



San Francisco  
**ESTUARY**  
**PARTNERSHIP**  
 sfestuary.org

# MEMO

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Implementation Committee

FROM: Josh Bradt, Senior Program Manager

RE: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) National Estuary Program Supplemental Funding Program and Draft Proposed Workplan (Year 1)

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In November 2021, Congress passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) to invest in the nation's infrastructure and resilience. The BIL specifically identifies the National Estuary Programs (NEPs) as key partners for implementation and will provide an additional \$26.4 million to the NEPs annually beginning in fiscal year 2022 through fiscal year 2026. This amounts to \$4.55 million over next the five years (\$909,800 annually) for the San Francisco Estuary Partnership with the funding available until its fully expended. The BIL funding will be awarded and tracked separately from the annual NEP appropriation.

BIL priorities include investing public dollars efficiently, improving job opportunities, building resilient infrastructure, and coordinating with state, local, tribal governments. To access this funding, each NEP must submit a BIL Spending Strategy Outline and an annual BIL Workplan to the US EPA for review and approval. While the final BIL Funding Guidance from EPA is not yet available, the US EPA has provided some initial insight into what the Funding Guidance will include. The BIL funding for NEPs will be directed towards addressing equity and climate change concerns. It is likely that proposed workplans will need to comply with the Administration's Justice40 Initiative which aims to deliver 40 percent of the overall benefits of federal investments in climate to disadvantaged communities.

In anticipation of the release of the BIL Funding Guidance this summer, staff has developed a draft BIL Spending Strategy Outline and a Year 1 Workplan. The overall objective is to use the BIL funding (and lack of match requirement) strategically over the 5-year timeframe to advance equity and climate adaptation throughout the region by:

- Developing and implementing a programmatic approach for:
  - Advancing Equity--internally and regionally
  - Outreach, Capacity Building and Communications
- Directing financial support to climate adaptation planning and implementation projects
- Implementing/advancing priority and unfunded Estuary Blueprint tasks
- Leveraging existing partnerships, programs, expertise, and funding to improve processes and outcomes

At the May 18 IC Meeting, staff will present the 5-year Spending Strategy Outline and the proposed workplan elements for FY 2022 (Year 1) for IC review, input, and possible approval. The proposed Year 1 workplan elements are summarized in the table below and include funding for SFEP staff and partners to advance equity and outreach programs, as well as direct financial support for climate adaptation planning and implementation projects. These include ongoing implementation activities at the Oro Loma Horizontal Levee and adaptation planning within the San Leandro Bay/Oakland-Alameda Estuary area. The meeting will include a presentation on the San Leandro project by the City of Alameda.

Draft Year 1 Workplan Summary:

<b>TASK</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Project Management	Workplan development, project tracking and reporting	\$69,800
Adaptation Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• San Leandro OLU Adaptation Planning</li> <li>• State of Estuary Report</li> </ul>	\$340,000 \$250,000
Adaptation Implementation	Oro Loma Horizontal Levee	\$100,000
SFEP Equity Program	Develop programmatic framework and approach	\$75,000
SFEP Outreach / Communications Program	Implement identified strategic communications activities, develop programmatic framework and approach	\$75,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$909,800</b>

