



The San Diego
Foundation™
Growing a Greater San Diego



Climate
Collaborative
SAN DIEGO REGION

Building Regional Resilience - Grant Guidelines

Proposals due by noon on April 20, 2015

Building Regional Resilience – Summary of Opportunity

San Diegans throughout the County have 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. Our region boasts a world-renowned climate that supports many aspects of our regional economy and quality of life. But our region faces significant challenges, like others throughout the world, from the impacts of climate change on the health and well-being of today's communities and future generations.

The "[San Diego, 2050 is Calling. How Will We Answer?](#)" report released in 2014 by Climate Education Partners and The San Diego Foundation outlines many of those challenges, with a call to action for communities to work together and invest today in solutions to manage those risks and prepare for a changing climate.

It is with this in mind that The San Diego Foundation is partnering with the [San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative](#) to help local governments prepare for climate change. This partnership reflects a broader effort by The San Diego Foundation to protect and enhance our region's environment and quality of life around four core areas – Work, Enjoy, Live and Learn (WELL) – embodied in [Our Greater San Diego Vision](#).

The San Diego Foundation and the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative issue this request for grant proposals to help local governments and public agencies build resilience to climate change.

Primary **goals** of these grants are to support projects that:

1. Advance community efforts to prepare for climate change and put the [San Diego, 2050 is Calling. How Will We Answer?](#) report into action.
2. Build capacity of local governments and public agencies to develop or implement plans and policies that address the local impacts of climate change AND/OR advance on-the-ground projects that prepares the community for the local impacts of climate change.
3. Specifically address (1) communities most vulnerable to climate change impacts, (2) public health risks worsened by climate change, (3) implementation of water reuse, conservation programs or urban greening measures, (4) implementation of the San Diego Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy or new, climate-related measures in the 2015 San Diego Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, or (5) cost-benefit analysis of resilience strategies to advance decision-making.

Total available funding for this grant program is approximately \$200,000, from which applicants may request between \$20,000 to \$100,000. Project partnerships and collaborations are strongly encouraged to maximize impact. Approximately \$40,000 of the \$200,000 must fund activities that address the *economic* or *public health* implications of a changing climate (for example, conducting a cost-benefit analysis of relevant policies, partnerships with the private sector to advance key aspects of the project, or conducting a vulnerability assessment and action plan to address community health risks from heat waves, wildfires or coastal flooding).

Overall Grant Timeline:

Monday, March 2 nd at noon-1pm	Grant seekers webinar for interested applicants. Please RSVP to kimf@sdfoundation.org for simple log-in instructions.
As requested, February 12 through April 20	Staff from The San Diego Foundation or Climate Collaborative will be available throughout the process to discuss project ideas or answer questions. Please feel free to contact us! Email Kim Fields at kimf@sdfoundation.org to set up a time.
March 16, 2015 at noon	Informal Letters of Interest (LOI) due from interested applicants. LOIs are not required, but are encouraged in hopes we can provide early feedback on proposal ideas. Instructions for LOIs are on the following page.
April 20, 2015 at noon	Proposals due. Instructions on proposal requirements and how to submit are on the following page.
April 21 - May 7	Proposals reviewed by The San Diego Foundation staff, volunteers and Climate Collaborative staff. Further information from applicants may be requested by email or through a brief interview with applicants.
Week of May 18	Grant awards announced.
June 1, 2015	Grants period starts (grant period will be for up to 18 months).

Preference will be given to projects that also incorporate as many of the below as possible:

- Collaboration with more than one city/public agency to address shared challenges and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Likelihood to leverage other public or private funding.
- Engagement of community residents in decision-making or project implementation through municipal activities or partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Commitment to share lessons learned with other agencies by working with the Climate Collaborative or other means to disseminate results and share findings.
- Involvement of an AmeriCorps member from the statewide [CivicSpark](#) program to help on implementation of the project.
- Likelihood of completion within 18 months.

Important eligibility information for all applicants: The lead applicant must be a local government (city or county) or public agency serving within San Diego County, though collaboration with other agencies, community-based organizations or nonprofits is highly encouraged. A nonprofit may lead an application if there is strong evidence of collaboration with local government(s) or public agency(ies), including letters of commitment to confirm their partnership.

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

A **completed letter of interest** includes the following sent to kerri@sdfoundation.org by noon on March 16th: A one page letter on organizational letterhead summarizing (a) the lead organization(s) and proposed project name, (b) a brief description of project purpose and goals, (c) collaborating organizations, (d) the amount requested, and (e) contact information including name, title, telephone number and email for the person serving as primary grant contact. Please note, these LOIs are encouraged but not required and submitting an LOI does not commit your organization to applying for that project.

A **completed proposal includes** the following sent to kerri@sdfoundation.org by noon April 20th:

1. A **cover letter** summarizing the lead organization(s) and proposed project name, a brief description of project purpose and goals, collaborating organizations, the amount requested, and contact information including name, title, telephone number and email for the person serving as primary grant contact.
2. A **PDF narrative no longer than seven pages** including the following (in this order, where possible):
 - a. A summary of your agency's key goals, policies or past activities to address climate change.
 - b. A summary of the proposed program description, timeline and expected outcomes with the following components:
 - Proposed project goals and purpose.
 - A description of how your project will help to achieve the aforementioned three **goals** of this Building Regional Resilience program.
 - Specific tasks and anticipated timeline for activities the grant will fund.
 - Proposed metrics that will be used to evaluate the project's impact, for example: Plan or policy adopted by certain date; # community residents engaged; cost-benefit analysis completed for # adaptation measures.
 - Related city plans, policies or programs this project will help to develop or implement (e.g. element of general plan, climate action plan, local coastal plan)
 - c. A description of roles, responsibilities and qualifications of personnel critical to the project's success (key personnel at both the lead and collaborating organizations).
 - d. A description of your plan for community engagement.
 - e. A bulleted list of co-benefits this project will have for your agency or community.
3. **Additional required attachments** (not included in the seven page maximum):
 - a. A project **budget** with a brief narrative. Include total project cost, requested amount from The San Diego Foundation, and other secured, in-kind or anticipated funding.
 - b. Collaborations should include brief **letters of confirmation** from each partner.

Please submit your completed proposal including cover letter, narrative PDF and attachments to Kerri Favela at kerri@sdfoundation.org by noon on April 20th. Please include the name of the lead applicant in the file name of your PDF and attachments, and ensure all attachments do not total more than 10MB in size.

Relevant reference materials:

- [San Diego, 2050 is Calling. How Will We Answer?](#)
- [Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange \(CAKE\)](#) for adaptation case studies
- Other Foundation-funded [research to understand the local implications of climate change](#)
- [City Resilience Framework](#) from 100 Resilient Cities and Rockefeller Foundation
- [Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for San Diego Bay](#)
- [San Diego Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) and [related climate change trainings](#)
- Statewide [CivicSpark](#) website or San Diego-based [CivicSpark project examples](#)
- [Urban Sustainability Directors Network](#)'s Innovation Products, Tools and Strategies

About the review process:

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee comprised of staff from The San Diego Foundation and the Climate Collaborative, as well as volunteers from The San Diego Foundation's Climate Initiative Advisory Committee and/or the San Diego Regional Disaster Fund Board. 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 review and approval.

Interested but need more information? Not sure whether to apply? Want to find other local government or nonprofit partners for your project? Join us for a grantseekers webinar on Monday, March 2nd from noon to 1pm. Foundation and/or Climate Collaborative staff will also be available by appointment to answer questions or discuss proposal ideas. Please contact kim@sdfoundation.org to sign up for either.

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

Director, Environmental Initiatives
The San Diego Foundation
619.235.2300
nicola@sdfoundation.org
2508 Historic Decatur Rd, Ste 200
San Diego, CA 92106

Laura Engeman

Manager
San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative
949-361-8929
lengeman@sandiego.edu

Thank you!

This grant cycle and other projects of The San Diego Foundation's Climate Initiative would not be possible without ongoing guidance from volunteers on the [Climate Initiative Advisory Committee](#), as well as generous support from philanthropic partners such as the Kresge Foundation, Qualcomm Foundation, Marisla Foundation, Engel Family Fund, Bank of America, and Blasker-Miah Rose Fund, as well as other individual donors and partner organizations.