



Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications
Committee

Update on Community Partnering Program

Item 7c
June 12, 2023

Program Overview

Community Partnering Program

Overview

- History
- Objectives
- Criteria
- Resources
- Outcomes
- Looking forward



Creating Opportunity

Over Two Decades of Success

Program History Highlights

- Launched in 2000, competitive program
 - Improve coordination and evaluation for funding of special events, sponsorships, education grants, research grants, and memberships in community organizations
- 2003 – designated funding for native plant heritage gardens
- 2005 – narrowed scope, implemented year-round application period
- 2010 – limited to \$2,000 per sponsorship
- 2021 – implemented online application process

Objectives

- Promote water conservation and water-use efficiency through community-based and educational organizations
- Foster community engagement through water stewardship



Engaging Diverse Communities

Building Water Awareness

No One Left Behind
We Are One



Supports GM's Strategic Priority

- Strategic Priority #5: PARTNER
- PARTNER Goals
 - Grow and deepen collaboration and relationships
 - Reach underserved communities and non-traditional interested parties

Eligibility

Program Sponsorships



Criteria

- Community-based non-profit organizations, educational institutions and public agencies
- Eligible projects:
 - Native plant and California Friendly® gardens and signage
 - Water-related educational outreach programs such as community forums, workshops and water festivals
 - Water-themed curriculum and supplies for K-12
 - After-school programs
 - Exhibits, promotional materials

Resources

Program Budget

FY 2022 /23,
2023/24

- Current program budget
 - \$140,000 per year
 - \$2,000 per sponsorship
- Staff support: attendance/exhibit booths at some events, administration, social media, further engagement with organizations to build long-term partnerships

Program Sponsorships

Value

- ## Outcomes
- Diverse and sustainable outreach program
 - Projects or events with a strong water conservation, water supply or education theme
 - Helps ease financial obstacles to implementation
 - Creates long lasting engagement



Building Relationships

Making an Impact

Outcomes

- Native and California Friendly[®] educational gardens
- Earth Day and California Friendly[®] garden events
- Community Forums
- Watershed workshops for youth



[Science Day 2023.mp4](#)

Looking Forward

Sustainability | Resilience | Innovation

FY 2023-24

- Program update for FY 2023/24
- Maintain Board-approved budget of \$140,000
 - Increase sponsorship to \$3,000 effective 7/1/2023
 - Create pilot with criteria driven by SRI initiatives
 - Two \$10,000 awards for new projects with board approval

