

**Local Coastal Program
Sea Level Rise Grant Program
Frequently Asked Questions**

Can multiple eligible entities submit an application for a regional project?

Yes, multi-jurisdictional applications are acceptable (i.e., one entity submitting on behalf of several for a project that benefits them all). The application requires a resolution passed by the applicant (e.g., City Council, BOS) and we would at least need this for the submitting entity. For a regional application, we would also want a resolution from each of the entities who are part of the collaboration; if there is not time to get a resolution from each prior to the application due date, then send a letter signed by the Council/Board Chair with a draft resolution attached, indicating that such resolution will be provided in final form at the entity's subsequent meeting. Letters of support from other partnering entities are not required but may be submitted and could help demonstrate support and utility of a proposal.

Can joint applications for regional projects request more than the \$250K?

Multiple eligible entities could apply multiple times for the same project (for a collective cap that exceeds \$250k), or joint applications could apply for more than \$250K, but we anticipate that these grants will be very competitive and we reserve the right to award less funding than is requested based on all the applications we receive. We encourage entities to submit a joint application as described above.

Can an entity apply for more than one grant?

An eligible entity could apply multiple times for the different projects, if for example one application was on behalf of a regional effort and the second was for that city or counties specific LCP needs.

How should applications handle incorporating a regional assistance partner or private contractors?

These grants recognize that sea level rise adaptation will require collaboration and partnership with a variety of entities. Applicants may include partners in the project proposal as long as the applicant is not violating its own contracting/grant-making authorities.

Is there a certain time period in which the grant product must be completed?

Given the funding source we are using, ideally projects would be completed by April 2016.

Could the grant funds be used to purchase equipment that would allow for the further implementation of a climate change adaptation plan such as a tide gauge?

This grant program is focused on updating Local Coastal Programs (LCPs), and other plans authorized under the Coastal Act such as Port Master Plans, Long Range Development Plans and Public Works Plans (other Coastal Act authorized plans) to address sea-level rise and climate change impacts. The purpose of the grants is to deliver updated LCPs. There is nothing in the grant guidance that would prohibit a jurisdiction for applying for funds to purchase equipment but the applicant would have to make a very compelling case about how that purchase will lead to a change in an adopted LCP.

Is the existing round time-delimited? Is this an ongoing program?

We expect that there will be two grant rounds, with a second grant round next summer (2014). It will not be an on-going funding source and all projects (from both grant rounds) will need to be completed by April of 2016.

Can Caltrans or other state agencies (i.e. State Parks) be the grant applicant?

State entities could only be an applicant if they have a plan authorized under the Coastal Act (like a University Long Range Development Plan or a Public Works Plan) that they want to update or for the climate change component of a new comprehensive LRDP or PWP.

Can a jurisdiction without a certified LCP apply for the grant funds?

Proposals related to areas without a certified LCP must demonstrate that the process to complete the LCP is committed to or underway.

Does the LCP Sea Level Rise Grant Program cover the SF Bay?

The purpose of this grant is to assist local governments and other entities responsible for planning under the California Coastal Act. Grants are limited to areas within the Coastal Commission's jurisdiction.

Are there reporting requirements and if so what is the format/process?

Progress reports will be required as will a final report. Details of the reporting requirements will be finalized in the grant agreement and its work program and will be tailored to fit the project.

Are harbor districts, as distinguished from port districts (as per Harbors and Navigation Code), also eligible to apply for SLR grant funds to update their harbor plans?

Project specific amendments are not eligible, but if a Harbor District is updating or completing a comprehensive Public Works Plan that covers an entire harbor area and not a project-specific amendment or public works project it would be eligible for these grants. If the harbor is covered in a local jurisdiction's LCP then that entity would be the applicant

Will there be any grants available to assure that coastal access is accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities?

The purpose of this grant program is to encourage local governments and other entities responsible for planning under the Coastal Act to develop and adopt updated plans that conserve and protect coastal resources, including public accessways and recreation sites from future impacts from sea-level rise and related climate change impacts such as extreme weather events. Under grant criteria adopted by the Ocean Protection Council, site-specific projects are not eligible. Proposals that would update LCPs or LCP segments (or other coastal plans authorized by the Coastal Act such as public works plans) are eligible and could update, for example, the Public Access Component of such plans, to address sea level rise. Those applications could provide for improving and protecting public access accessibility for everyone, including people with disabilities, in addressing climate change impacts. Applicants can collaborate on proposals, but only coastal planning agencies may apply for grants; we encourage you to work with a local planning department interested in applying to the grant program.