Step 2: Rated and Ranked Projects

- “Let’s Connect” Initiative

- All submitted information, and the scoring, are publicly visible, encouraging dialog

Big & Not Big Projects

Proposed by the Pillar Chairs:

- 90/10 split of the available grant $
- Eligible projects with big grant requests (>=$500,000) compete against one another for the 90%
- Eligible projects with not big grant requests (<$500,000) compete against one another for the 10%

Caveats:

- 90/10 split of the dollars available in the PSP.
- NOT the same thing as the allocation (10%) that must benefit disadvantaged communities

What happens next?

SAWPA staff continue work on a project proposal submission tool.

Communications about the system, so stakeholders can begin quantifying their proposals.

With Draft PSP release, “Let’s Connect” workshop(s).

Call for Projects seeking Prop 1 Grants, released in-time with the Final PSP release.

Likely more “Let’s Connect” events during public review phases

Questions?

- Today, we talked about:
  - Changes to the 2016 Eligibility Policy by the OWOW SC
  - The collaboratively-built Rating & Ranking System
  - Big and Not Big Project grant support

Three recommended actions:

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Let's Connect!

One Water One Watershed Steering Committee Meeting

July 26, 2018

Let's Connect Initiative

Support engagement between stakeholders to develop or strengthen collaborative, multi-benefit projects

Timed to support development of Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant proposal from the region

How it will work: Phase 1

Open meeting where proponents of big ideas register to be at a table.

Proponents of smaller or less fleshed-out ideas register to “speed date” those at the tables.

SAWPA facilitates registration, and orchestrates the day.

How it will work: Phase 2

Parties who had a successful “speed date”

That wish to have additional facilitation or support

Will receive SAWPA staff support for follow-on dialog as requested

Sequence of grant-seeking

Questions?

It is recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee receive and file this report about the OWOW “Let’s Connect” initiative.