SWC WATER PROJECT PRIORITIZATION GUIDANCE CONCEPT

Projects submitted during the project planning inventory process[1] that meet SWC cost-share eligibility requirements will be considered for prioritization. Projects that do not meet local cost-share match requirements, (per SWC cost-share policies), will be dropped to the next lowest priority category. Ineligible projects will be diverted toward alternative funding sources.

ESSENTIAL PROJECTS *(No Priority Ranking)*

Agency operational expenses.

An imminent water supply loss to an existing multi-user system, an immediate flood or dam related threat to human life or primary residences, or emergency response efforts.

Existing agency debt obligations.

SWC project mitigation.

HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS

Federally authorized water supply or flood control projects with a federal funding appropriation.

Federally authorized water supply or flood control projects that do not have a federal appropriation.

Corrects a lack of water supply for a group of water users or a violation of a primary water quality condition in a water supply system.

Addresses severe or anticipated water supply shortages for domestic use. (Three-year avg. population growth > 3%)

Protects primary residences or businesses from flooding in population centers or involves flood recovery property acquisitions.

MODERATE PRIORITY PROJECTS

Dam repairs, reconstructions, or removals/breaches.

Expansion of an existing water supply system.

Levee recertifications, floodwater retention, emergency action plans, or flood mitigation property acquisitions.

Irrigation system construction.

Snagging and clearing.

Bank stabilization.

LOW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Studies, reports, analyses, surveys, models, assessments, mapping projects, or engineering designs.

Improvement of a water supply system.

Construction or improvement of rural flood control drains, ditches, and diversion channels, or outlets.

Recreation projects.

Individual ring dike constructions.

Information provided by project sponsors regarding project benefits will be considered in the prioritization process.

Footnotes

1. All local sponsors are encouraged to submit project and study financial needs during the budgeting process. Projects and studies not submitted as part of the project information collection effort may be held until action can be taken on those that were included during budgeting, unless determined to be an emergency that directly impacts human health and safety or that are a direct result of a natural disaster.

Disclaimer

This process is meant to provide guidance for prioritizing water projects during the budgeting process that may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the State Water Commission. Interpretation and deviations from the process are within the discretion of the state as authorized by the State Water Commission or Legislature.