

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
PRELIMINARY FUNDING COMMITMENT (PFC)
CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM
FAAST PIN: 24672

RECIPIENT: SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT (SCCSD)

PROJECT TITLE: NOBLE GULCH TRUNK LINE RELOCATION (PROJECT)

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$6,237,013

TOTAL CBI GRANT REQUEST: \$1,559,016

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

AUTHORITY

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

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execute grant agreements and amendments to implement the proposed projects and utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects recommended by the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF), or augment the scope and budget of projects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

The Concept Proposal for this Project was submitted to FAAST on August 23, 2012. The CBTF met on October 22, 2012 and recommended this Project be invited to submit a detailed application. The applicant submitted a detailed application on February 20, 2013, and it has been determined to be complete. This PFC shall be posted on the State Water Board's internet website, and circulated to the CBTF for review and comment prior to the Deputy Director executing a grant agreement.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The Project will reduce human bacteria sources in Noble Gulch, Soquel Lagoon and Capitola Beach by: 1) constructing a new sewer line to replace the old leaky sewer line; 2) relocating it in an area where it can be accessed for proper maintenance; 3) sealing and abandoning the old sewer line, to minimize

disturbance to the riparian area; and 4) removing the old pump station at Carl Lane, which will reduce the chance of wet weather failure and spills.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Noble Gulch Trunk Line is a major sewer line serving a large portion of the City of Capitola and the unincorporated areas to the north and east. Up to 900,000 gallons/day flow into the sewer line toward the Capitola Pump Station. Past studies using ribotyping data, have shown the primary source of contamination for Capitola Beach is the Soquel Lagoon. These same studies also indicate that approximately 75% of the bacteria load originates within the urban areas near the mouth, and less than 25% of the load comes from upstream areas. The Noble Gulch drainage is located in this urban area and drains directly into Soquel Lagoon. A past hydraulic study on the existing sewer line determined the sewage collection system in Noble Gulch is leaking and a likely source for human bacteria contamination to Soquel Lagoon. An additional complication is caused by the sewer line's location in a densely vegetated riparian area with very steep banks, which severely limits maintenance activities. Therefore, the relocation of this leaking sewer line is the best solution to help control a known bacteria source that contributes to the contamination problem at Capitola Beach.

The Project will construct approximately 10,400 linear feet of sewer trunk line, including slip lining 1,900 feet of existing pipe, constructing 62 new manholes, abandoning and sealing the existing leaky sewer line, and abandoning one pump station in Noble Gulch. In addition, the new sewer line will be constructed in areas accessible for maintenance. The City of Capitola will grant an easement so that the line can be routed through city-owned property. A few additional easements will be required; however no right-of-way issues are expected.

The total eligible cost of the Project is \$6,237,013. SCCSD requested a CBI grant amount of \$1,559,016 for the Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

For California Environmental Quality Act compliance, SCCSD prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on May 21, 2008, which was amended on September 21, 2012, and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the County of Santa Cruz and the State Clearinghouse (SCH #2008042077) on October 5, 2012.

The IS/MND and the associated environmental documents provided an adequate disclosure of the environmental relationships of all water quality aspects of the Project. Mitigation measures will avoid or substantially reduce other potentially significant environmental impacts. The Project will not result in any significant adverse water quality impacts. For details on the mitigation measures, refer to the adopted addendum to the IS/MND, "Santa Cruz County Sanitation District Noble Gulch Sewer Improvement Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration" (September 21, 2012).

FISCAL IMPACT

As of July 1, 2012, the cumulative balance available for the CBI Grant Program funded by Propositions 40, 50, and 84 is:

July 1, 2012:	\$49,520,820
Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Approved PFCs:	-
Draft PFCs (proposed commitments):	-
Santa Cruz CSD - FFAST PIN 24672:	<u>\$1,559,016</u>
Funds Remaining for Future Commitments:	\$47,961,804

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

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

ROUTINE, NON-CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT

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

PUBLIC REVIEW

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

APPROVAL

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

Approve a Clean Beaches Initiative Grant Program Preliminary Funding Commitment of \$1,559,016 for SCCSD's Noble Gulch Trunk Line Relocation Project.

Elizabeth L. Haven, Deputy Director
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance

Date

Reviewed by:
Office of Chief Counsel
Date: