

Request for Approval

To: **Michelle Martin**
Acting Deputy Director, Division of Circular Economy

From: **Nick Amante**
Section Manager, Financial Resources Management Branch

Request Date: **June 4, 2024**

Decision Subject: Awards for the Local Conservation Corps Grant Program (California Beverage Container Recycling Fund, Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Account, California Tire Recycling Management Fund, and California Used Oil Recycling Fund, Fiscal Year 2024–25)

Action By: June 18, 2024

Summary of Request

Staff requests approval of 14 grant awards in the amount of \$28,896,081 for the non-competitive Local Conservation Corps Grant Program (Program) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024–25.

Funding

The FY 2024–25 Budget Act allocates \$28,896,081 for the Program.

Table 1. Funding

Fund Source	Amount Available	Amount to Fund Item	Amount Remaining	Line Item
California Beverage Container Recycling Fund (FY 2024–25)	\$13,896,081	\$13,896,081	\$0	Grants/Local Assistance
Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Account (FY 2024–25)	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$0	Grants/Local Assistance
California Tire Recycling Management Fund (FY 2024–25)	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	Grants/Local Assistance
California Used Oil Recycling Fund (FY 2024–25)	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	Grants/Local Assistance
Total	\$28,896,081	\$28,896,081	\$0	

Background and Findings

Statutory Authority

California Public Resources Code section 17001(b), pursuant to section 14581.1 and subject to section 17002, authorizes funding from the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund, the Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Account, the California Tire Recycling Management Fund, and the California Used Oil Recycling Fund for grants to the Local Conservation Corps (LCCs). The Program will help LCCs implement programs relating to beverage container recycling and litter abatement, the collection and recovery of used oil and electronic waste, and the clean-up and abatement of waste tires.

Program Background

California established the Program in 1987 as part of the California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act (AB 2020 [Margolin], Chapter 1290, Statutes of 1986) that was first approved by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor in 1986. The Program was established with the purpose of supporting the success of disadvantaged youth through grants by establishing Certified Community Conservation Corps to implement urban and rural conservation, litter abatement, and recycling activities.

The Program accomplishes these purposes in part through provision of community recycling services and litter abatement projects that collect and divert recyclable materials from landfills. LCCs work closely with local jurisdictions to maximize resources and increase recycling knowledge, programs, and activities in their communities. Each LCC is certified as eligible for the Program by the California Conservation Corps on an annual basis.

The 14 certified LCCs participate in a variety of recycling projects at schools, businesses, community events, large venues, and multi-family complexes in support of the state's 75 percent solid waste recycling goal.

Criteria and Process

The Eligibility Criteria and Evaluation Process was discussed at the January 16, 2024 CalRecycle Public meeting and subsequently approved by the Deputy Director. The Notice of Funds Available was placed on the CalRecycle web site on March 6, 2024, with an appropriate notice sent to all certified LCCs.

Applications were due April 16, 2024 and CalRecycle received 14 applications requesting \$28,896,081. Staff reviewed the applications in accordance with the approved criteria and proposes to fund 14 of the 14 applicants.

The standard funding methodology for the grant program allocates funds from each funding source equally among the LCCs. One Corps may also receive the funds remaining after equal allocation amounts are determined.

LCCs that have received grants for four or more years were allowed to negotiate fund swapping agreements between LCCs to maximize effectiveness of recycling and recovery programs in each material fund. In RLC39, Conservation Corps of Long Beach is swapping \$100,000 of their Waste Tire funds for \$100,000 of Southern California Mountains Foundation's E-Waste funds.

Recommended awards are subject to availability of funds, legislative changes, and Grantee compliance. LCCs must be in good standing with CalRecycle to be eligible for grant awards (i.e., current non-profit status, good standing with the Secretary of State, and no outstanding debt due to CalRecycle which includes but is not limited to fines, penalties, or unresolved audit findings).

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of 14 grant awards as listed below for \$28,896,081.

Table 2. Recommended Awards

Local Conservation Corps	BCRF (COLA)	E-Waste	Tire	Used Oil	Total Allocation All Funding Sources
San Francisco Conservation Corps	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Los Angeles Conservation Corps	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
San Jose Conservation Corps	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps*	\$992,580	\$571,436	\$357,154	\$142,859	\$2,064,029
Conservation Corps of Long Beach**	\$992,577	\$671,428	\$257,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Urban Corps of San Diego County	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Orange County Conservation Corps	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Conservation Corps North Bay	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Sequoia Community Corps	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
San Joaquin County Office of Education (dba Greater Valley Conservation Corps)	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Local Conservation Corps	BCRF (COLA)	E-Waste	Tire	Used Oil	Total Allocation All Funding Sources
Southern California Mountains Foundation**	\$992,577	\$471,428	\$457,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Farmworkers Institute of Education and Leadership Development Inc.	\$992,577	\$571,428	\$357,142	\$142,857	\$2,064,004
Total	\$13,896,081	\$8,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$28,896,081

*Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps receives an additional \$25 in total funding after equal allocations were calculated in all material funds.

**The Southern California Mountains Foundation and Conservation Corps of Long Beach executed a Memorandum of Understanding to swap \$100,000 in E-waste and Waste Tire funds.

Deputy Director Action

On the basis of the information and analysis in this Request for Approval and the findings set out herein, I hereby conditionally approve the grant awards for the Local Conservation Corps Grant Program as listed in Table 2. Each proposed grantee's award is subject to two conditions:

1. The recommended grantee must pay all outstanding debts due to CalRecycle, or bring current any outstanding payments owed to CalRecycle, within 60 days of the date of the award email.
2. The recommended grantee's Signature Authority (or where delegation is authorized, his or her Designee) must sign and return the Grant Agreement to CalRecycle. The signed Grant Agreement must be received by CalRecycle within 60 days of the date of the award email.

Signed By: Michelle Martin, Acting Deputy Director

Michelle Martin
Acting Deputy Director

June 5, 2024

Dated