

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
LCP PLANNING
GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT &
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
MARCH 28, 2016**

The California Coastal Commission is pleased to announce the availability of Round 3 grant funding to support local governments to develop or update their Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) pursuant to the California Coastal Act and with special emphasis on addressing impacts from climate change and sea level rise. The grant application form is available here:

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcp/lcpgrantprogram.html>.

Grant applications are due by **May 20, 2016 at 5 pm.**

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PURPOSE OF GRANTS

The purpose of these grants is to support local governments in developing new LCPs for certification in areas that are not currently certified, or updating existing certified LCPs to reflect new information and changed conditions, especially in light of the effects of climate change, in a manner fully consistent with the policies of the California Coastal Act. LCP completions and updates that include policies and implementing ordinances that address sea-level rise and other climate change impacts will be given special consideration.



Commission staff is available to work with local governments and to assist during the application process. For staff contact information, please see page 9.

BACKGROUND

The LCP Program is an essential component of the California Coastal Act. LCPs implement the statewide goals and policies of the Coastal Act at the local level and are required by the Coastal Act for each coastal jurisdiction. LCPs must specify the kind, location, and intensity of land uses, the applicable resource protection and development policies and implementing ordinances, and must be developed with the widest opportunity for public participation. LCPs and LCP updates are developed by local governments, and, once certified by the Commission, the local government assumes responsibility for issuance of most coastal development permits pursuant to the certified LCP. The Commission retains some continuing permit authority and authority to hear appeals of some local coastal permits acted on by local government.

Goal 4 of the Commission's adopted Strategic Plan¹ is to strengthen the LCP Program. One important way to do this is to complete the certification of LCPs. While most of the coast (approximately 85% of the geographic area) is governed by a certified LCP, there are some remaining uncertified areas. When these areas become certified, local government will assume responsibility for issuing most coastal development permits in these areas. This will allow local government more control and input with respect to coastal regulation, while at the same time allowing the Commission to focus more resources on assisting with matters of statewide significance and oversight, including with respect to ongoing review and coordination with local governments on LCP updates and implementation.

In addition to the areas that are not yet certified, many of the LCPs that were certified in the 1980s and 1990s are out of date and would benefit from updating to reflect changed conditions, new information and knowledge, and new programs and policies, especially those related to climate change and sea-level rise. Updated LCPs provide more certainty for economic development and enable stronger coastal resource protection in light of current environmental conditions and other factors.

Financial assistance has been, and will continue to be, a critical way to assist local governments in their coastal planning. Such financial assistance can serve as an incentive for local governments to undertake such planning work. However, with available funds limited, it is essential that the Commission gives emphasis to producing the most value for these funds. The proposals for these LCP grant funds will require a complete work program, benchmarks and a schedule for completion of the LCP planning work. The Commission will review and approve the recommended award of any grant funds, and the proposed work programs will be part of that

¹ California Coastal Commission, Strategic Plan 2013-2018, Approved April 2013. See: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/strategicplan/spindex.html>



future action. Thus, as proposed, this grant program will facilitate the completion and update of LCPs consistent with the provisions of the Coastal Act and California Code of Regulations.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Applications are due May 20, 2016. Application packets must be RECEIVED by 5 pm, May 20, 2016. Applications must be emailed or mailed; faxed responses will not be considered.

If the governing body of an applicant cannot adopt a resolution similar to Attachment A of the application by this date, the applicant can submit the proposal with a draft resolution, provide a date for when the governing body will consider adoption of the resolution and **submit the adopted resolution by 5 pm, June 10, 2016**. All other materials must be submitted by the May 20, 2016 deadline. Applications will not be deemed complete until an adopted resolution is received. **Applications that do not contain a final, adopted resolution by 5 pm, June 10, 2016 will not be considered for funding.**

The Commission will likely award grants in July or August of 2016.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The grant application must include the Application Form, Project Description, Work Program, Budget, Schedule, and a resolution from the applicant's governing body (either adopted or noting when adoption will occur). The application form can be downloaded here: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcp/lcpgrantprogram.html>. A sample resolution is available in Attachment A of the Application Form.

Please submit the completed application form, including all attachments, via email to LCPGrantProgram@coastal.ca.gov. Submit all application materials in a single PDF file AND submit the Project Description, Work Program, Budget, and Schedule as a Word document. If you are unable to submit via email, you may mail a CD and hard copy to:

Daniel Nathan
LCP Grants Assistant
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415)-904-5251

Please note: all information that you submit is subject to the unqualified and unconditional right of the State of California to use, reproduce, publish, or display it, free of charge. All documents



submitted will be considered a public record upon submittal. Please indicate if credit is requested for any photos and/or maps.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

A complete grant application package will consist of the following materials:

1. The signed **Application Form**.
2. A **Project Description** (written in 12-point font) of no more than 5-7 pages, single-spaced, including the following information, organized under subheadings to describe how the proposed project will address the grant priorities and criteria:
 - (a) The **goals and objectives** of your project, how you will accomplish each objective, and how your objectives will accomplish your goals. (Objectives should be simple, understandable and as specific and measurable as possible).
 - (b) **Project details**, including a specific description of how the project will be carried out, including specific plans for community outreach and **how the project will address grant priorities and criteria** (see page 6). Also, please include a **description of the factors that will ensure the successful completion** and implementation of the project.
 - (c) **Information on the need for the requested funding**, including a description of any other resources that are available and/or that will be applied to the project. If the project is expected to continue beyond the end of this grant term, explain the longer-term funding plan.
3. A **Work Program, Budget and Schedule** for the project, with benchmarks for reporting. (Bear in mind that work must be completed by September 28, 2018.) Please include:
 - a. Description of tasks, cost of tasks, products and schedule; and
 - b. Description of any applicable work product benchmark and projected status reports. (See the sample Application Budget Form.)
4. A **Resolution from the applicant's governing body** that contains the following authorizations: 1) authority to submit the proposal, 2) authority to enter into a grant agreement with the California Coastal Commission if the grant is awarded, and 3) designation of the applicant's authorized representative (name and title). Resolutions should also contain clear statements of commitment to full completion of the intended grant process, including submission of applicable LCP products (LCP submittal or amendment) to the Commission for review.

GRANT AMOUNTS

A total of \$3,000,000 is available for awards through this competitive grant program for Round 3. There are no established minimum or maximum grant amounts. Based on prior grant experience, we expect the applications to range in amount from \$50,000 to \$300,000 and that the number and total dollar amount of the applications will exceed the available funds. Awards may be offered for less than an applicant requests.



ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Local governments in the coastal zone are the only eligible applicants. These grants are intended to provide assistance to local governments responsible for developing and amending Local Coastal Programs under the Coastal Act. Local governments in the coastal zone that have received prior LCP Local Assistance grants are eligible to apply for this round of grants to continue their work on LCP certification. Other entities with authority for developing and amending other plans under the Coastal Act, such as Port Master Plans, Public Works Plans or University Long Range Development Plans are not eligible.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Pursuant to the Commission's LCP Grant Program adopted priorities [see <http://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2013/8/W31b-8-2013.pdf>], projects may include:

- Completion, or continuation from previous grant round, of land use plan and/or zoning work to achieve certification of a Local Coastal Program (LCP) or an Area of Deferred Certification (ADC) resulting in the new transfer of coastal development permit authority to the local government in these areas;
- Planning and/or zoning work to significantly update certified LCPs or LCP segments in whole or in part to reflect changed conditions, new information and scientific knowledge, new programs and policies, or other significant changed circumstances.
- LCPs and Updates that address the effects of climate change, such as sea-level rise, will be given special consideration.
- Completion of updated resource studies or other potential components needed to complete an LCP submittal or LCP amendment may only be eligible if they are part of an LCP Amendment or submittal that otherwise ranks high on the criteria for grant awards, such as a high likelihood of success to address an important coastal resource issue or set of issues.

Project-specific LCP Amendments are not eligible for these grants unless such proposals will result in certification or update of a complete LCP segment or certification of an LCP for a complete Area of Deferred Certification.



PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

APPLICATION REVIEW

Completed proposals received by May 20, 2016 will be evaluated by a committee of Commission staff. Proposals lacking final adopted resolutions will be reviewed, but will not be considered for funding absent submittal of a final, adopted resolution by June 10, 2016. As a competitive grant program, Commission staff will review and evaluate the applications based on the project's relative significance and how well it meets the Selection Criteria stated below. Commission staff will prepare a listing of all applications received and recommendations for award of grants to the Coastal Commission for review and action at a public hearing, most likely in July or August 2016. Applicants may be contacted to provide additional information during the review process. Commission staff may seek assistance in evaluating the proposals from individuals and/or technical experts with pertinent expertise from other governmental agencies.

The level of funding that staff will recommend to the Commission for a particular award will be determined by evaluating the grant requests against other considerations including:

- the amount of available grant funds (\$3,000,000) and the number of competing proposals;
- the sequence of tasks and likelihood of timely completion of the work program;
- the necessity of each task; and,
- the reasonableness of costs proposed for specific tasks.

The Commission will base the size of the recommended award on each project's needs, its overall benefits, and the extent of competing demands for funds.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications for Round 3 LCP planning grants will be evaluated for their ability to complete or update an LCP. Projects selected for funding will be those that best meet the Commission's following adopted criteria:

◆ Public Benefit/Significance

The Commission will consider the extent to which the proposed LCP planning effort will address issues of statewide significance and maximize public benefits of the coast. These can include: preserving and enhancing coastal habitat; protecting, providing, and enhancing public access; protecting priority land uses such as agriculture, coastal dependent development, or recreation; protecting and providing lower cost visitor and recreational opportunities; and addressing climate change and sea-level rise. Provisions for public participation must be a part of the work program.

◆ Relative Need for LCP Update/Extent of Update

The Commission will consider the relative need for an LCP update, considering the length of time since an LCP or LCP segment has been updated and the significance of the issues proposed to be updated. In addition, the extent or scope of an update is an important consideration, with higher priority being placed on proposed updates of greater extent/scope, such as a complete LCP update, or an update that results in comprehensive updating of one or more policy areas or a



geographic sub-area. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate how the proposed project will be effective in conserving and protecting coastal resources, and how the proposed project builds upon or complements existing efforts that may be underway or completed for their local jurisdiction.

◆ **Addressing the Effects of Climate Change**

Climate change is one of the most significant policy areas to emerge since many LCPs have been certified. The Commission is seeking LCP development and updates that address the effects of climate change, including sea-level rise and other coastal hazards, as well as other issue areas affected by climate change, such as changes in habitat, fire hazards, and transportation and land use policy to facilitate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles travelled. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address this policy area and that encompass the best available science on sea-level rise. In particular, applicants should consider the recommendations presented in the [State of California Sea-Level Rise Guidance](#), and the Coastal Commission's adopted [Sea-Level Rise Policy Guidance](#).

◆ **Likelihood of Success/Effectiveness**

An applicant will need to specifically explain how this grant will support development, or update of an LCP. The applicant should describe the complete planning process, steps or mechanisms for coordination with the Coastal Commission, and how this grant would advance that process. Applicants should provide a detailed timeline for implementation of the project and identify the specific elements of their LCP that they expect to update through this work. If your jurisdiction previously received LCP grant funds but are not yet certified, please explain why current circumstances make the success of this planning effort more likely. The Commission will consider the likelihood of success of each proposal, including evaluating the practicality, feasibility, and effectiveness of a proposed work program that may lead to successful implementation.

Proposals should address the mechanisms for coordination with the public and with the Coastal Commission, and provide for practicable benchmarks for LCP amendment development and review. Other material in support of these criteria may include resolutions of intent and endorsement for the proposed work, matching funds or other complementary efforts (see below), that may signal broad support for the planning effort and that may affect the likelihood that an LCP amendment will be successfully completed. Applicants will be asked to describe any LCP and related planning work that has been initiated or is already underway at the local level and how this grant program is needed to substantially further that effort.

For new LCP development, the local government should demonstrate its willingness and capacity to assume local coastal development permit processing. Some areas of the coastal zone remain uncertified because the Commission and local government have been unable to reach agreement on the resolution of issues, or an issue is particularly intractable. When reviewing applications, the Commission will consider the likelihood that such areas and specific policy questions can be successfully addressed, leading to certification of the area.



◆ **Workload**

The Commission will consider the level of existing permit workload generated by uncertified jurisdictions and thus the relative statewide benefits of certification of any particular jurisdiction.

◆ **Project Integration/Leverage/Matching Funds**

Grant amounts will be limited and the ability to leverage other resources, provide matching funds or commit significant in-kind resources that could help support a comprehensive LCP certification effort or update will be considered. The Commission will consider the relationship of the LCP work program to other planning work being undertaken by the jurisdiction. Applicants will be asked to describe any other related grants awarded or applied for (such as through the Ocean Protection Council, Coastal Conservancy or the Strategic Growth Council) that may support the LCP planning work and any availability and amount of local matching funds. Applicants will need to demonstrate their capacity to achieve the proposed work, including identifying key staff and other resources that will be committed to the project. However, the matching funds criteria may be waived for communities that demonstrate hardship. Such communities should explain the circumstances for such consideration.

COMMISSION APPROVAL OF GRANT AWARDS

Projects recommended for funding are subject to Coastal Commission approval. Project funding will not be available until after approval of the grant award by the Commission at a noticed public meeting, and upon the execution of a grant agreement between the Commission and the grantee. The earliest possible Commission meeting at which awards will be considered is July 2016.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

1. **Commission.** The Coastal Commission will draft and execute the grant agreements and review, approve and process invoices under the grant agreements. The Commission will also appoint an LCP grants project representative to function as the main point of contact for grantees.
2. **Grantee.** The grantee must assume responsibility for administering the project, including: employing any necessary staff or consultants, maintaining complete accounting and time records, and providing fiscal management. The grantee must designate a project director. The project director may be a staff member of the applicant agency or an elected official. The project director will be the main point of contact for the Commission and will be responsible for reviewing and signing the work products prepared as part of the program. If awarded a grant, all contracts with the state, and any subcontract under the grant, must comply with all provisions of the State Public Contract Code, State Administrative Manual, and the State Contracting Manual.
3. **Payment.** Grant funds will **not** be available in advance of expenditures. Expenses will be **paid in arrears** no more than once per month upon submission of an approved invoice by



the grantee. Reimbursement will be dependent upon successful completion of work benchmarks detailed in the grant agreement. Based on work program and budget, grant reimbursements may be made up to 80% of the grant award pending final completion of the grant agreement.

4. **Schedule.** Work must be completed by September 28, 2018.

HELPFUL RELATED MATERIALS

The California Coastal Act and California Code of Regulations may be accessed from the Coastal Commission website at: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccatc.html#otherlegislation>

Information on Updating the LCP can be reviewed at: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/la/landx.html>

Information on LCP status and history can be reviewed at: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcps.html>

For information on grants awarded during the FY 2013-2014 and FY 2014-2015 award cycle, visit: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcp/lcpgrantprogram.html>

QUESTIONS

Coastal Commission staff are pleased to assist local governments during preparation of LCP grant applications. Please send questions on the grant application process to **Daniel Nathan, LCP Grants Assistant, via email at LCPGrantProgram@coastal.ca.gov, (415) 904-5251.** Questions regarding the LCP process and update approach should be directed to the relevant Coastal Commission district contact person, via phone or email. LCP Grant contacts for the district offices are listed below.

LCP GRANT DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

North Coast (Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino Counties)

- Alison Dettmer, Deputy Director
Email: Alison.Dettmer@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (415) 904-5200
- Bob Merrill, District Manager
Email: Bob.Merrill@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (707) 826-8950

North Central Coast (Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo Counties)

- Dan Carl, Deputy Director
Email: Dan.Carl@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (831) 427-4863
- Nancy Cave, District Manager
Email: Nancy.Cave@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (415) 904-5260



Central Coast (Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Luis Obispo Counties)

- Dan Carl, Deputy Director
Email: Dan.Carl@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (831) 427-4863
- Susan Craig, District Manager
Email: Susan.Craig@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (831) 427-4863

South Central Coast (Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, and the Malibu portion of Los Angeles Counties)

- Steve Hudson, Deputy Director
Email: Steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (805) 585-1800
- Barbara Carey, District Manager
Email: Barbara.Carey@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (805) 585-1800

South Coast (Los Angeles (except Malibu) and Orange Counties)

- Sherilyn Sarb, Deputy Director
Email: Sherilyn.Sarb@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (562) 590-5071
- Teresa Henry, District Manager
Email: Teresa.Henry@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (562) 590-5071

San Diego (San Diego County)

- Sherilyn Sarb, Deputy Director
Email: Sherilyn.Sarb@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (619) 767-2370
- Deborah Lee, District Manager
Email: Deborah.Lee@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (619) 767-2370

ALTERNATE CONTACT

Madeline Cavalieri, Manager, LCP Grants
Email: Madeline.Cavalieri@coastal.ca.gov, Phone: (831) 427-4863