

# Memorandum

To: Chairman and Commissioners

Date: April 27, 2000

From: Robert T. Remon, Executive Director

File No: K38.7

BOOK ITEM 4.7  
INFORMATION

**Ref: PRESENTATION BY RESOURCES AGENCY OF PROJECT EVALUATIONS FOR  
FY 2000-01 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM**

Attached is the list of projects recommended by the Resources Agency for funding from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Fund. Resources Agency staff will be at the May meeting to discuss how this list was developed. The Commission is responsible for awarding grants to projects recommended by the Resources Agency. Commission staff expects to bring a final recommendation of projects for Commission action at the July meeting.

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program was established as part of the 1989 Transportation Blue Print Legislation. The Program is intended to be funded at \$10 million per year. The proposed 2000-01 State Budget currently contains \$10 million for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program. The Resources Agency is in the proposed budget for \$120,000 for administrative costs. An attempt to maintain a 40/60 North/South split is required. Under this program, the Resources Agency is responsible for: developing and adopting procedures and criteria (attached); evaluating grant proposals; submitting a list of projects recommended for funding; and finding that those projects are eligible for funding under Article XIX of the State Constitution. The list of prioritized projects for FY 2000-01 has a total estimated cost of over \$19 million. Nineteen million dollars worth of projects were prioritized to allow the Commission some flexibility in programming the projects that will actually be funded.

This program is designed to undertake "environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying existing transportation facilities or for the design, construction, or expansion of new transportation facilities." Eligible projects may include:

- highway landscaping and urban forestry projects to offset carbon dioxide emissions;
- acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss or detriment of resource lands within transportation rights-of-way;
- roadside recreational opportunities, including roadside rests, trails, trailheads, and parks;
- environmental mitigation or enhancements for transportation projects beyond the scope of the lead agency

Local, state, and federal agencies and non-profit entities are eligible to pursue grants under this program. The statute sets a maximum limit of \$5 million for any one grant. However, the Resources Agency has administratively restricted the maximum grant to \$250,000, with a few exceptions for particularly important and well-qualified projects.

Attachments: trosnow/4-2000EEM.DOC/04/27/2000

15-Apr-00

**CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT & MITIGATION PROGRAM  
2000-01 GRANT CYCLE**

**RECOMMENDED PROJECTS - NORTHERN COUNTIES**

APP NO	APPLICANT	PROJECT	SCORE	RECOMMENDED FUNDING	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
4	DEPT OF FISH AND GAME	VISITOR CENTER	93.00	250,000	250,000
18	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	HOYT'S CROSSING TRAIL	92.67	227,930	477,930
22	STONE LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE	ACQUISITION OF TWO PROPERTIES	92.00	262,000	739,930
85	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	SPANO RIVER RANCH	91.00	500,000	1,239,930
15	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	BIG SUR SCENIC HIGHWAY RECREATION & HABITAT ENHANCEMENT	87.67	250,000	1,489,930
39	FOLSOM, CITY OF	HUMBUG-WILLOW CREEKLAKE NATOMA TRAIL CONNECTION	87.33	245,350	1,735,280
72	SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTH	SOLANO BIKEWAY	86.33	250,000	1,985,280
79	DAVIS, CITY OF	I-80 DAVIS / CAUSEWAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT	86.00	190,000	2,175,280
140	SAN JOSE, CITY OF	SAN TOMAS AQUINO / SARATOGA CREEK TRAIL, REACH 6	86.00	250,000	2,425,280
88	TUOLUMNE COUNTY LAND TRUST	ANDREW CREEK / TABLE MOUNTAIN ACQUISITION	86.00	248,500	2,673,780
86	THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND	VARIAN RANCH ACQUISITION	85.33	500,000	3,173,780
58	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	LASSEN FOOTHILLS - FOOR RANCH EASEMENT ACQUISITION	84.33	400,000	3,573,780
42	MONTEREY, CITY OF	WINDOW ON THE BAY MONTEREY BAY PARK PH III	84.33	170,000	3,743,780
34	MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST	GUSTIN PROPERTY ACQUISITION	84.00	250,000	3,993,780
19	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	NORTH FORK LAKE ACCESS TRAIL	83.67	183,600	4,177,380
46	OUR CITY FOREST	MONTEREY HIGHWAY GREENING	81.67	235,400	4,412,780
84	CALIFORNIA COASTAL CONSERVANCY	CASPER HEADLANDS	81.00	500,000	4,912,780
71	LAFAYETTE, CITY OF	WETLAND RESTORATION & RECREATIONAL TRAIL	79.00	180,000	5,092,780
16	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	GRASSLAND - SOUTH FORK WOLF CREEK	79.00	250,000	5,342,780
90	CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	STONE VALLEY ROAD REPLANTING & BEAUTIFICATION	78.67	190,644	5,533,424
84	MARTINEZ, CITY OF	TREE PLANTING - UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD - CAPITOL CORRIDOR	76.00	250,000	5,783,424
87	COASTAL LAND TRUST	SEASIDE BEACH ENHANCEMENT	76.00	215,500	5,998,924
24	ROSEVILLE, CITY OF	ANTELOPE CREEK TRAIL	73.67	200,000	6,198,924
12	CITY OF ANGELS, CITY OF	ANGELS CAMP HIGHWAY LANDSCAPING	72.67	250,000	6,448,924
138	ARCATA, CITY OF	BAYVIEW RANCH ACQUISITION	72.67	400,000	6,848,924
41	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER PKWY & CONS TRUST	RIVERVIEW RANCH ACQUISITION	72.67	250,000	7,098,924
6	ALBANY, CITY OF	ALBANY URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM	72.33	60,750	7,159,674
1	NOVATO, CITY OF	SCOTTSDALE POND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	71.67	250,000	7,409,674
38	SACRAMENTO COUNTY	DRY CREEK PARKWAY ACQUISITION	71.00	250,000	7,659,674
62	MARTINEZ, CITY OF	MARSH RESTORATION AT THE MARTINEZ REGIONAL SHORELINE	70.67	250,000	7,909,674
11	MOTHER LODE FAIR	MOTHER LODE FAIR	69.33	102,000	8,011,674
81	SAN LEANDRO, CITY OF	CITY OF SAN LEANDRO URBAN FORESTRY	68.67	226,041	8,237,715
10	MERCED COUNTY FAIR	MERCED COUNTY FAIR	67.33	148,000	8,385,715
13	CHOWCHILLA MADERA COUNTY FAIR	CHOWCHILLA MADERA COUNTY FAIR	67.33	118,500	8,504,215
80	SAN PABLO, CITY OF	AMADOR STREET REFORESTATION	67.33	120,000	8,624,215
122	CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, CITY OF	SAN CARLOS STREET LANDSCAPING	67.33	40,000	8,664,215
20	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	WEST RIDGE ROAD REMOVAL, PRAIRIE CREEK REDWOODS SP	65.00	189,000	8,853,215
149	LAND PATHS	MC CORMICK SANCTUARY RANCH ROAD DECOMMISSIONING AND TRAIL	64.00	59,350	8,912,565
112	DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	ROUTE 41 LEMORE LANDSCAPING	64.00	250,000	9,162,565
<b>Totals, Northern Counties</b>				<b>\$9,157,565</b>	

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT & MITIGATION PROGRAM**  
 2000-01 GRANT CYCLE

RECOMMENDED PROJECTS - SOUTHERN COUNTIES

NO	APPLICANT	PROJECT	SCORE	RECOMMENDED FUNDING	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
62	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD	MORRO PALISADES ACQUISITION	92.00	500,000	500,000
121	ORANGE COUNTY	LAUREL CANYON STAGING AREA	91.33	250,000	750,000
68	THE BACK COUNTRY LAND TRUST	WRIGHT'S FIELD ACQUISITION, PHASE II	91.00	500,000	1,250,000
33	SOUTHGATE, CITY OF	SOUTHGATE REFORESTATION	90.33	165,951	1,415,951
69	MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTH	CORRAL CANYON COASTAL TRAIL AND TRAILHEAD	87.33	145,000	1,580,951
127	NORTH EAST TREES	LOS ANGELES RIVER / ARROYO SECO MINIPARKS	87.33	250,000	1,810,951
94	IRON MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY	IRON MOUNTAIN RIDGE PRESERVATION	87.33	250,000	2,060,951
49	LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS	BIKEWAYS AND GREENWAYS	87.00	250,000	2,310,951
17	DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	LOS PENASQUITOS MARSH NATURAL PRESERVE WETLANDS PROTECT	85.87	140,585	2,451,536
37	MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTH	LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER PARK & RIVER ACCESS PATHWAY	85.00	230,000	2,681,536
65	PASADENA, CITY OF	NATURAL AREA RESTORATION, PARK & STREET TREE PLANTING	82.00	203,230	2,884,766
116	GREENSPACE - THE CAMBRIA LAND TRUST	STRAWBERRY CANYON ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION	81.33	250,000	3,134,766
100	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION	THE GYMNOSPERM FOREST	81.00	37,040	3,171,806
9	VENTURA COUNTY	PIRU-CAMULOS RECREATION TRAIL	81.00	250,000	3,421,806
35	LOS ANGELES, CITY OF	PLANTING HEALTHY SCHOOL ROUTES	80.33	250,000	3,671,806
102	THE HOLLYWOOD BEAUTIFICATION TEAM	CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES	79.87	178,155	3,849,961
133	SAN DIEGO COUNTY	SAN DIEGUIO RIVER / LUSARDI CREEK ACQUISITION	78.00	250,000	4,099,961
146	TREE PEOPLE	EXPOSITION RIGHT OF WAY GREENWAY	77.87	89,826	4,189,587
21	PISMO BEACH, CITY OF	PISMO ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE SUPPORT FACILITY ACQUISITION	77.87	250,000	4,439,587
118	COMMUNITY SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING	ROUTE 198 / 99 OAK TREE REFORESTATION	77.33	90,080	4,529,667
130	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY	CATHEDRAL OAKS CLASS I BICYCLE PATH	77.33	250,000	4,779,667
5	POWAY, CITY OF	BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE - PAVED PUBLIC PARKING LOT	76.67	250,000	5,029,667
126	MAMOTH LAKES, TOWN OF	VISITOR CENTER CONNECTOR PATHS	74.00	132,000	5,161,667
147	SANTA CLARITA, CITY OF	GATEWAY BEAUTIFICATION	73.33	237,353	5,399,020
57	DELANO, CITY OF	LANDSCAPING MIT / ENH COUNTY LINE RD-99 INTERCHANGE	73.00	51,400	5,450,420
83	PARAMOUNT, CITY OF	RALPH C. DILLS PARK EXPANSION ACQUISITION	73.00	250,000	5,700,420
137	THE NATURE SCHOOL	ROSE CREEK RESTORATION & NATURE EDUCATION PRESERVE	72.87	239,495	5,939,915
144	SAN DIEGO, CITY OF	CARMEL VALLEY RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT - EXOTIC PLANT REMO'	72.87	17,900	5,957,815
111	IRVINE, CITY OF	CULVER DRIVE / MICHELSON DRIVE LANDSCAPING	72.87	27,520	5,985,335
69	CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD	FISH PASSAGE ENH TO SH 1 BRIDGE: SALSIPUEDES CREEK	72.33	24,020	6,009,355
75	SHAFTER, CITY OF	SHAFTER BICYCLE SAFETY & LANDSCAPING	72.00	250,000	6,259,355
73	CALIFORNIA COASTAL CONSERVANCY	SANTA ROSA CREEK RESTORATION	71.87	250,000	6,509,355
136	RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CITY OF	METROLINK STATION BEAUTIFICATION	71.33	85,000	6,594,355
38	LANCASTER, CITY OF	AMARGOSA CREEK PATHWAY	71.00	250,000	6,844,355
150	SANTA ANA, CITY OF	PATRICIA LANE PARK PHASE TWO: DEVELOPMENT	71.00	250,000	7,094,355
45	SAN LUIS OBISPO, CITY OF	AYERS PROPERTY ACQUISITION	70.87	250,000	7,344,355
40	NEWPORT BEACH, CITY OF	MAC ARTHUR BOULEVARD STREETScape	69.33	250,000	7,594,355
76	DINUBA, CITY OF	DINUBA LANDSCAPING & SAFETY TRAILS	68.33	250,000	7,844,355
95	NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION	SOUTH BALDWIN LAKE WATERSHED ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE	68.00	100,000	7,944,355
25	FALLBROOK LAND CONSERVANCY	EXPANSION OF HELLER'S BEND PRESERVE	68.00	225,000	8,169,355
44	VETERANS PARK	VETERANS PARKWAY	67.87	250,000	8,419,355

NO	APPLICANT	PROJECT	SCORE	RECOMMENDED FUNDING	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
131	INYO COUNTY	DEHY PARK ENHANCEMENT	68.87	250,000	8,669,355
148	SANTA ANA, CITY OF	PATRICIA LANE PARK PHASE ONE: ACQUISITION	68.87	250,000	8,919,355
30	LOS ANGELES COUNTY	DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL BICYCLE TRAIL	68.33	250,000	9,169,355
120	ORANGE COUNTY	HABITAT RESTORATION AT ALISO & WOOD CANYON WILDERNESS PARK	88.00	250,000	9,419,355
110	IRVINE, CITY OF	HARVARD AVENUE SPINE	65.00	250,000	9,669,355
104	BAKERSFIELD, CITY OF	DOWNTOWN STREETScape EXPANSION	64.87	250,000	9,919,355
101	PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CAMPUS FORESTATION	64.00	250,000	10,169,355
<b>Totals, Southern Counties</b>				<b>\$10,169,355</b>	

# The Resources Agency

Ray Davis  
Governor



Mary D. Nichols  
Secretary

## of California

California Conservation Corps • Department of Boating & Waterways • Department of Conservation  
Department of Fish & Game • Department of Forestry & Fire Protection • Department of Parks & Recreation • Department of Water Resources

August 1999

**TO: 2000-2001 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION  
(EEM) PROGRAM GRANT APPLICANTS**

Enclosed is an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program application packet for the 2000-01 grant cycle. This packet includes EEM program Procedures and Criteria, application forms, and supplementary information to assist you in preparing an application for grant funding.

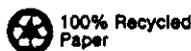
The final application submission date is Monday, November 15, 1999. Applications must be postmarked by this date or delivered to the Resources Agency, Suite 1311, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento 95814, no later than 5 p.m. on that day to be considered by the Resources Agency for recommendation to the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

All required documents must be included with the application (original and three copies), except for board resolutions which are required for local and non-profit agencies. Board resolutions may be submitted separately at a later date for reason of timing. The schedules for proposed projects must provide for project start and completion within three fiscal years. Grants generally will be limited to \$250,000 each.

The Resources Agency will transmit its recommendations to the CTC by April 15, 2000. Applicants will be notified of the Agency's recommendations shortly thereafter.

The Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-5656 FAX (916) 653-8102  
<http://ceres.ca.gov/cra/>

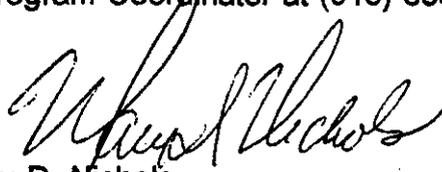
California Coastal Commission • California Tahoe Conservancy • Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy • San Joaquin River Conservancy  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy • Colorado River Board of California • Energy Resources, Conservation & Development Commission  
State Coastal Conservancy • State Lands Commission • State Reclamation Board • Native American Heritage Commission  
San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission



EEM Program  
August 1999  
Page Two

It is anticipated that the CTC will consider recommended projects for funding at its July 2000 meeting. Applicants with projects recommended for funding must submit environmental clearance documents to the CTC in May 2000. Projects without environmental clearance will not be considered for funding by the CTC.

If you have any questions on these Procedures and Criteria, or on the EEM Program please call the EEM Program Coordinator at (916) 653-5656.



Mary D. Nichols  
Secretary for Resources

Enclosures

RESOURCES AGENCY  
State of California

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-653-5656

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM  
PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA  
2000-2001 Grant Cycle**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1-1. Purpose and Authority

These procedures and criteria guide the evaluation and selection of projects under the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) program. This program provides grants to State, local and federal agencies and non-profit organizations to mitigate the environmental impact of modified or new public transportation facilities.

The EEM program was established by the enactment of the Transportation Blueprint Legislation of 1989 (AB 471, Katz). This legislation states that it is the intent of the Legislature to allocate \$10 million annually to this program for grant purposes for a 10-year period from Fiscal Year 1991-92 to Fiscal Year 2000-01.

The legislation provides the following delegation of responsibilities for the EEM program. The Resources Agency prescribes procedures and criteria to evaluate grant proposals. Based on its evaluation, the Agency prepares and submits a list of proposals recommended for funding to the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The CTC annually awards grants to fund proposals from the Agency's list.

1-2. Eligible Applicants

Any State, local or federal agency or 501(c)(3) non-profit entity may apply for and receive grants. The agency or entity is not required to be a transportation or highway related organization, but must be able to demonstrate adequate charter or enabling authority to carry out the type of project proposed. Two or more entities may participate in a project with one designated as the lead agency.

1-3. Implementation Timeline

Applications for funding in the 2000-01 fiscal year (July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001) must be postmarked no later than Monday, November 15, 1999 or delivered to the Resources Agency by 5 p.m. that day.

The Resources Agency will send a list of recommended projects and funding amounts to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by April 15, 2000. All project applicants will be notified of the status of their application at that time.

In July 2000, it is anticipated that the CTC will give preliminary approval to projects to be funded, with funding allocations to be considered at a subsequent Commission meeting upon contract approval. The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) administers contracts for approved grant projects.

Environmental clearance documents for Agency recommended projects are required by the CTC, and must be submitted to the CTC in May 2000 for projects to be considered at the July 2000 meeting. Projects without environmental clearance documents will not be considered for funding.

Grant funds should be expended as soon as possible after the grant is awarded by the CTC (second funding allocation vote), preferably within the first fiscal year. However, all expenditures must be made within three fiscal years.

#### 1-4. Project Magnitude

Grants for individual project are generally limited to \$250,000. However, the Resources Agency may recommend awards exceeding the \$250,000 guideline for acquisition projects only, based on the consideration of unique or unusual factors, including, but not limited to, maximum benefits in a one-time or limited opportunity, acquisition of resource lands of a considerable size, substantial leveraging, and/or projects with high statewide significance.

#### 1-5. North/South Split

In accordance with the provisions of Section 187 and 188 of the Streets and Highways Code, an attempt will be made to allocate 40 percent of the total amount recommended to projects in northern counties and 60 percent of the total amount to projects in southern counties. The southern counties are: San Luis Obispo, Kern, Mono, Tulare, Inyo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial. For purposes of this north/south split, all other counties are considered northern counties.

## **2. PROJECT GUIDELINES**

### **2-1. Eligible Projects**

The categories of environmental enhancement and mitigation projects eligible for funding are:

Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry -- Projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide through the planting of trees and other suitable plants. Projects may be within or outside the right-of-way of a related transportation facility. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted within the public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

Resource Lands -- Projects for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for proposed transportation improvements. Resource lands include natural areas, wetlands, forests, woodlands, meadows, streams or other areas containing fish or wildlife habitat. Enhancement of resource lands may include the restoration of wildlife corridors. Additionally, resource lands may contain features of archaeological or historical value.

Roadside Recreation -- Projects which provide for the acquisition and/or development of roadside recreational opportunities, including parks and greenways, roadside rests, scenic overlooks, trails, and sno-parks.

### **2-2. Related Transportation Facility**

To be eligible for consideration, each environmental enhancement and mitigation project must be directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility (CA Constitution, Art. XIX, Sec. 1) or construction of new transportation facility.

For purposes of this program, a transportation facility is defined as a public street, highway, mass transit guideway or their appurtenant features (e.g. park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, transit stations, etc.) Additionally, the "related transportation facility" must be 1) a project where construction began after January 1, 1990; or 2) a project which is not yet under

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 4

construction, but is included in an adopted State transportation program or in a locally adopted and certified capital outlay program.

If a transportation facility is to be constructed in separate and distinct phases, each phase may be considered a separate project for purposes of this definition, provided that each phase creates an operable transportation improvement.

2-3. Minimum Project Requirements

Projects which fail to meet these minimum requirements will not be considered further:

- a. All projects must demonstrate a direct or indirect relationship with the environmental impact of modifying an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility.
- b. All projects must provide mitigation or enhancement in addition to the mitigation required as part of the transportation project to which they are related. The EEM project cannot supplant mitigation required of the transportation project.
- c. The mitigation, if in or near the right-of-way, must be compatible with and not interfere with the operation or safety of the transportation facilities.
- d. The mitigation must not limit currently planned or anticipated future improvements to the transportation facility.

**3. PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA**

All projects will be evaluated by the Resources Agency using the following criteria and assigning values based on a point system within the ranges indicated. A maximum of 100 points may be assigned to any one project. Projects will be evaluated on the General Criteria (up to 55 points) and the appropriate Project Category Criteria (up to 45 points) In summary, the scoring allocation is as follows:

**General Criteria (55 points)**

- Increased Mitigation and Enhancement (0-20 points)
- Statewide Project Goals and Local Cash Contributions (0-20 points)
- Project Readiness (0-15 points)

**Project Category Criteria (45 points)**

I. Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry

- Suitability and Sustainability (0-20 points)
- Cost Effectiveness (0-20 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

-OR-

II. Resource Lands

- Important Resource Values (0-30 points)
- Sustainability (0-10 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

-OR-

III. Roadside Recreation

- Need for the Project (0-30 points)
- Sustainability (0-10 points)
- Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)

3-1. General Criteria

All projects will be evaluated on the following general criteria:

**a. Increased Mitigation and Enhancement (0-20 points)**

Projects that will provide the greatest and most appropriate degree of mitigation or enhancement over and above that required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be rated the highest. Consideration will be given to the degree the project reinforces, complements, or fills a deficiency

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 6

or need in a larger area, complex, or system, or has been identified as a statewide priority in plans, policies, or other pronouncements.

For example, a project that preserves wildlife habitat lands adjacent to other protected wildlife habitat lands, may provide greater protection than a smaller, separate habitat lands project. Also, for example, an addition to an existing greenbelt or trail system may provide greater mitigation benefits than a smaller, separate urban forestry or recreation project.

Applicants must provide a concise, but complete explanation of the mitigation which will be undertaken as part of the related transportation project and the additional mitigation or enhancement to be funded under the EEM program.

**b. Statewide Project Goals and Local Cash Contributions (0-20 points)**

Consistent with the intent of the program, the Resources Agency seeks to fund projects that serve the largest number of people in the widest area possible. Consequently, projects that demonstrate their relevance to larger planning processes (i.e. regional, city, county, State) and have obtained outside financial support will be given priority in this category.

**Statewide Resource Priorities:** Projects that contribute the most to statewide resource priorities -- comprehensive, regional, and preventive initiatives to protect and enhance the State's natural heritage -- will be rated the highest. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

Habitat/Ecosystem Restoration and Protection, including conservation of agricultural lands

Wetlands Protection and Acquisition

Recreational Access

State Park Stewardship -- enhancement, expansion, and maintenance of the State Park System

**Local Cash Contributions:** Projects that include the greatest proportion of other sources of monetary funding to project development will be rated the highest. Contributions made prior to Commission approval of the EEM project, as well as contributions to on-going project maintenance will not be given credit. To be evaluated and given appropriate credit, the value of cash contributions

must be estimated and included in the project cost estimate and budget. If a project is ultimately approved for funding, the ratio of EEM funds to "Other Sources of Funding" specified in the project application budget will be used by Caltrans for the purposes of reimbursement.

**c. Project Readiness (0-15 points)**

EEM program funds must be expended within a three-year period. Therefore, projects which can most readily be started and completed will be given higher ratings. Key items in the evaluation of this criteria include:

Are project designs completed?

Have funds been specifically appropriated for the related transportation facility?

Are matching funds readily available?

Will the proposed mitigation project require any permits or lengthy environmental clearance?

Is the project consistent with State, regional, and local plans?

**4. PROJECT CATEGORY CRITERIA**

**4-1. Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry Projects**

Projects in the Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**a. Suitability and Sustainability (0-20 points)**

Projects that demonstrate the ability to provide maximum environmental benefits over the long term will be ranked the highest. Projects that serve the greatest area, and are consistent with statewide resource priorities, regional habitat management, and/or regional conservation objectives will be given priority in this category.

An important consideration is whether plantings, once established, will thrive without the need for supplemental irrigation. Other considerations for sustainability and suitability are:

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 8

Will trees and other plants be environmentally tolerant to drought, smog, soil compaction, frost, wind, etc.?

Will the project be designed in such a manner as to provide for species diversity to reduce the effects of insects and diseases? For aesthetic reasons, one variety of tree may be planted along a certain street provided that other varieties are planted on other nearby street, thus providing an adequate mix.

Will the trees and other plant species selected be ecologically and physically appropriate for the function to be performed in the planting space available, and will the initial size selected for the planting area have a good chance for survival and growth on the project site?

Will the largest crowning trees possible be used to provide maximum environmental benefits for mitigating heat islands, ultra-violet light, the

greenhouse effect, and pollution problems, while saving energy by providing shade?

What are the environmental benefits of the species selected?

Have adequate provisions been made for plant establishment and long-term maintenance? If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

Will the project use recycled or reclaimed water?

Does the project have a tracking system for required maintenance?

What provisions have been made for plantings that fail (e.g. a budget for removal and/or replacement of plants and trees that die)?

**b. Cost Effectiveness (0-20 points)**

Projects that provide the greatest number of trees and plants and yield the greatest potential for long-term carbon dioxide uptake at the least cost, will be ranked highest under this criteria. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted in public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 9

Other cost effectiveness considerations include:

How many trees will be planted in how much space?

What species of trees and plants will be used? (Please include both the scientific and common names)

What will be the size and cost for each of the trees and plants proposed?

If trees larger than 15-gallon container size are used, what is the justification?

What type of irrigation system will be installed? What is the water source and cost?

What will be the establishment cost per tree, considering species and installation over the first five years following planting?

Does the project require costly construction (e.g. metal grates)?

**c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Roadside Recreation and Resource Lands) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, increased public access and recreational opportunities, preservation of wildlife habitat, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project. For example:

If the project is outside the right-of-way of the related transportation project, will the trees and other plants be planted in an area that provides reasonable public access or recreational opportunities?

Will the project provide for enhanced wildlife habitat?

If the project is outside of the related transportation facility right-of-way, will the project maximize citizen involvement in project planning and implementation and provide stewardship opportunities for long-term maintenance of the trees?

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

#### 4-2. Resource Lands Projects

Projects in the Resource Lands category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

##### **a. Important Resource Values (0-30 points)**

Resource lands that protect or enhance ecosystems, watersheds, and/or other statewide natural resource priorities will be rated the highest. Important natural resource values include, but are not limited to, lands containing rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats, lands containing special wildlife values such as wildlife corridors, nesting and breeding areas, wetlands, woodlands, and riparian habitat, and agricultural lands.

##### **b. Sustainability (0-10 points)**

Projects which provide the most reasonable assurance that the resource lands to be acquired or enhanced will be maintained and protected will be ranked the highest under this criteria. If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

##### **c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry and Roadside Recreation) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, increased public access and recreational opportunities, increased opportunities for interpretive and/or environmental education, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project.

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community

support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

#### 4-3. Roadside Recreation Projects

Projects in the Roadside Recreation category will be evaluated on the following criteria:

##### **a. Need for the Project (0-30 points)**

Applications that demonstrate the greatest need for the particular recreational facility will be ranked the highest. Projects with statewide significance, such as State Park Stewardship, will be given priority in this category. For example:

Will current or potential recreational opportunities be impacted by the modified or proposed transportation facility?

Why should this particular project be funded?

Is there a deficiency of similar opportunities?

Who will be served by this project, and what is the estimated visitor use?

Does the project connect to or complement other recreation areas or facilities?

Are there any barriers to public access?

##### **b. Sustainability (0-10 points)**

Entities that demonstrate the greatest ability to operate and maintain the proposed recreational facility will be given the highest ranking under this criteria. For example:

What is your experience in operating/maintaining this type of project or other recreation project?

How do you propose to maintain and operate the project? If maintenance is to be performed by another entity, please include evidence of concurrence from that entity.

How will materials and equipment be resistant to or protected from vandalism?

**c. Other Benefits and Community Participation (0-5 points)**

Projects that provide other benefits (i.e. benefits of other categories -- Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry and Resource Lands) and/or demonstrate community support will receive points under this criteria. Other benefits include, but are not limited to, the use of plants and trees to offset vehicular emissions, preservation of wildlife and natural habitat, increased opportunities for interpretive and/or environmental education, and active citizen participation in planning and/or maintenance of the project. Examples that address this criteria might include:

Self-guided nature walks utilizing interpretive signs and displays at the project entrance and/or key viewing points.

Litter abatement and beverage container recycling opportunities.

Involvement of volunteers or citizen organizations in interpretive and educational activities, litter cleanup, and maintenance.

In addition, in-kind services, volunteer labor, and/or donated materials, will be viewed favorably as further demonstration of local and community support of the project. If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please provide a description of what will be provided, including value (listed separately from cash contributions) if possible.

**5. COSTS AND ACCOUNTING**

**5-1. Eligible EEM Project Costs**

The Resources Agency may recommend projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) with unallocated reductions in grant funding or with specific line item reductions. In such cases, the applicant may elect to

use non-grant sources of funding if it is deemed necessary to complete the project as planned.

Only project-related costs incurred during the project performance period specified in the project budget and grant agreement will be eligible for reimbursement. All such costs are funded on a reimbursement basis, and will be held to the ratio of EEM funds to Other Sources of Funding designated in the budget and grant agreement, which is generally the ratio specified by the applicant in the original project proposal. All costs submitted for reimbursement must be supported by appropriate invoices, purchase orders, canceled warrants, and other records.

Costs incurred in advance of a signed contract with the State and approval by the Commission are not eligible for reimbursement. All State requirements must be met and an agreement signed and approved between the State and applicant before any costs are incurred against the grant in order to be assured of reimbursement.

Only direct costs are eligible. General program administrative costs, general overhead costs (e.g., telephone, fax, and space rental), and ongoing project maintenance are not eligible for reimbursement.

## 5-2 Specific EEM Project Costs

### **a. Preliminary Project Costs**

Preliminary project costs (e.g. construction plans, appraisals, acquisition negotiations, etc.) are eligible for reimbursement. However, costs incurred prior to both the execution of an agreement between the State and the applicant and the allocation vote by the California Transportation Commission will not be reimbursed.

### **b. Personnel and Employee Services**

Services of the applicant's employees directly engaged in project execution are eligible costs. These costs must be computed according to the applicant's prevailing wage or salary scales and may include fringe benefit costs such as vacations, sick leave, social security contributions, etc. that are customarily charged to the applicant's projects. Costs charged to the project

must be computed on actual time spent on the project and be supported by time and attendance records describing the work performed on the project. Overtime costs may be allowed under the applicant's established policy, provided that the regular work time was devoted to the same project.

Salaries and wages claimed for employees working on State grant funded projects must not exceed the applicant's established rates for similar positions.

**c. Consultant Services**

The costs of consultant services necessary for the project are eligible. Consultants must be paid by the customary or established method and rate of the applicant. No consultant fee may be paid to the applicant's own employees without prior approval or unless specifically agreed to by the State.

**d. Construction Equipment**

The following conditions apply to the allocation of costs for construction equipment:

Equipment owned by the applicant may be charged to the project for each use. Equipment use charges must be made in accordance with the applicant's normal accounting practices. The equipment rental rates published by the State Department of Transportation may be used as a guide.

If the applicant's equipment is used, a report or source document must describe the work performed, indicate the hours used, and relate the use to the project. This document must be signed by the operator and supervisor.

Equipment may be leased, rented, or purchased, whichever is most economical. If equipment is purchased, its residual market value must be credited to the project costs on completion.

**e. Construction Costs**

The cost of all necessary construction activities from site preparation (including excavation, grading, etc.) to the completion of a structure or facility is eligible. Also eligible are contract costs for tree planting and irrigation systems.

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 15

**f. Trees, Supplies, and Materials**

Trees, supplies, and materials, including irrigation equipment may be purchased for a specific project or may be drawn from a central stock, provided that they are claimed at a cost no higher than that paid by the applicant. However, reimbursement for the cost of vegetation planted within public road right-of-way is limited to trees.

**g. Acquisition Costs**

The costs of acquiring real property are eligible and may include the purchase price of the property, appraisals, surveys, preliminary title reports, escrow fees, and title insurance fees. Grant applicants are encouraged to explore the feasibility of acquiring easements rather than fee title when appropriate.

**h. Other Expenditures**

In addition to the major categories of expenditures, reimbursements may be made for miscellaneous costs necessary for execution of the project. Some of these costs are:

Premiums on hazard and liability insurance to cover personnel and/or property.

Work performed by another section or department of the applicant's agency.

Transportation costs for moving equipment and/or personnel.

**6. Additional Information on the Program and Procedures**

Additional information on eligible costs and accounting procedures can be obtained from the local Caltrans, District Local Assistance Office, (see the attached list for specific locations).

Completed applications and questions regarding the EEM program procedures and criteria should be directed to the EEMP Coordinator, California Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento 95814, 916-653-5656.

**Checklist for Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program Applications**

The following items, as applicable, are required for the EEM program application. Submit a total of four copies of all materials (original plus three copies.) Please assemble your application in the order listed below.

**Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program**

1. **Signed Application Face-Sheet and Assurances (see attached)**
2. **Table of Contents (with page number references)**
3. **Environmental Project Summary**

Brief description of project scope, location, and purpose, and amount of request

Explanation for grant request that exceeds the specified funding limitation, if applicable

4. **Agency Eligibility**

Authorizing resolution to apply for grant, required for local agencies and nonprofit organizations. (sample attached)

Statement of related prior experience for local agencies and nonprofit applicants (include IRS determination letter of Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, if applicable)

5. **Related Transportation Project**

Discussion of related transportation project and required mitigation, and the additional mitigation proposed by the EEM project.

Transportation project lead agency form letter (provided in this application package)

EEM Program Procedures and Criteria

August 1999

Page 17

**6. General Criteria**

Narrative and quantitative explanations for each of the General Criteria

**7. Project Category Criteria**

Narrative and quantitative explanations for each of the Project Category Criteria  
– for the category of grant project being proposed

**8. Exhibits**

- a. Statement of project consistency with local, State, and/or federal plans, and list of permits and approvals needed and applications filed with involved agencies.
- b. Project cost estimate (by line item-object of expense).
- c. Proposed project development budget showing sources of cash funding. (If in-kind/volunteer services or donated items will be used, please discuss their value separately from monetary contributions under the Other Benefits and Community Participation criteria.)
- d. Project completion schedule.
- e. Quarterly project development cash expenditure plan.
- f. Project location map.
- g. Project site photos.
- h. Project designs or concept drawings.
- i. Acquisition schedule, if applicable.
- j. Acquisition map, if applicable (boundaries and parcel numbers).
- k. Certification for projects involving tree planting by a certified arborist, registered professional forester, or registered landscape architect, including:

appropriateness of species for location and carbon dioxide uptake capability  
optimal initial tree size for survival  
proper planting and maintenance ensured  
compliance with local ordinances  
compliance with specified nursery stock standards

- I. For all projects involving plantings, a description of the number of plantings, species, size, density, and locations
- m. All other exhibits (e.g. agreements with other involved agencies, etc.)
- n. Lastly, letters of endorsement (if any -- not required)