



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER BILL LOCKYER

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Treasurer Lockyer Announces \$2.5 Million in Grants to Cities and Counties to Help Implement Smart Growth, Conservation Projects *Recipients Include Los Angeles, San Diego, Willits, Alameda County and Others*

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer Bill Lockyer announced seven cities and counties will share \$2.5 million to develop and implement smart growth, conservation, revitalization and other projects following today's approval of the awards by the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA).

“California's growth is vastly outpacing the ability of our dated infrastructure to serve our people and communities,” said Lockyer. “To effectively address this need, we need to plan wise and build without harming the environment. The projects funded by these grants will improve neighborhoods, spur economic development and protect the environment. They provide excellent examples for communities across the state.”

The grant recipients included Alameda County, and the cities of Fort Bragg, Willits, Los Angeles, Livingston, Compton, and San Diego. The CPCFA awarded the funds under the Sustainable Communities Grant and Loan Program (SCGL), which the CPCFA administers. The grantees were selected from a total of 68 applicants.

Chaired by Lockyer as Treasurer, the CPCFA created the SCGL program in 2000 to provide financial assistance to cities and counties in their community planning and development efforts. The SCGL Program makes available \$2.5 million each year. Awardees are eligible for a maximum of \$500,000, which can include up to \$350,000 in grant funding and \$150,000 in loan assistance.

SCGL applicants must demonstrate that their plans or projects reduce pollution hazards and environmental degradation; assist in the revitalization of one or more neighborhoods that suffer from high unemployment levels, low-income levels or high poverty; and promote infill development. Among the 2007 grantees:

- The City of Willits will use a \$323,512 grant to identify and implement aspects of a water study plan to solve the community's water shortage issues. The City plans to use Ahwahnee Water Principles, which provide a practical blueprint for sustainable land use practices that can improve the reliability and quality of water resources. The plan includes rainwater harvesting and household wastewater recovery demonstrations, an exhibition of several landscape elements designed to treat and control run-off, a feasibility study, community education and civic promotion strategies to promote water recovery. The entire process will be documented to serve as an example for other communities facing similar problems.

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- The City of Fort Bragg will use a \$350,000 grant to create a specific plan for the redevelopment and revitalization of the city's 425-acre former Georgia-Pacific lumber mill site.
- The City of San Diego will use a \$350,000 grant to conduct a comprehensive planning and zoning update in the community of Barrio Logan to correct inadequate land use and transportation plans, as well as combat air and water pollution.
- The City of Los Angeles will use \$350,000 in grant funding to perform sustainability enhancements to a 400-acre area of the City that encompasses a new state historic park, two light-rail stations, an industrial neighborhood, a public housing project, the Los Angeles River and I-5 freeway. The proposed enhancements include development of river restoration opportunities and an economic assessment to identify potential business, job and educational opportunities.
- Alameda County will use \$350,000 in grant funding to help acquire the 2.4-acre Holland Oil property, clean up pollution at the site, and develop the property into needed park open space.
- The City of Livingston will use its \$350,000 grant to renovate and rehabilitate the historic Court Theater. Vacant since 1977, the new theater will serve as a multi-use dinner theater and performing arts center.
- The City of Compton will use its \$350,000 grant to develop a transit-oriented revitalization plan for its 105-acre Brickyard Site, currently zoned for heavy manufacturing.

Aside from administering the SCGL Program, the CPCFA provides tax-exempt bond financing for pollution control projects. The financing helps California businesses acquire or build qualified pollution control, waste disposal or waste recovery facilities, or buy or install new pollution control equipment.

CPCFA programs also include the California Capital Access Program, which helps small-business borrowers obtain loans, and the new CalCAP Business STAR Program, which provides consulting services to growing small businesses.

Additionally, CPCFA administers the Cal ReUSE program, which offers low-interest, forgivable loans to help public and private partners redevelop contaminated "brownfields."

Complete SCGL project award information can be found at <http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcfa/agendas.asp>.

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