

## Proposals due August 22, 2016

### Rationale

The San Diego region has a long and rich history of local community pride and protection of our region's clean air and water, spectacular outdoors and quality of life. With a world-renowned climate and regional economy powered by innovation, the San Diego region ranked third nationally in clean tech leadership in 2016 and has been featured as one of the "World's Smart Cities" by National Geographic Channel. Partnerships such as the **San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative** and **Cleantech San Diego's** Smart Cities initiative are bringing public and private organizations together across our region to develop and implement initiatives to catalyze adoption of clean technologies, advance energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and drive economic growth.

Even with these efforts our region continues to face significant challenges from the impacts of climate change on the health and well-being of today's communities and future generations, particularly apparent as California enters its fifth consecutive year of drought. The **San Diego, 2050 is Calling. How Will We Answer?** report released in 2014 outlines the local impacts of a changing climate on regional water supply and demand, with a call to action for communities to work together and invest today in solutions to manage risks and prepare today. The **Economic Resilience Brief on Water** released this year further details that by working together and investing today, government, businesses and communities can build a more resilient water future for the San Diego region and adapt to this "new normal".

### Purpose

It is with this in mind that The San Diego Foundation is releasing these grant guidelines to support one to three innovative water projects that demonstrate how public-private partnerships can advance sustainable water use and management in the San Diego region. The primary **goals** of the Smart Cities and Water Solutions Grant Program are to support projects that:

1. Advance community efforts to prepare for impacts of climate change on our region's clean water supplies and put the **San Diego, 2050 is Calling. How Will We Answer?** report into action.
2. Support innovative public-private partnerships that catalyze adoption of new or existing technologies to support sustainable water management in our region.
3. Achieve measurable savings of water through conservation, capture or reuse of water.
4. Build on existing efforts to help more cities throughout the San Diego region to become "smart cities" and achieve robust climate and sustainability goals.

Total available funding for this grant program is approximately \$100,000-\$150,000, from which applicants may request between \$25,000 to \$100,000. Project partnerships and collaborations are strongly encouraged to maximize impact.

### Preference will be given to projects that also demonstrate:

- High-visibility pilot or "proof of concept" projects that catalyze implementation of new or existing smart city technology solutions to advance sustainable water management
- Measurable savings of water through conservation, capture or reuse of water
- Public-private partnerships that can bring a public or private funding match or in-kind resources to the project
- Leadership by or engagement of smaller cities (less than 200,000 in population size)

- Advancement of goals outlined in a relevant city/agency's draft or adopted climate action plan
- Commitment to share lessons learned by working with Cleantech San Diego, the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative or other means to disseminate results and share findings
- Measurement of co-benefits of the project (energy or emissions reductions, reduced stormwater runoff, increased cost savings, streamlined water management, creation of new water supplies, etc.)
- Likelihood of completion within 18 months

### Eligibility Information for All Applicants

The lead applicant must be a city, public agency or special district serving in San Diego County. Collaborations must include letters of confirmation from all partners providing in-kind or financial matching resources, as well as letters of support from other partners that will have a significant role in making your project possible.

**Ineligible Projects:** Projects that are primarily research-based or lacking practical application, as well as projects without a local government (city or county) or public agency as lead or without demonstrated commitment from local governments or public agencies.

### Application Process:

To review application questions and instructions, click [here](#) or visit our website at [SDFoundation.org](http://SDFoundation.org).

All proposals must be submitted online using the following application:

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/32084-The-San-Diego-Foundation-Community-Impact>

**Applications are due by noon on Monday, August 22, 2016 via the online portal.** Applications submitted late or by other methods will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of all applicants to ensure that their organization meets all of the eligibility requirements and complete the application in full by the deadline.

### Timeline\*

Early July 2016	<b>Grant Opportunity Announced</b>
July 14 to August 19	Staff from The San Diego Foundation available to discuss project ideas or answer questions. Email Kim Fields at <a href="mailto:kimf@sdfoundation.org">kimf@sdfoundation.org</a> to set up a time.
August 22 at noon	<b>Proposals due</b>
August 23 to Mid-September	Proposals reviewed by The San Diego Foundation staff and volunteer reviewers. Further information from applicants may be requested by email or through a brief interview with applicants.
Late September	<b>Grant awards announced</b>

\*The San Diego Foundation reserves the right to modify the dates or other terms or conditions set forth in these guidelines.

### About the Review Process

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee comprised of staff from The San Diego Foundation as well as other volunteers and community experts. The committee will evaluate proposals based on relevance to the goals and preferences listed above, as well as merits presented in answering the proposal questions. The committee will adhere to a strict conflict of interest policy and other internal controls to ensure that grant funding is distributed in an objective manner based on the merits of each proposal. The Committee will submit final recommendations to The San Diego Foundation's Board of Governors for final approval.

### Questions

Interested but need more information? Not sure whether to apply? Want to find other local government or private sector partners for your project? Foundation staff will be available by appointment to answer questions or discuss proposal ideas. Please contact Kim Fields at [kimf@sdfoundation.org](mailto:kimf@sdfoundation.org) to schedule a time.

**For more information or any questions, contact:**

#### Nicola Hedge

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If you have any questions specific to the online application process, please contact Kerri Favela at [kerri@sdfoundation.org](mailto:kerri@sdfoundation.org) or at (619) 235-2300.

### Acknowledgements

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