



# Media Release

## State Water Board Grants \$38.7 Million for Low Impact Development Projects

For Immediate Release

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May 16, 2014

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A Riverside County school district and a disadvantaged community in the Salinas Valley are among 27 recipients statewide that will receive a total of \$38.7 million in grants from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for Low Impact Development (LID) stormwater treatment projects.

LID projects are designed to use landscape features to capture stormwater and clean up pollutants. The projects should also prove to be effective drought response tools, with improved recharge of local groundwater helping to preserve local water supplies.

“These grant-funded projects highlight the practicality and benefits of LID approaches to stormwater management, while providing tangible water quality and supply benefits for all communities,” said State Water Board Chair Felicia Marcus. “Although small on an individual scale, collectively the projects will recharge California’s groundwater by several hundred acre-feet per year, while preventing hundreds of pounds of contaminants from reaching sensitive surface waters.”

Among the recipients are the city of Gonzales in Monterey County and the Nuvview Union School District in Riverside County.

The city of Gonzales will receive a \$460,180 grant and provide \$55,250 in matching funds for construction of 18 small-scale bioretention basins along the residential streets in the city’s Old Town area. The basins will reduce pollutant discharges to the Lower Salinas River by using landscape to capture stormwater, thereby recharging groundwater while cleaning up pollutants. The Lower Salinas River has more pollutant impairment listings than any water body in the Central Coast.

And, the Nuvview Union School District will receive a grant of \$648,284 and provide \$172,792 in matching funds for a stormwater infiltration project which will use hydrologic source controls, infiltration, and biotreatment best management practices (BMPs) to achieve 100 percent treatment and retention of stormwater onsite. The features include porous asphalt within parking stalls and lanes, infiltration trenches, and vegetated buffers, with overflow onto a play field for additional infiltration. The school’s BMP features are designed to be consistent with the Riverside County Stormwater Quality BMPs Handbook, Water Quality Management Plan Guidance document, and the Southern California LID Handbook.

The funding is being awarded through the Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program, managed by the State Water Board’s Division of Financial Assistance, as part of the second and final round of the Stormwater Grant Program funding. The 27 projects will leverage an additional \$16 million in local match for total project costs exceeding \$54 million.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



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A list of all 27 funded projects is available on DFA's Stormwater Grant Program website at:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/swgp/>

LID projects funded through this round of Proposition 84 stormwater grants include rain gardens, bioswales (landscape elements designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water), porous pavers, groundwater infiltration systems, dry wells, and other types of systems that will both reduce stormwater contamination and add to local groundwater supplies.

Proposition 84, passed by voters in 2006, provided the State Water Board with \$82 million for matching grants to local public agencies for the reduction and prevention of stormwater contamination of rivers, lakes, and streams. Over \$48 million in stormwater grant funds were awarded in the first funding round in 2012, including funding for planning and monitoring studies. The second round of grants is funded using the remaining \$34 million from Proposition 84 and additional funding from the Proposition 40 Urban Stormwater Program. This is the final round of Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program funding, which is now fully allocated.