

September 19, 2008

Name
Title
City
Address1
Address2

Dear Mr.:

Invitation to Apply to Receive Funding for a Water Conservation Program

West Basin Municipal Water District (District) is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for your city. The District has been awarded a grant from the Metropolitan Water District's competitive grant program for its **Zero Runoff Street Median Water Conservation Program**. This Program provides up to \$10,000 per street median that is retrofitted to reduce water use by 50% and water runoff by 100%.

The District invites your City to apply to the District through this competitive grant process to receive funding to retrofit your city's street medians. Since this is a **pilot** program, funding is limited. There will be two rounds of funding; in Fiscal Years 2008-09 and 2009-10. Applications for the first round are due **December 12, 2008**. Please refer to the Grant Guidelines and Application Form enclosed with this letter for program details. Applications will be reviewed by a panel and the results will be announced in late December 2008.

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact the project manager Leighanne Reeser at (310) 660-6225 or leighanner@westbasin.org or myself. We look forward to receiving your applications and helping to conserve water and reduce runoff throughout our service area.

Sincerely,

Rich Nagel
General Manager



Grant Program Available

for Cities within West Basin Municipal Water District's Service Area

Program Summary:

This pilot program provides funding for the replacement of existing street medians that are wasting water and causing water runoff. Water efficient street medians are designed to reduce water use by at least 50% and water runoff by 100%. This program proposes the replacement of existing street medians with any of the following components: artificial turf, porous cover, native and/or drought tolerant plants, drip irrigation, or Smart Irrigation Controllers.



Eligibility:

Those eligible to apply for funding through this program are the 17 cities within West Basin's service area. (See Map on reverse)

Funding:

Up to 50% of the costs may be awarded, but no more than \$10,000 per applicant. There will be two rounds of funding, in FY 2008-09 and 2009-10. Therefore, if a project is not awarded in the first round of funding, there will be an opportunity to apply in the second round of funding.

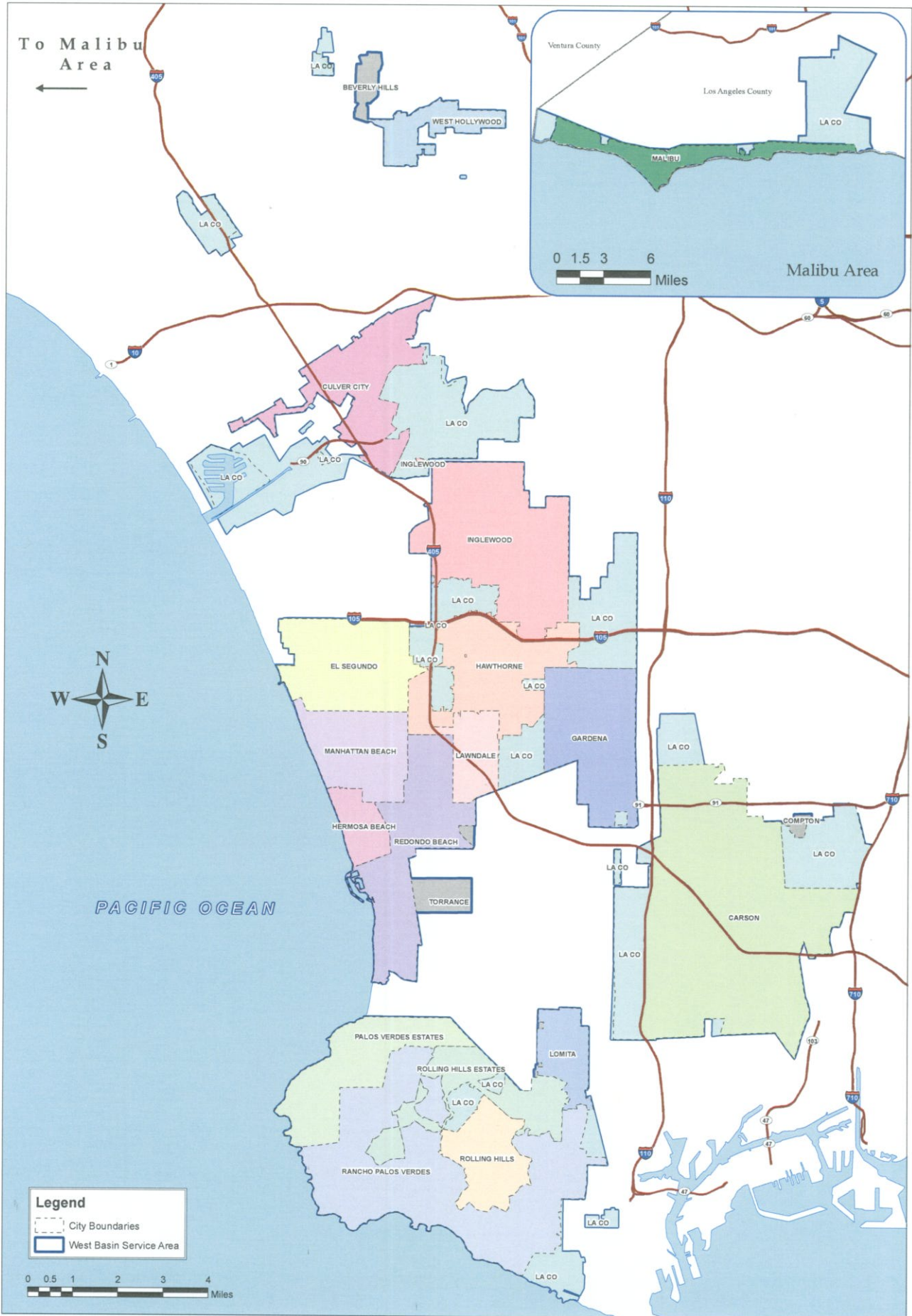
Due Date:

December 12, 2008

For questions about the program, contact Leighanne Reeser at 310-660-6225 or leighanner@westbasin.org.



West Basin Municipal Water District Service Area





West Basin Municipal Water District's Zero-Runoff Street Median Water Conservation Program

Grant Guidelines

Program Summary: This pilot program provides funding for the replacement of existing street medians that are wasting water and causing water runoff. Water efficient street medians are designed to reduce water use by at least 50% and water runoff by 100%. This program proposes the replacement of existing street medians with any of the following components: artificial turf, porous cover, native and/or drought tolerant plants, drip irrigation, or Smart Irrigation Controllers.

Eligibility: Those eligible to apply for funding through this program are the 17 cities within West Basin's service area.

Funding: Up to 50% of the costs may be awarded, but no more than \$10,000 per applicant. There will be two rounds of funding, in FY 2008-09 and 2009-10. Therefore, if a project is not awarded in the first round of funding, there will be an opportunity to apply in the second round of funding. Applications not funded in the first round of funding will have an opportunity to reapply in the second round of funding with the same project if so desired. In order to create a fair and competitive process, the applications not awarded in the first round of funding will not automatically be carried over into the second round of funding. They must be resubmitted to the District to be considered.

Application Components: The applicant must provide all of the documents listed below in order to be considered for funding.

- Application Form (three-pages)
- Design (3-5 pages)
 - Blueprint/conceptual design
 - Photos (3-5) of current site
 - Listing of plant palette to be used in Project
- Schedule for completion (project must be completed within 6-8 months of award date) (one-page)
- Maintenance Plan (one-page)

Conditions:

- Any of the 17 cities within West Basin's service area would be eligible to apply for funding.
- Project must be located within West Basin's service area to be eligible.
- Project site must currently use potable water for irrigation.
- Projects are not eligible if the site is currently receiving recycled water for irrigation.
- However, if the site has the capability to connect to recycled water for irrigation and the city is pursuing this, these projects will be favored. (Although the Program will not provide funding for the retrofit for connecting to recycled water).

- Project must show current water use of the site, projected water savings and projected runoff reduction (described in application form).
- Applicant may apply for more than one street median. It is the discretion of the review panel how many projects are awarded per applicant.
- Funding can be used for:
 - Artificial Turf
 - Drip Irrigation
 - Native Plants
 - Porous Materials
 - Smart Irrigation Controller
 - Signage/Information
 - Other materials not listed that can demonstrate water savings and/or urban runoff reduction
- Funding will not include the cost of the design or labor.
- The Project must include at least one visible sign on the street median acknowledging the funding entities (West Basin and MWD). The applicant will be required to coordinate with West Basin on the sign to be used and receive approval prior to installation.
- The proposed project must have a minimum of 50% reduction in water use. Projects with higher reductions in water use will be given preference.
- 50% of the funding will be provided upon approval of the application and the remaining 50% upon project completion, assuming the project was implemented according to the application or if there were changes made, they must be approved by West Basin.

Criteria:

The criteria and the associated point value that will be used to evaluate each application include the following:

➤ **AMOUNT OF WATER SAVINGS (70 Points)**

- Project must demonstrate water savings through calculations that address the following:
 - Monthly water use before project (average of one-year water use, from water bills or meter).
 - After project completion, expected monthly water use and runoff to be reduced.
 - Reduction in water use by at least 50%.
 - 100% runoff reduction.
 - The project design must include elements that save at least 50% of the current water usage and reduce urban runoff (if applicable).

➤ **PROJECT DESIGN (20 points)**

- **Irrigation System**
 - Irrigation system is appropriate for design and plant palette. The Smart Irrigation Controller delivers proper quantity of water based on evapotranspiration data available by area. The Controller program adjusts to reflect growing and resting cycles of plants.
 - Drip irrigation is encouraged.
- **Plant Palette**

- If incorporating native plants in the design, the plant palette must be locally appropriate and may feature both native plants and drought tolerant types.
- Refer to Metropolitan’s BeWaterWise website at www.bewaterwise.com for plant types.
- **Urban Runoff (if applicable)**
 - The project design may include the following runoff mitigation features:
 - Permeable cover
 - Cisterns to collect runoff for reuse in landscaping
 - Bioswales that prevent runoff

➤ **PROJECT BUDGET (5 Points)**

- Application includes a detailed project budget using the table shown on the Form.
- Explain funding that has been secured, as well as in-kind services from city departments or otherwise.
- The budget will be weighted according to the scale of the site.

➤ **MAINTENANCE PLAN (5 points)**

- Present a one page explanation of the maintenance plan for the street median, including a schedule that reflects a working understanding of the native plants (if applicable) and a plan for ongoing maintenance of the site.

There are a total of 100 points available to be scored per project.

Project Completion:

Upon project completion, final photos of the street median must be submitted along with the final invoice for payment. In addition, water usage up to a year after project completion may be requested by the District to monitor water savings for reporting purposes.

Application Review:

Each application will be reviewed by a panel of representatives consisting of staff from West Basin, Metropolitan and other landscape experts as necessary. The panel will review each application for meeting the eligibility and criteria requirements and submitting a completed application package. The review panel may make recommendations on the site designs such as combining or switching out certain elements. The funding is conditional upon the implementation of the recommendations by the review panel.

Due Date:

The applications are due on **December 12, 2008** by 3pm. Applications should be addressed to:

**Leighanne Reeser
Water Resources Planner
West Basin Municipal Water District
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210
Carson, CA 90746**

Please submit five (5) hard copies of the application as well as e-mailing the application to Leighanne Reeser at leighanner@westbasin.org. Applications received after the date and time listed above will not be accepted or considered for the first round of funding. Questions should be directed to Leighanne Reeser via e-mail or by phone at (310) 660-6225.

Application Form

Applicant

Name of City:

Mailing Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Schedule

Start Date:

End Date:

Project

Project Name:

Project Location (cross streets):

City:

Zip Code:

Project Administrator (staff person administering the project and the contact person for the application)

Name:

Phone:

Title:

E-Mail:

Description of Project

Approximate size of the street median (Dimensions):

Existing elements of the street median (i.e.; 70% hardscape, turf, sprinklers, etc.):

Proposed new elements of the street median:

Current Monthly Water Use of Site (average of one-year, in AF/year)*:

Expected Monthly Water Use After Project Completion*:

Proposed Reduction of Water Runoff (estimated percentage):

* Please show calculations for the two figures with asterisks above. (A separate sheet of paper may be attached.)