

**REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
JUNE 10, 2026**

ITEM 8

SUBJECT

Division of Financial Assistance Update on Proposition 4 US-Mexico Border Grant Program (Riley Nolan)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Informational item only; no recommendation.

KEY ISSUE

Staff from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) will provide an update on the guidelines and solicitation process for the Proposition 4 US-Mexico Border Grant Program.

PRACTICAL VISION

Addressing water quality impairments from transboundary flows is one of the San Diego Water Board's highest priorities consistent with its Key Beneficial Uses and Key Areas approach, adopted in Chapter 1 of the Practical Vision.¹ The lower Tijuana River, Tijuana River Estuary, and the Region's nearshore coastal waters fall under the highest-ranking priority for water bodies with beneficial uses associated with recreation, habitats and ecosystems, and fish and shellfish consumption.

Chapter 4 of the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision cites pollution in the Tijuana River Valley and surrounding beaches as a significant environmental justice issue for the Region. Transboundary pollution in the San Diego-Tijuana region disproportionately impacts disadvantaged and underserved communities on both sides of the border.

Chapter 8 of the Practical Vision calls for the San Diego Water Board to provide effective community engagement and communication.

Proposition 4 presents a substantial funding opportunity to address water quality issues in the Region's binational water bodies. This informational item is an important step to promote community and stakeholder awareness as the solicitation process begins.

DISCUSSION

The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4) was approved by California voters in the general election on November 4, 2024. Among other funds, Proposition 4 provided \$50 million for grants to projects that will address water quality problems arising in the California-Mexico cross-border rivers and coastal waters. On April 21, 2026, the SWRCB adopted guidelines for the Proposition 4 US-Mexico Border Grant Program. The solicitation period for this funding is expected to begin in June 2026. The Final Adopted Guidelines and supporting information are posted on [DFA's Proposition 4 United States-Mexico Border Grant](#)

¹ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/practical_vision/

[Program website.](#)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The agenda notice for today's meeting was posted on the San Diego Water Board's website and sent to subscribers to the email list for Board meetings. This satisfies the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements to publish the meeting notice and agenda.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None.