

# **Fact Sheet**

## **Budget Act of 2021 – Drinking Water Infrastructure Appropriation**

#### Overview

The Budget Act of 2021 (Senate Bill 129 and Senate Bill 170) appropriated \$1.55 billion to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in item 3940-106-0001 (the Infrastructure Appropriation). The budget bill specifies that \$650 million (M) is for drinking water projects, with priority given to disadvantaged communities (DACs).

#### **Key Provisions:**

- Up to 5% for SWRCB administrative costs (leaves \$617.5 M for wastewater grants).
- Up to 10% may be utilized for technical assistance (TA) and capacity building in DACs.
- Must be encumbered by June 30, 2024.
- Must be liquidated by June 30, 2026.

#### **Drinking Water Grant Eligibility**

SWRCB Resolution No. 2021-0030, dated August 18, 2021:

- Authorized the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) to encumber up to \$100 M of the drinking water allocation from the Infrastructure Appropriation.
- This grant funding is awarded consistent with the eligibilities, conditions, and processes set forth in the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-22 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP).
- Any programmatic or project-specific funding cap set forth in the DWSRF IUP can be waived for the purposes of awarding the Infrastructure Appropriation Funds, as are several DWSRF cross-cutting compliance obligations.

Implementation Plan for remaining \$517.5 M available:

- DFA intends to rely on existing funding processes outlined in the DWSRF IUP as the basis for administering the drinking water infrastructure funds. Targeted amendments to the SFY 2021-22 DWSRF IUP are proposed, to streamline funding processes and maximize opportunities for eligible projects. Key next steps in the process include:
  - NEW Draft Implementation Plan posted for public comment January 6, 2022
    - Public Notice
    - Draft 2021-22 DWSRF IUP Amendments (Track Changes)
    - Draft 2021-22 DWSRF IUP Amendments (Clean Version)
  - o Board Workshop on Draft Implementation Plan January 20, 2022
  - SWRCB consideration of Implementation Plan March 15, 2022

### Summary of Past Stakeholder Meetings

- SAFER Advisory Group Meeting November 18, 2021
  - Presentation
  - Recorded Meeting (Starts at 4:24:00)
    - English
    - Spanish



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- o Large Drinking Water System Stakeholder Meeting November 19, 2021
  - Presentation
  - Recorded Meeting

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