Potential Solutions to Funding Obstacles for Sustainable Streets

Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association

Regional Roundtable
March 28, 2017
Outline

- Integration is key
- Modify eligibility criteria
- Coordinate match requirements
- Coordinate regarding funding cycles
- Advertise maximum grant periods
- Broaden scoring criteria
- Coordinate on grant administration
Integration is Key

- Siloed approach to funding is fundamental obstacle
- Can more grants fund both active transportation AND green infrastructure?
- If not, there are other integrated approaches
Modify Eligibility Criteria - Programmatic

- **Obstacle** - Transportation grants don’t allow green infrastructure

- **Solution** - Modify eligibility criteria
  - Prioritize or provide points for green infrastructure
  - Consider integrating funding sources for single distribution
Modify Eligibility Criteria - Programmatic

- **Obstacle** - Urban greening grants don’t allow transportation facilities

- **Solution** - Modify eligibility criteria
  
  - Prioritize or provide points for active transportation
  
  - Consider integrating funding sources for single distribution
Modify Eligibility Criteria - Programmatic

- **Obstacle** - One grant may not cover all project phases
- **Solution** - Modify eligibility criteria
  - Allow flexibility in grants for all necessary activities and complex projects
Modify Eligibility Criteria - Legislative

- **Obstacle** - Transportation grants don’t allow green infrastructure; urban greening grants don’t allow transportation facilities

- **Solution - Modify eligibility criteria**
  - Look at what is needed for legislative fixes
Coordinate Match Requirements - Programmatic

- Obstacle - Restrictions on source of matching funds (federal, state) or project elements funded by the match

- Solution - Coordinate match requirements among funding agencies
  - Agencies jointly establish match
  - Resource agencies establish standard local match similar to transportation grants
Coordinate Match Requirements - Legislative

- **Obstacle** - Restrictions on source of matching funds (federal, state) or project elements funded by the match

- **Solution** - Coordinate match requirements among funding agencies
  - Look at what is needed for legislative fixes
Coordinate Regarding Funding Cycles

- **Obstacle** - Funding cycles are not coordinated

- **Solution** - Coordinate regarding funding cycles
  - Database of grants and upcoming solicitations, including funding source, match requirements, etc.
  - Coordinate among agencies to time the release of solicitations
Advertise Maximum Grant Periods

- Obstacle - Ability to obtain grant extensions not described in solicitations

- Solution - Advertise maximum grant periods
  - Include in the solicitation a description of extensions that may be available
Broaden Scoring Criteria

- **Obstacle** - Transportation grants look at the most cost-effective solution to provide the transportation benefit

- **Solution** - Broaden scoring criteria
  Prioritize green infrastructure, allowing alternative project designs that provide more benefits than just transportation
Coordinate on Grant Application Process

- **Obstacle** - Cost of resources to apply for multiple, often complex grants

- **Solution** - Coordinate on grant application process
  - Standardization of urban greening solicitations to the extent possible
  - Consider integrating funding across agencies and sectors – allowing for one application
Coordinate Joint Reporting

- **Obstacle** - Separate record-keeping and reporting for each grant

- **Solution** - Coordinate joint reporting
  - Funding agencies would coordinate to allow joint reporting
### Roundtable Discussion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Obstacles</th>
<th>Corresponding Potential Solutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key Overall Obstacle – Siloed approach</td>
<td>Key Overall Solution – Integration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineligible Costs – Project Type/ Activities</td>
<td>Modify Criteria – Programmatic/ Legislative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match Requirements for Multiple Grants</td>
<td>Coordinate Match Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Cycles Not Coordinated</td>
<td>Coordinate Regarding Funding Cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Periods May Not Align</td>
<td>Advertise Maximum Grant Periods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring of Cost Effectiveness</td>
<td>Broaden Scoring Criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Administration – Applications</td>
<td>Coordinate on Grant Application Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Administration – Tracking</td>
<td>Coordinate Joint Reporting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>