



URBAN
GREENING
BAY AREA

Obstacles to Funding Sustainable Streets

Bay Area Stormwater
Management Agencies Association



Regional Roundtable
March 28, 2017

Outline

- Key issue – funding “silos”
- Ineligible costs
- Match requirements
- Funding cycles
- Grant periods
- Scoring of cost effectiveness
- Grant administration



Source: Wikimedia Commons (Author Author
Rodrigo Moraes)

Key Issue: Funding Silos

- Each funding agency operates its own program(s)
- Coordination with other agencies may not be needed



Ineligible Costs – Project Type

- Some transportation grants don't allow green infrastructure
- Some resources sector grants may not allow bicycle/pedestrian facilities
- Sometimes this is programmatic policy, sometimes legislative



Ineligible Costs – Project Activities

- One grant may not cover all project phases, such as:
 - Planning
 - Design
 - Administration/coordination
 - Construction
 - Monitoring
 - Maintenance



Matches for Multiple Grants – Funding Source

- Restrictions on source of matching funds
 - For example, federal, state, or local
 - Some transportation grants combine federal and state funds



Matches for Multiple Grants – Project Elements

- Restrictions on project element funded by match
 - Can funding of transportation element serve as match for resources sector grant?
 - Can funding of green infrastructure serve as match for transportation grant?



Funding Cycles Not Coordinated

- Funding cycles are not coordinated
 - Within the resources sectors
 - Across sectors
- Leads to opportunistic funding of projects
 - Does a project have the right level of design?
 - Does another grant happen to be available?



Grant Periods May Not Align

- Issue for projects with multiple grants
- Delays may result due to
 - Getting a new grant
 - Change of scope under existing grant
- Ability to obtain grant extensions may not be well described in solicitations



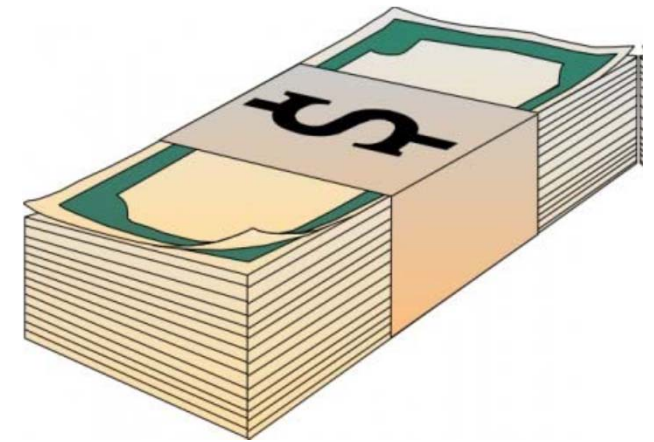
Scoring of Cost Effectiveness

- Transportation grants look at the **most cost-effective solution** to provide the transportation benefit
- A transportation project that adds green infrastructure **would not score as well** as one without



Grant Administration – Applications

- Cost of resources to
 - Track grant opportunities
 - Apply for multiple, often complex grants
 - Package same project for grants with different criteria
- Risk of losing grant if other applications are unsuccessful



Grant Administration – Tracking/Reporting

- Separate record-keeping and reporting for each grant
- Support audits on multiple grants
- May require separate contracts for different elements of one project



Roundtable Discussion

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