

DELTA FLOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM

SECOND ROUND DRAFT GUIDELINES - PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) received no official comments during the 30 day public comment period held between May 1st and May 31st. The following are a list of discussion items recorded at the public workshop hosted by DWR during the comment period.

Discussion Topics from the Public Workshop at San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services on May 18, 2016

Organization	Topic	DWR Response
Kjeldsen, Sinnok, and Neudeck Engineering	Will the competitive grant come first before Directed Funding actions?	Yes. It is a goal of this grant program to award the advertised amount of approximately \$4.8 million in Proposition 1E funding through this Second Round Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP): a competitive grant process. It is highly likely that all funds will be awarded during this PSP. Directed Funding has been added to the Program Guidelines as a secondary option to provide flexibility to the award process. Utilizing this flexibility, DWR has the opportunity to provide funding to locally supported eligible work without having to wait for the next formal PSP process which could be scheduled one or two years out. Scenarios where Directed Funding action may be used include but are not limited to: (1)when additional funding becomes available for the program resulting from an awarded project being completed under budget, (2)additional funds become available for eligible project work that was submitted and reviewed under a competitive grant process but was unable to be funded due to lack of program funds, (3)additional funds become available for the program and local/regional support letters are received requesting a directed funding action, (4)DWR directs local agencies to receive funding by way of state flood fight materials, etc.

Yolo County Office of Emergency Services	If a competitive application doesn't get funded, do we need to resubmit an application for Directed proposal [Funding]?	No. The applicant does not need to resubmit the same application, as applications are kept on file at DWR. However, the applicant will need to fix issues/reasons why the application wasn't funded during the competitive review if any exist. The applicant would also benefit from providing additional support letters and a request for the previously submitted application to be reviewed for Directed Funding.
San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services SJC	If 3, 4, or more counties want to participate in an exercise, how do we apply for that? Should each county apply for their own piece or should one application be created together?	It should be noted that one of the major goals of this Grant Program is that local maintaining agencies are a primary beneficiary of the awarded funding. Any county level exercises would need to emphasize LMA participation and benefits in order to be funded. DWR's suggestion is that applicants apply for funding based on how each applicant/participant would want to contract with, invoice, and receive payment from DWR. DWR contracts directly with and sends payment directly to the lead applicant and not the participating agencies.
Kjeldsen, Sinnok, and Neudeck Engineering	Due to the fact that many maintenance agencies only meet annually, it is difficult to get letters of commitment during a short proposal solicitation period. Are the letters needed in order for the application to be considered?	Yes, the letters are required as part of a complete application. However, DWR understands this constraint and is flexible on when the letters of commitment come in. If they are submitted at some point during the application review period then that is acceptable. DWR does recommend submitting the letters as soon as possible because it will aid in the scoring and ranking of the application.
Yolo County Office of Emergency Services	Will DWR be lenient on boundaries of the Delta? Yolo County has 3 RD's that have areas falling outside of the legal Delta. In the previous round of grants, DWR allowed these areas to be included in the award.	DWR recommends that the areas be included in the application. The application will be reviewed similar to the first round process, scored, and ranked according to the Program Guidelines.
San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services	Pre-season Flood Fight Methods Courses: If the courses were conducted in the county, would the grant pay for salary/time of County and RD staff attending?	This is an eligible cost under the Program Guidelines. DWR recommends that this be included in the application and it will be reviewed, scored, and ranked against other eligible work.

Kjeldsen, Sinnok, and Neudeck Engineering	Is the Financial Plan just for the applicant only, not the other participants?	Yes. The primary purpose of this financial plan is to ensure that the lead agency has the funding available to finance portions of the project prior to DWR reimbursement. Projects awarded under this program are 100% State Funded; however, the funded is provided to the lead agency on a quarterly or monthly reimbursement basis. This means that the lead agency must have the capitol to pay costs upfront prior to being reimbursed by the state. This also includes costs related to work invoiced by participating agencies.
San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services	Instead of providing all the local plans in the applications, can we just provide a list and percent complete?	A list will be acceptable only if the plans have already been submitted to DWR Flood Operations in the past, as DWR keeps these plans on file. If the plans have not previously been filed with DWR Flood Operations, they need to be submitted with the application.
Yolo County Office of Emergency Services	When you say “regional” letters of support, what region or level are you referring to? If we get letters of support from Upper Mid Sac Region, or other regional planning areas, is that enough? What about regions outside the delta? What about Operational Areas?	The purpose of support letters is to show who each of the project beneficiaries are. DWR recommend that applicants collect as many support letters from their project beneficiaries as possible whether that includes regional planning area level support letters, operational area support letters, or letters from agencies outside the Delta. All submittals are welcome and will assist in the application review, scoring, and ranking process.
Kjeldsen, Sinnok, and Neudeck Engineering	Can retention be released for a specific task when the task is completed?	Yes. For this to occur, the lead agency must formally request this on the invoice cover sheet and must submit all deliverables for that task. The deliverables must be reviewed by DWR prior to the retention release.
San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services	Is it possible for DWR assist with facilitating a meeting or collaboration between Counties and Operational Areas? There has been difficulty getting counties to coordinate on work such as exercises.	DWR will set aside some time following the next quarterly Delta Working Group meeting on June 7, 2016 for counties to meet and discuss potential projects for this grant program.