

## **More Grants for California Consulting Clients**

In the last month California Consulting is pleased to announce that our clients have been awarded the following competitive grants that were written by California Consulting's grant writing staff:

City of Reedley – JAG - \$66,088  
City of Kerman – JAG - \$14,897  
City of Parlier – JAG - \$46,119  
City of Delano – REMOVE - \$31,350  
Colorado NW Community College, DOE – Geothermal Energy - \$430,000  
McFarland Unified School District – EETT C - \$314,859  
Fresno County – EECBG - \$3,151,300  
City of Reedley – CMAQ – Trail - \$212,472  
Kings Canyon Unified School District –3 buses -\$635,400

This brings the total of federal and state dollars California Consulting has secured for clients to \$1,347,899,019. That makes well over \$1.3 billion!

## **Lobbying Update**

- 1) QEIA** - California Consulting, LLC has been involved in the QEIA issue. QEIA is of great importance to school districts all over California. Working in concert with Steve Rhoads at Strategic Education Services, California Consulting has been actively engaged in the QEIA issue. See the following update:

### **Budget Comments on the Impact of AB 3X 56**

#### **The following is certain:**

1. The QEIA revenue limit reductions are eliminated.
2. The school districts will receive their share (approximately \$60 per ADA) of the \$355 million of fiscal stabilization funds. This will be the result of the Section 28 process. This is actually independent of the bill. This should occur within 30 to 45 days. You should spend these funds. That is, use them to offset other existing general fund expenditures. For example, spend them on existing teacher salaries. Do not put them

directly into a reserve, because you may have to pay a penalty to the feds.

3. Under AB 3X 56, the 2009-10 state aid for school districts will be reduced by approximately \$60 per ADA. Therefore, the net impact of the fiscal stabilization funds is zero.

**The following is not certain:**

4. The state may not receive any additional federal stabilization funds. The state may be able to apply for \$325 million, if my memory holds true. However, we do not know 1) if the feds will give us the funds, or 2) if the state will rip the funds off. You should have some type of contingency fund for this, but I would not book it until the money is received by the school district.
5. The remaining item is the \$165 million of the Title 1 funds. Everyone seems to believe that 1) school districts will get these savings when the funds are used to fund the QEIA schools, and 2) the Title 1 funds are not built into school district's existing budgets. The \$165 is made up of \$65 million of carryover funds and \$100 million from the budget Item 6110-134-0890 for Title 1. AB3X 56 will not take effect for 30 days after the Governor's signature. By that time school district should know if any of the \$100 million is built into their budgets. School districts should also know by then if the \$165 million of potential savings will be returned to school districts. If it is then school district will not lose \$60 per ADA in the federal stabilization funds, but a net of \$33 per ADA. The \$165 million is equivalent to about \$27 per ADA. School districts should not book this until they know for certainty from the CDE that 1) the savings will go back to school districts and 2) the \$100 million of the Title 1 funds are not built into their budgets. School districts need a statement from CDE. They should have that statement within 30 to 45 days. By the way, the claim is that the \$100 million will come from the 4% state set aside.

**2) Water Bond:**

**Comprehensive Water Package**

The Legislature passed a comprehensive water package that will enable Californians to share, store and conserve water more effectively than we do today. The legislation enacts landmark improvements and investments in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta - the heart of California's water supply system - ensuring the restoration of the Delta's fragile ecosystem and enhancing water reliability for all Californians.

The comprehensive water package acknowledges that water in California is both a scarce and vital resource, and that significant problems with our aging water infrastructure and supply necessitated a broad, long-term, sustainable and balanced statewide solution. This package of legislation is the most comprehensive set of water laws in the past half-century, and is supported by an unprecedented coalition of environmental organizations, various water districts and agencies, business groups, workers and industry groups and local utilities.

All elements of the package are based on years of scientific studies and recommendations from the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Commission and the Delta Vision Committee.

Main Elements of the Package

Delta Governance and Planning (SB 7x 1)

- Creates new oversight agencies to ensure that Delta communities will have a voice in decisions made about the Delta's water, environment and economy.

Water Conservation - 20% Water Conservation by 2020 (SB 7x 7)

- Ensures that all California communities share the commitment of conserving water so that more water can be available for more Californians.

Improving Groundwater Elevation Management (SB 7x 6)

- Allows local communities to better understand how much water is stored underground so that local agencies and the state can ensure that communities will have the water they need to grow and thrive.

Water Investments (SB 7x 8)

- Makes crucial investments in Delta levee repair and ecosystem restoration; above-ground and groundwater storage facilities, water recycling programs and watershed protection. Also increases oversight and enforcement capability of water rights and illegal water use. Authorizes the use of \$546 Million of funds from Prop 84 for Delta Fixes.

Water Bond (SB 7x 2)

Authorizing the placement of an \$11.14 billion bond on the November 2, 2010 statewide general election ballot.

California Consulting wishes to thank and express our gratitude to the many individuals who played a vital role in passing this legislation, the State Legislative delegation from the Valley, the Governor and his staff and the California Latino Water Coalition. They all deserve commendation and praise on a job well done.

California Consulting, LLC also wishes to acknowledge and thank our clients Mayor Victor Lopez of the City of Orange Cove, Mayor Armando Lopez of the City of Parlier, Mayor Jose Villareal of the City of Sanger and all of the leaders of the California Latino Water Coalition that worked so hard to make this water bond legislation a reality.

Without the leadership of the Coalition this bond legislation would never have become a reality.

### **Energy Update:**

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization, California Consulting, LLC and others held a workshop at the Air District

Fresno Office to discuss the upcoming Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant funding opportunity.

Video conferencing was conducted and participants viewed the workshop from the Air District Offices in Bakersfield and Modesto . As well, several individuals participated via telephone conference. More than 45 cities and counties across the Valley participated in the very successful and informative workshop.

Opening remarks were given by Tom Jordan of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. The workshop was moderated by Clean Energy Organization Executive Director Paul Johnson and speakers included representatives from PG & E, Southern California Gas Company, and Southern California Edison. As well, two representatives of the California Energy Commission participated via telephone. Other program participants included:

Katie Stevens from the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley who spoke of the Partnership's role in the Stimulus process. Stevens highlighted the Partnership's push for bringing additional resources to the San Joaquin Valley .

Steve Samuelian, Owner of California Consulting, LLC thanked the Air District and the Clean Energy Organization for pulling together a collaborative approach to apply for this grant money and encouraged all eligible cities and counties throughout the 8 county Valley region to apply using this collaborative approach. Samuelian also spoke of the lobbying success the Valley has achieved when working together as a united region including the \$1 billion secured for Highway 99 and the Air Quality mitigation money the Valley received from Prop. 1B.

Several city representatives applauded the "united" approach to capture this funding and agreed to be part of the overall application.

Cities with populations under 35K and counties with populations under 200K are encouraged to contact the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization or California Consulting, LLC to participate in the collaborative application.

Representatives from the California Energy Commission were pleased that the Valley was taking a partnership approach to capture these funds.

## **New Clients**

California Consulting, LLC is pleased to welcome our newest clients the Kern Council of Governments (COG), the City of Oakdale, the City of Hughson and the Youth Action Project of San Bernardino County.

## **Important Grants Released soon:**

PTA: <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/cdbg/funds/>

Prop. 84: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=1008](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1008)

SAFER: <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/safer/>

AB118: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/ab118/index.html>

EECBG: [http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/about/competitive\\_grants.html](http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/about/competitive_grants.html)

Calfire Tree Grant:

[http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_urbanforestry.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry.php)

GREAT: <http://www.great-online.org/>

## **New Staff Member**

We welcome Adam Horn to our staff as our newest Project Manager. Adam is a full time staff member in our Fresno office. He has previously served in the Offices of U. S. Senator Barbara Boxer, Congressman Costa, the Maddy Institute, and Assemblyman Arambula. He is a graduate of Fresno State University.