

FEATHER RIVER AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM
12/2/2024

TO: FRAQMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: Christopher D. Brown, AICP, APCO
SUBJECT: Approve Amendments to Mini Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve an increase in the mini grant maximum award to \$3,000 each.

BACKGROUND:

In fiscal year 2014/2015 the FRAQMD Board approved \$10,000 of AB2766 Vehicle Fee Funds to be used toward the Mini Grant Program, which would award up to \$2,000 per application. Examples of eligible projects are those that are eligible for the regular Blue Sky Grant Program (AB2766 Funds) and reduce vehicle miles traveled or emissions from on-road motor vehicles. The grants cannot pay for compliance with a regulation and must result in surplus emission reductions. Currently, the Mini Grant Program differs from the Blue Sky Program in that the maximum grant amount is \$2,000, projects are awarded first come/first served by the APCO, and the approval period is within 15 business days. Examples include:

- May is Bike Month Energizer Stations
- The purchase of flags to initiate the School Flag Program
- Publicly accessible bicycle racks
- Grants to teachers for air quality related curriculums
- Kickstarter grants for larger bicycle and pedestrian projects
- Publicly accessible electric vehicle charging stations

DISCUSSION:

The maximum grant award amount for the Mini Grant Program has remained at \$2,000 since the program approval in 2014. Inflation has increased the cost of goods and services. An

example of two recent projects where total overall costs exceeded the \$2,000 cap are listed below:

Project Name	Total Cost	Amount Funded	Percent Funded
Hope Point Bike Kitchen	\$2,364.94	\$2,000.00	84%
Yuba Watershed Protection & Firesafe Council	\$7,431.51	\$2,000.00	26%

The District staff are seeking authorization from the Board to increase the maximum award amount for Mini Grant applications from \$2,000 to \$3,000.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the District for this amendment to the Mini Grant Program. The District Board of Directors approved the use of \$20,000 of AB2766 Vehicle Fee Funds to be used toward the Mini Grant Program in the fiscal year 2024/2025 Budget. A large portion of those funds (\$12,000) has been allocated to FY2023/2024's Mini Grant Program to fund the remaining projects on the District's oversubscribed application list. In another agenda item, the District staff are seeking Board approval of a budget transfer for the Mini Grant Program.