

# APPLICATION

## WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects NOFO No. R22AS00195



### Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project



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## Table of Contents

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Table of Contents .....	2
1. Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria .....	3
1.1 Executive Summary .....	3
1.2 Project Location .....	4
1.3 Technical Project Description .....	5
1.4 Evaluation Criteria.....	7
1.4.1 Evaluation Criterion A: Project Benefits .....	7
1.4.2 Evaluation Criterion B: Planning Efforts Supporting the Project .....	11
1.4.3 Evaluation Criterion C: Implementation and Results.....	12
1.4.4 Evaluation Criterion D: Nexus to Reclamation.....	14
1.4.5 Evaluation Criterion E: Presidential and Department of Interior Priorities.....	14
2. Project Budget.....	18
2.1 Funding Plan and Letters of Funding Commitment .....	18
2.2 Budget Proposal .....	18
2.3 Budget Narrative .....	19
3. Additional Project Details .....	21
3.1 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance.....	21
3.2 Required Permits or Approvals .....	22
3.3 Letters of Support .....	22
3.4 Official Resolution .....	22
3.5 Conflict of Interest Disclosure.....	23
3.6 SAM Registration .....	23

# 1. Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

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## 1.1 Executive Summary

<b>Date:</b>	20 April 2022
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Western Municipal Water District
<b>Applicant City, County, State:</b>	Riverside, Riverside County, California
<b>Applicant Category:</b>	Category A (Local authority with water delivery authority)
<b>Project Title:</b>	Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project

Western Municipal Water District (Western) located in Riverside, CA, will partner with a local non-profit, March Field Air Museum (the Museum), to replace approximately 20,000 square feet of turf landscaping with drought-tolerant landscaping, and upgrade the Museum's irrigation system to an efficient irrigation system (the Project). The Project will result in reduced overall water usage of Bay-Area Delta imported water and improve Western's water supply efficiency and reliability. With over 60,000 average annual visitors to the Museum, this Project will also highlight to the public what good drought-tolerant landscaping can look like and the variety of landscape styles. The Project addresses Western's long-term goals of improving water efficiency in its landscaping, as established in Western's Water Efficiency Master Plan and Drought Contingency Plan.

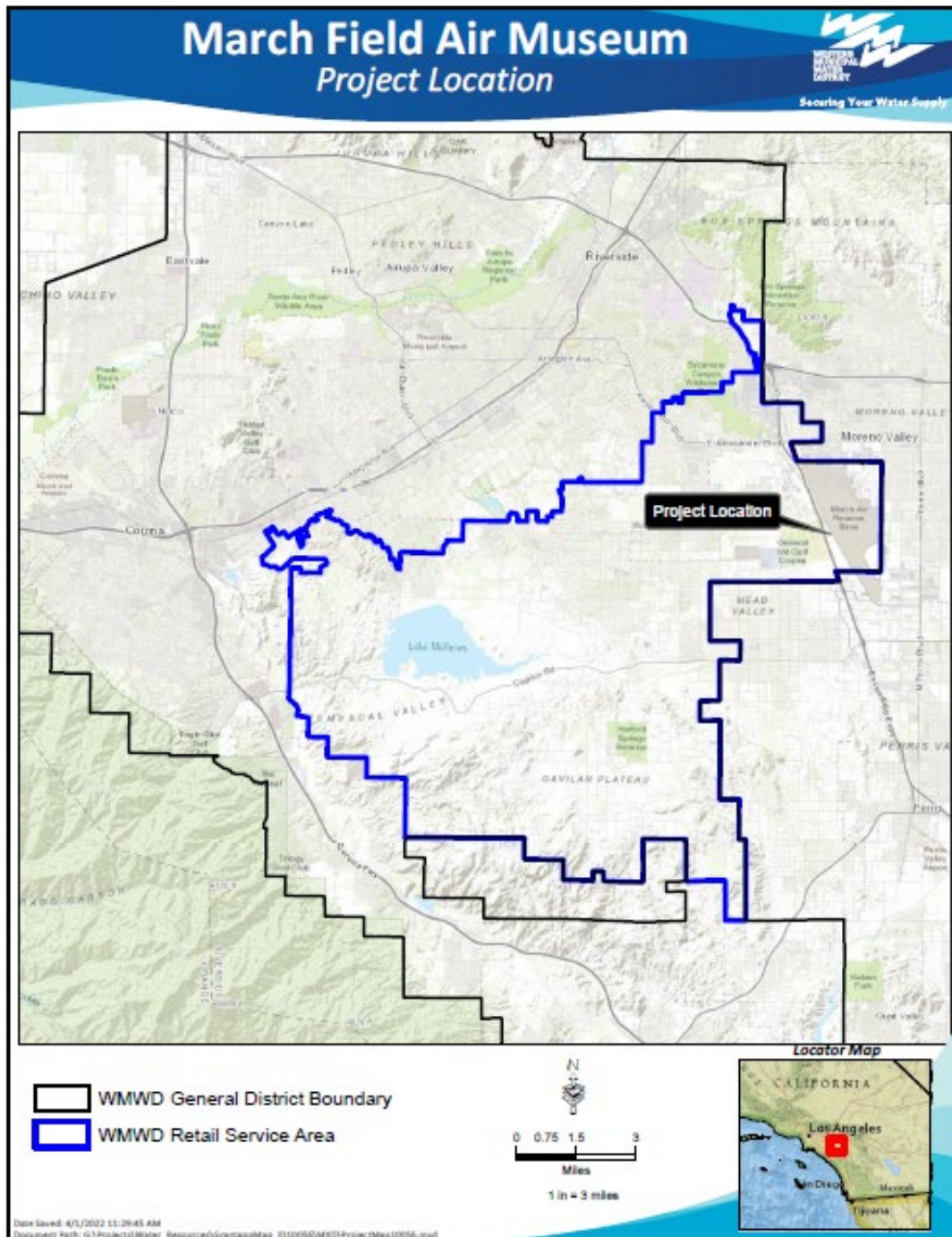
Construction bidding will commence upon the completion of the prior design phase, expected to be in March 2023, with construction occurring between August 2023 and March 2025. The Project is anticipated to be completed within 24 months.

The Project will not be located within a federal facility. The landscape retrofit will occur on March Field Air Museum, located adjacent to March Air Reserve Base.

## 1.2 Project Location

Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project is located in the city of Riverside, Riverside County, California approximately 60 miles west of Los Angeles, California. The project latitude is 33.883146 and longitude is -117.266862. Figure 1 shows a map of the project location.

Figure 1: Project Location



### 1.3 Technical Project Description

The Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project (the Project) is a direct install landscape retrofit for the March Field Air Museum (the Museum). The Museum, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit displaying over 80 aircrafts, more than 30,000 individual artifacts, and receives over 60,000 visitors annually to their facility.

Figure 2 provides a glimpse at the Museum's current landscape. The Museum's current landscape has approximately 20,000 square feet of turf grass and has an irrigation system over 15 years old. The water requirement for this landscape is approximately 1.1 million gallons annually. With the high, single-customer water use, prime location near Western's headquarters, and the high-visibility of the site, Western partnered with the Museum to create an inspirational landscape transformation that the community can enjoy at no cost. This Project involves taking out the Museum's non-functional turf and installing a drought-tolerant landscape and new, efficient irrigation system.

Figure 2: March Field Air Museum – Current Landscape



To design the drought-tolerant landscape, the Museum hired a licensed landscape architect. Figure 3 shows the initial conceptual landscape plan. The design phase of the Project is underway and is outside the scope of the grant.

Western released the *Landscapes with Style* design guide in 2021 ([https://issuu.com/westernmwd/docs/wmwd\\_landscapestyleguide\\_scrolling](https://issuu.com/westernmwd/docs/wmwd_landscapestyleguide_scrolling)). The *Landscapes with Style* guide was developed to assist customers design their outdoor spaces with inspiration and joy, cultivating an oasis in their own front yard. The guide offers eight styles, from peaceful to lively, with each style featuring proven plants, thoughtfully placed to suit every taste. Grant funding will bring the style guide pages to life and install these various designs into the different areas of the Museum landscape. The Museum's current landscape has walkways throughout, creating a natural division for the various styles, allowing these smaller areas to imitate a residential landscape. Figure 4 shows an excerpt from the *Landscapes with Style* guide.

Part of the design shown in Figure 3 includes installing hardscapes, sentinel monuments, and an amphitheater. Those items are not part of the scope for this grant. The work to be conducted under the scope of this grant is the turf removal, irrigation removal, purchase and installation of the drought-tolerant plants and mulch, purchase and installation of the low-flow, pop-up head irrigation system and a high-efficiency

controller that shuts down the irrigation system if it senses leaks and breaks. Once design is complete in April 2023, Western will bid the landscape installation competitively and enter a contract with the selected contractor. Project equipment will be provided by the contractor and could include tools to remove and dispose of the existing turf. Project materials will be purchased by the contractor and include water-wise plants, irrigation equipment, mulch, and a high-efficiency controller. A plant list for the Project has been generated and includes approximately 90 percent of the plants listed in the *Landscape with Style* guide.

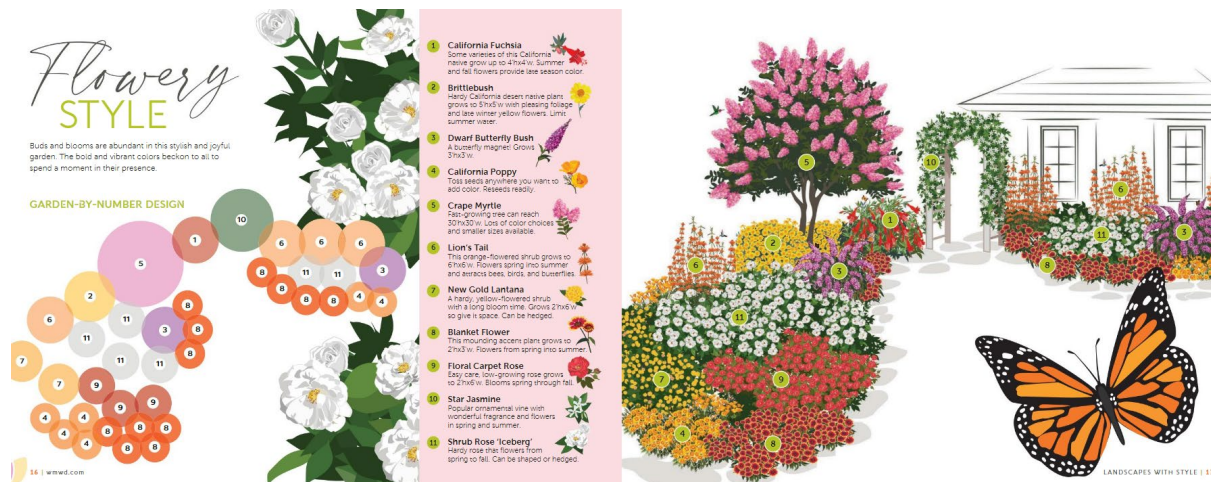
Figure 3: March Field Air Museum – Conceptual Landscape Plan



MARCH FIELD AIR MUSEUM - CONCEPTUAL LANDSCAPE PLAN  
CITY OF RIVERSIDE, CA

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Figure 4: Excerpt from Western’s Landscapes with Style Guide



## **1.4 Evaluation Criteria**

### **1.4.1 Evaluation Criterion A: Project Benefits**

*Clearly explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and water customers.*

The Project will provide the following water management benefits:

- Replace approximately 20,000 square feet of landscaping with drought-tolerant landscaping, and upgrade the irrigation system for this landscaping to an efficient irrigation system;
- Conserve approximately 2.64 AFY of imported potable water (or 13.2 AF every 5 years) thereby improving Western's water supply efficiency (28 percent decrease in the Museum's annual water usage);
- Increase Western's water supply reliability and save approximately \$3,000 a year in water purchases;
- Highlight up to 8 examples of what good drought-tolerant landscaping can look like, and the variety of landscape styles options available;
- Increase water conservation and environmental restoration public awareness through the Museum's 60,000 annual visitors;
- Improve water quality by reducing runoff from over irrigation;
- Enhance climate resilience and reduce approximately 13,000 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption from importing water;
- Reduction in maintenance costs and approximately 3,000 pounds of emissions in landscaping activities;
- Removal of 20,000 square feet of non-functional turf; and
- Indirect multiplier benefits that inspire new residential turf replacement activities regionally.

*Explain the significance of the anticipated water management benefits for the Category A applicant's water delivery system and customers.*

**Individual water savings:** Based on calculation estimates from Western's published turf replacement water-savings analysis in the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, the Project has the potential to save 42 gallons per square foot or approximately 2.64 AFY. Savings will be greater over time as the landscape matures, and less supplemental water is needed. This is a benefit to Western's water supply because it decreases the need to acquire additional water supplies to meet growing demand, and is a benefit to the individual customer pursuing the landscape changes, because it reduces their water use and costs.

**Water supply delivery system:** The Project will reduce demand on the water supply delivery system, which will help avoid or delay costs associated with purchasing new water supplies. The Museum receives treated imported water from Metropolitan Water

District and the Bay-Area Delta. In 2022, it costs \$1,143 per acre-foot (\$/AF) for the imported water supply. The Delta is the largest wetland ecosystem on the Pacific Coast of the United States and provides habitat to highly diverse plant and animal life. If Western reduces imported water use, Western is directly reducing water use from the high-water conflict area of the Bay-Area Delta.

In addition, reducing water demands increases the reliability of existing water supplies and reduces the need to acquire new, expensive water supplies. By reducing irrigation needs, it will also reduce peak season and peak day demands. A lower peak demand will delay and/or reduce the size and cost of future expansions to treatment and delivery infrastructure.

**Water supply reliability:** Landscape retrofits improve Western and customers' resiliency to drought and climate change. Water supplies are faced with challenges every year and with more frequency. Drought and water shortages due to fire or other natural disasters, or infrastructure maintenance are an important and increasingly frequent reminder to strive for resiliency. With this inspirational landscape transformation project, Western is able to create a highly visible location for the public to view what water-wise landscapes can look like and how variable they can be. Based on calculation estimates from Western's published turf replacement water-savings analysis in the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, Western saw that for every landscape that switched to a drought-tolerant landscape, two neighbors switched their landscape as well. This multiplier effect will proactively establish more drought-tolerant landscapes that require less water long term, allowing communities to navigate future shortages and warmer, drier climate conditions with fewer impacts. By reducing outdoor water use through landscape retrofits, water is made available for multiple beneficial uses, including lengthening Western's resiliency before enforcing customer response actions in a water shortage.

**Additional Benefits:** The Project will demonstrate how attractive low-water use landscapes are, which can boost local support for water efficiency programs and serve as examples for those who are contemplating landscape changes. This Project can help improve familiarity and comfort with low-water and native landscapes. The program will improve water literacy in the community by educating the community on water use, climate change, water rates, value of the water service, drought planning, water supply planning, and different landscape styles. With 60,000 annual visitors at the museum, there is high potential for community education about water-wise landscapes. The high-visibility location of this inspirational landscape will provide for a larger impact. Assuming 10,000 visitors (1/6<sup>th</sup> of the annual visitors), replace 1,000 square feet, they could save 420 million gallons in a year. With the multiplier effect, this water savings could increase to 840 million gallons, dramatically increasing Western's water supply reliability.

*Will the project improve broader water supply reliability at sub-basin or basin scale?*



The Museum receives treated imported water from Metropolitan Water District and the Bay-Area Delta. The 2.64 AFY of water savings from the Project will result in this water remaining in the Bay-Area Delta, helping meet the State of California's objective to decrease reliance on the Bay-Area Delta. Reducing reliance on imported water through the implementation of the Project will in turn reduce demands and impacts on the Delta's ecosystem. As discussed in Western's Urban Water Management Plan (Appendix Q), reduced demands on the Delta mean reduced diversions from that sensitive ecosystem, thereby helping to contribute to instream flows, enhanced ecosystem protection, and improved water quality. With earthquakes and wildfires being hazards in California, water conveyance infrastructures are at high-risk of damage. With most of Western's water travelling a long distance—over thousands of miles—the probability of an earthquake or damaging wildfire increases because we are not just looking at the probability of those events occurring in Riverside County, but throughout the state. The odds of a natural hazard add together as one moves over the distance. By decreasing imported supply, the risk of earthquakes and wildfire become more locally centered, therefore system reliability increases, and hazard risk reduces.

*Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region? Please explain.*

The proposed Project will increase collaboration and information sharing. Throughout the Southern California region, water utilities often hear that there are not enough examples of water-wise landscapes, which is why Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) financially assisted in the development of the *Landscapes with Style* guide. This Project is bringing the guide to life and showing the region what implementation of water-wise landscapes can look like. Therefore, the region can benefit from this great quality display of landscape examples and styles. With over 60,000 annual visitors to the Museum, the impact of this Project will be felt regionally. The Museum is also visible from a main highway, CA-215, allowing the landscape to catch the attention of more than Museum visitors. Western, our 12 retail agencies, and the larger surrounding agencies, including MWD, will be informed about the inspiration garden and their customers will have access to it.

*Will the proposed project positively impact/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environment, recreation, and tourism)? Please explain.*

The proposed Project will positively impact local economies. The Project is utilizing professional design, irrigation, hardscaping, and landscaping companies. The contractors will be local and regional vendors, found through a competitive bidding process, and nurseries that specialize in high-efficiency irrigation equipment, and drought-tolerant and water-wise plant materials. Overall, the entire cost of the Project, \$225K, will go directly to the local economy. The future maintenance and management of the new landscape will support local landscape management companies. The Project will also impact the environment by reducing runoff from overwatering. By replacing the

older irrigation system with a water efficient system, water loss through inefficiencies will be gone. In addition, part of the Project involves installing a high-efficiency controller that will stop watering if a leak is detected. It is also expected that this Project will help attract more tourists/visitors to the Museum. The Master Gardeners of Riverside County, a non-profit that provides educational training to the public and schools around environmentally responsible and sustainable horticultural practices, have expressed interest in hosting educational training events and garden tours at the Museum once the Project is complete.

*Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the districts water supply)? Please explain.*

Not applicable.

*Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale? Please explain.*

Western continues to experience dry weather following the third driest year on record in 2021. With the driest January and February on record, this dry 2022 year needs water use efficiency and conservation more than ever. Also, because of climate change, as of 2050, droughts will be twice as likely to occur. Extreme heat days are projected to increase 250 percent by 2050 and 500 percent by 2100 and heat wave duration is expected to increase 174 percent by 2100 (CDC, Climate and Health). Coupled with current drought conditions, the most recent California Executive Order from Governor Newsom, N-7-22, calls on local water suppliers to shift to "Level 2" of their individual Water Shortage Contingency Plans, which involves taking preparatory actions for water shortage levels of up to 20 percent. Western entered Stage 2 in January 2022 asking customers to reduce their water usage by 20 percent (basin-wide action). The timing of the project implementation helps Western meet approximately a half-percent of the shortage goal. In addition, the Executive Order also directed the State Water Resources Control Board to consider the adoption of regulations that would ban irrigation of "non-functional" turf, such as decorative grass adjacent to industrial and commercial buildings (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/March-2022-Drought-EO.pdf>). The potential ban of "non-functional" turf is basin-wide and would directly affect the Museum property. This Project will allow the non-profit to have a beautiful landscape, despite the drought, and show the community in the basin, and surrounding basins, how they too can do their part in the drought crisis.

Due to the Executive Order, customer water restrictions are currently required and there is a proposed ban on nonfunctional turf. If that ban gets adopted, the Museum will not be getting full water right access starting in June 2022. Although not directly preventing lawsuits, the proposed Project would help the Museum avoid paying a fine to the state for watering non-functional turf. If the improvement is not made, the Museum will have to let their lawn die or face a potential fine, and doing so does not help Western move the community towards a water-wise landscape.

### **1.4.2 Evaluation Criterion B: Planning Efforts Supporting the Project**

*Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort. Identify the planning effort and who developed it. Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan. Address the following: Is the project identified specifically in the planning effort? Explain whether the proposed project implement a goal or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort? Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.*

The Project is included in two of Western's planning efforts. The first planning effort is Western's Water Use Efficiency Master Plan (WUE Plan) developed in 2018

(<https://www.wmwd.com/DocumentCenter/View/4732/WUEMasterPlan1-25-19>).

Western developed the WUE Plan in order to develop a guide to protect customers from future droughts. The goal of the WUE Plan is to create "drought-proof" or resilient customers and empower them with the knowledge and tools that will help them weather future droughts. Western defined drought-proof customers as customers who have resilient landscapes that are minimally affected by drought conditions. The goals for Western from this WUE Plan are to drive customers' landscape budget efficiency from 0.7 ET to 0.5 ET and to comply with new State mandates. Western's goals for customers are for all homes and businesses with large landscapes to use water efficiently (p. 5). The Project meets the goals described in the WUE Plan. In addition, the WUE planning effort involved stakeholder involvement through a comprehensive customer attitudinal survey in partnership with the University of California, Riverside (UCR). The survey was developed as an outcome of four focus groups (3 English, 1 Spanish), ten in-depth interviews with Western customers, one pretest, and input from Western staff. The WUE Plan identified most customers to be unaware of or overwhelmed by landscape efficiency programs and landscape efficiency solutions must be "customized" for each property (p. 11), which makes it difficult for customers to achieve deeper savings. Based on the stakeholder engagement, Western found that customers desire a beautiful landscape and each customer has a different vision of what comprises landscape beauty (p. 12). The WUE Plan discusses the landscape style guide and emphasizes the need for Western take a creative and more proactive approach to outreach landscape transformations (p. 38). The planning effort identified the need for a landscape style guide and the need for turf replacement programs. This Project takes it to the next step, taking the different landscape styles developed in the *Landscapes with Style* guide and building it for the community to see, smell, and touch. The Project is also in line with an approach Western is taking to advocate for water efficiency programs, specifically where Western can leverage local businesses and partnerships to deliver mutual benefits (pp. 41-42). Although this Project is not directly mentioned in the WUE Plan, in section 7 - Proposed Future Water Use Efficiency Programs, turf removal programs, like the Project, are included and called the landscape transformation program. Currently, the landscape transformation program is

in place and is administered by MWD at \$2/sqft and Western provides supplemental funding at an additional \$3/sqft.

The second planning document this Project is included in is Western's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). Western's Board of Directors is planning on adopting the DCP in July 2022 (available in June at [www.wmwd.com/uwmp](http://www.wmwd.com/uwmp)). Western actively engaged with diverse stakeholder groups throughout the development of the DCP. Western recruited, convened, and engaged a Drought Task Force comprised of 29 organizations represented by knowledgeable community leaders who can offer diverse, informed perspectives to support effective drought contingency planning. The members of the Drought Task Force organized by stakeholder segment groups are presented the DCP. All retail water agencies in Western's service area are represented on the Drought Task Force. 14% represent environmental and conservation groups, 3% represent environment and social justice, 7% represent regional government, 7% represent research, 3% represent local government, 17% represent Western's retail stakeholders, 4% represents a Tribal stakeholder, 10% represent regional water agencies, and 34% agencies in Western's service area. Five workshops were held over an 18-month period to help guide the development of the DCP.

The DCP identified that if no mitigation projects are implemented, Western will have more demand than supplies. Thus priority mitigation projects will be needed that decrease the need of imported water supplies. Therefore, in the DCP, Western identifies mitigation actions. The Project is listed in the DCP as a mitigation action (Table D-1) and ranks the highest on the evaluation criteria: meets 3 or more water supply reliability and resiliency benefits (out of 3), benefits DAC and promotes environmental justice (out of 3), and is a short-term action - planned to occur within 3 years (out of 3). The regional benefits it meets are water conservation, water supply reliability, operational flexibility, decrease reliance on imported supplies, and benefits DACs.

### **1.4.3 Evaluation Criterion C: Implementation and Results**

*Describe the implementation plan for the proposed project.*

The Project will consist of two stages: bidding and construction. Design for the Project is currently in progress and outside the scope of this Project. Design is anticipated to be complete by end of 2022. This Project will involve the removal of the existing turf landscape and the purchase and installation of drought-tolerant plants, mulch, irrigation, and an irrigation controller.

Based on the Notice of Funding Announcement, award notification is anticipated to be in fall 2022 with an agreement signed before March 31, 2023, with anticipated project completion date of March 31, 2025. Assuming a start date of April 1, 2023, the Project is anticipated to be completed by March 2025. The Project implementation schedule by task is shown below.

## Project Schedule

*Please include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates.*

*Table 1: Project Schedule*

	<b>Task</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
<b>1</b>	CEQA Categorical Exemption/ NEPA Categorical Exclusion	April 2023	June 2023
<b>2</b>	Bidding	June 2023	August 2023
<b>3</b>	Construction	August 2023	March 2025

## Permits

*Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits.*

No permits or special approvals are needed for the implementation of the Project. Project work will be conducted at the existing Museum location and will be entirely within the property.

The Project is anticipated to fall within a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA and a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to NEPA and will not require further compliance measures.

## Design and Engineering Work

*Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.*

Engineering and design work will be completed prior to the start of this Project and is outside the scope of this request for funds.

## Policies and Administrative Actions

*Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.*

No new policies will be required to implement the Project. At the conclusion of the bidding phase, the Board will be required to approve the construction contract(s).

## Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance

*Describe the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance.*

The Project is anticipated to fall within a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA and a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to NEPA and will not require further compliance measures. Once awarded, Western will discuss with our local Reclamation office and submit the CEQA paperwork.

#### **1.4.4 Evaluation Criterion D: Nexus to Reclamation**

*Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity? If so, how?*

As a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California member agency, Western receives water from Reclamation's Colorado River Project. The Project is neither on Reclamation lands nor does it involve Reclamation facilities. The Project will not contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located. Western's application for a WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant for fiscal year 2020 was accepted for a project upgrading customers to "smart" meters and adding radio towers for collection of the meter reads. Western's application for a WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant for fiscal year 2021 was accepted for a project upgrading Western's SCADA system. Both these projects occur in the same basin as the Project.

#### **1.4.5 Evaluation Criterion E: Presidential and Department of Interior Priorities**

##### **Sub-criterion No E1. Climate Change**

*Please describe how the project will address climate change, including: Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis. Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change? Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?*

Western's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) conducted a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment in 2021 and projected:

1. Decreases in supplies under normal and drought (single-year and multi-year) conditions from two basins that provide surface water supplies to portions of the service area (Santa Ana and Santa Margarita Rivers)
2. Decreases in precipitation and natural recharge under normal and multi-year drought years
3. Increases in outdoor water uses under normal, single dry, and multi-year drought conditions
4. An increase in dependence on imported water if mitigation actions are not implemented

The largest source of water for Western is imported water from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which makes up approximately 60 percent of Western's total supply. Of those supplies, about three quarters come from the State Water Project whose source is the Bay-Delta (approximately 500 miles away). The rest come from the Colorado River. The Delta is the largest wetland ecosystem on the Pacific Coast of the United States and provides habitat to highly diverse plant and animal life. Climate change has been negatively impacting the Bay-Delta, so the water saved from this Project directly helps mitigate climate change to this vital ecosystem.

Western's Risk and Resilience report identified earthquakes and wildfires as high-risk, frequent hazards in California, putting Western's water conveyance infrastructures at high-risk of damage. With climate change, the probability of wildfires will increase (U.S. Geological Survey). By reducing imported supply, the risk of hazards like wildfires becomes more locally centered. Therefore, system reliability increases, and hazard risk reduces.

Due to the water-energy nexus, reduced imported water will also result in reduced energy requirements and related emissions associated with source production, conveyance, and treatment requirements. Assuming the Project will result in 2.64 AFY less water diverted from the Delta and transported via the SWP to Western's distribution system, the Project's infrastructure would result in annual energy savings of approximately 8,543 kWh or removing 13,347 pounds of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e). This is based on a study by the California Energy Commission (CEC 2005) that estimates that SWP East Branch water energy intensity is 3,236 kWh/AF.

It is anticipated that the landscape retrofit project will reduce 3,000 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions per year for the property (lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e). Mowing frequency depends on several factors including turfgrass species and fertilizer applications that affect plant growth rate. University of Florida estimated greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from landscape activities and assessed those mowing activities produced 15 lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e/1000ft<sup>2</sup>/yr.

### **Sub-criterion No E2. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities**

*Will the proposed project serve or benefit a disadvantaged or historically underserved community? Benefits can include, but are not limited to, public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities. Please describe in detail how the community is disadvantaged based on a combination of variables.*

Yes, the proposed project will directly benefit a disadvantaged community through addressing water quality from irrigation runoff and provide education to the local community, both of which have high negative exposure (CalEnviroScreen). In addition, \$225K of project costs will be put into the local economy and could assist the unemployment rating for the region.

In order to address the cumulative effects of both pollution burden and socioeconomic stressors, and to identify which communities might be in need of particular policy, investment, or programmatic interventions, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) developed and now maintains and updates the CalEnviroScreen tool on behalf of CalEPA. The tool indicates how disadvantaged a community is through a score of 1–100. The higher the score, the more disadvantaged a community is. Figure 5 shows that the census tracts surrounding the March Field Air Museum, where the Project will be installed has the highest level of disadvantaged communities. The overall CalEnviroScreen community scores are driven by indicators, such as environmental exposure indicators, environmental effect indicators, sensitive population indicators, and

socio-economic factor indicators. The site-specific rating for the census track are shown in Table 3.

Figure 5: CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Results for Disadvantage Communities

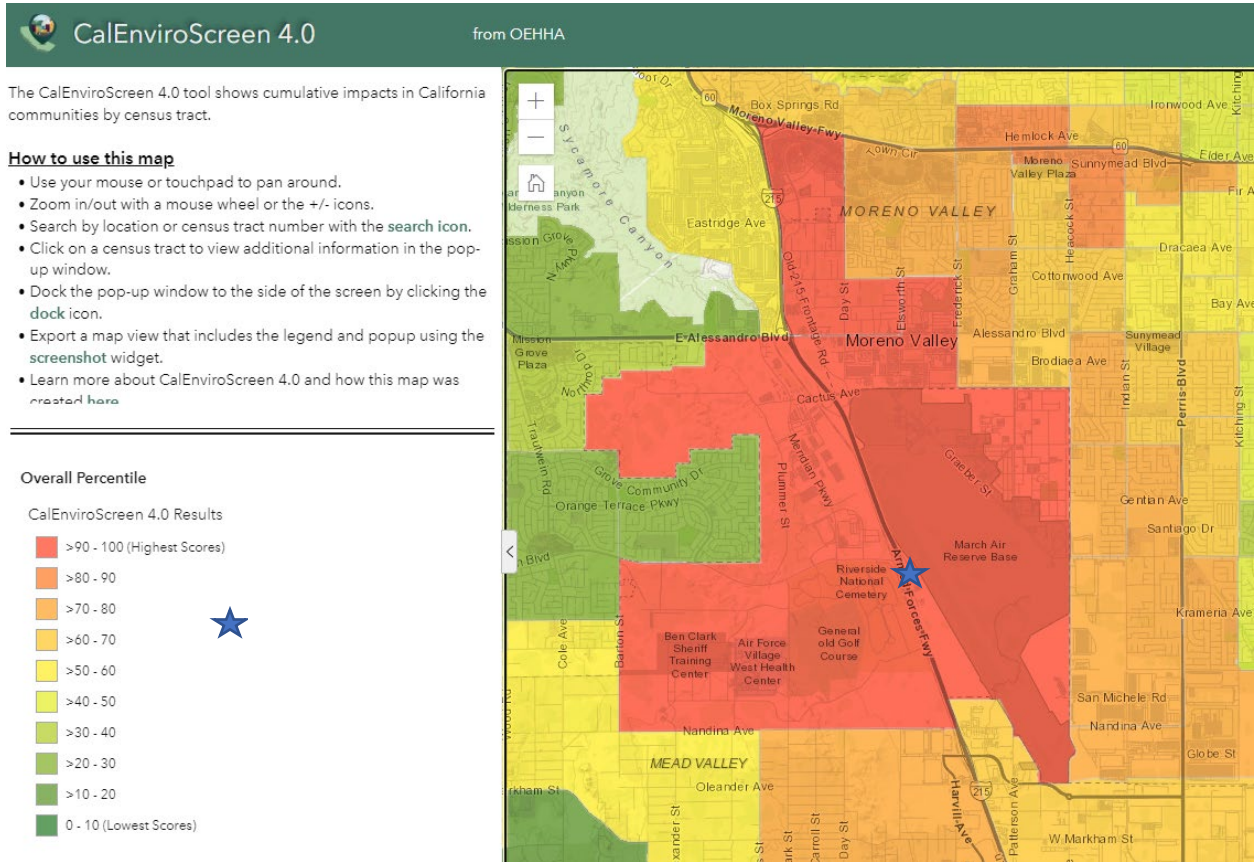


Table 2: EnviroScreen 4.0 Percentile Rankings

The results for each indicator range from 00–100 and represent the percentile ranking of census tract 6065046700 relative to other census tracts.

Overall Percentiles		Environmental Effects	
CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Percentile	98	Cleanup Sites	83
Pollution Burden Percentile	95	Groundwater Threats	98
Population Characteristics Percentile	95	Hazardous Waste	88
<b>Exposures</b>		Impaired Waters	0
Ozone	98	Solid Waste	85
Particulate Matter 2.5	60	<b>Sensitive Populations</b>	
Diesel Particulate Matter	40	Asthma	72
Toxic Releases	64	Low Birth Weight	97
Traffic	82	Cardiovascular Disease	87
Pesticides	13	<b>Socioeconomic Factors</b>	
Drinking Water	71	Education	82
Lead from Housing	54	Linguistic Isolation	83
		Poverty	89



	Unemployment	81
	Housing Burden	60

*If the proposed project is providing benefits to an underserved community, provide sufficient information to demonstrate that the community meets the underserved definition in E.O. 13985, which includes populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.*

According to the United States Census ([U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Riverside city, California](#)), for the entire city of Riverside area over 53% of the community is Hispanic or Latino and 5.9% is Black or African American. 13 percent of that community is below the poverty line, nearly 2 percentage points more than the state’s poverty line. 46% of the population speak a language at home other than English. For the area surrounding the March Field Air Museum, the census tract (046700) has a population of 4,667 with 1,308 households and a median household income of \$54,359, which is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual median household income. Although there is not a mapping tool to show where smaller pockets of minority communities reside, the proposed Project is addressing racial equity by serving the entirety of the community. Therefore, the benefit area of the Project does include community members that do meet the underserved definition in E.O.13985, specifically a large Hispanic/Latino population and a community below 80% of the statewide annual household income.

The underserved community would benefit from this Project by having a more reliable water delivery system (less imported water being used for irrigation and more can be used for health and human services), which can help postpone this region’s response to drought. Western’s water shortage response ordinance does include a Drought Fine for each customer that uses excessive water use (which occurs in Stages 3 and higher). By getting large water users to reduce their outdoor water usage, Western is able to create a buffer in our need to respond which would directly benefit the underserved community (postponing when the Drought Fine is implemented). The underserved community also benefits from the educational and recreational opportunity the new Museum landscape would provide.

**Sub-criterion No E3. Tribal Benefits**

*Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe?*

The Project will not directly benefit any tribes.

**Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:** No funding has been requested or received from other federal partners for the Project. There are no other pending funding requests.

## 2. Project Budget

### 2.1 Funding Plan and Letters of Funding Commitment

The non-federal share of Project costs will come from Western’s Capital Improvement Facilities Plan (CIFP) funds, potentially using funds from the sale of a previous Western-owned property.

No funding will be provided by funding partners. As such, no letters of commitment are being provided.

The budget proposal does not include design or other project costs that will be incurred prior to Project award.

### 2.2 Budget Proposal

Table 3: Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources

Funding Sources	Amount
<b>Non-Federal Entities</b>	
1. Western Municipal Water District	\$125,000
<b>Non-Federal Subtotal</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>
<b>Requested Reclamation Funding</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

Table 4: Total Project Cost Table

Source	Amount
Costs to be reimbursed with the requested Federal funding	\$100,000
Costs to be paid by the applicant	\$125,000
Value of the third-party contributions	\$0
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>

Table 5: Budget Proposal

Budget Item Description	Computation		Quantity Type	Total Cost
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
Salaries and Wages				\$0
Fringe Benefits				\$0
Equipment				\$0
Supplies and Materials				\$0
Contractual/Construction				
Construction		Estimate		\$225,000

Budget Item Description	Computation		Quantity Type	Total Cost
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
Third-Party In-Kind Contributions				
				\$0
Other				
				\$0
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>				<b>\$225,000</b>
Indirect Costs				
Type of Rate	percentage	\$Base		\$0
<b>Total Estimated Project Costs</b>				<b>\$225,000</b>

## 2.3 Budget Narrative

### Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits

Western will not seek reimbursement for staff time spent on the Project, such as project management and bid solicitation, as it is considered to fall under normal staff activity. Fringe benefits are not included in the overall project budget.

### Travel

Travel related expenses are not eligible for reimbursement under this NOFO and no reimbursement or match for staff travel is being sought.

### Equipment

Western will not purchase or rent equipment for project implementation. Purchase or rental of equipment for the Project will be included in the contractual/construction costs.

### Materials and Supplies

Western will not purchase materials and supplies for project implementation. Purchase of material and supplies for the Project will be by the construction contractor and will be included in the contractual/construction costs.

### Contractual/Construction

The estimated contractual/construction cost for this Project is based on a drought-tolerant landscape project on Western's headquarters' facility in 2019. Both projects were similar in scope, with plants and irrigation, and no hardscaping surfaces. The engineer's estimate for Western's facility project in 2019 was \$225,000.

All procurements with an anticipated aggregate value that exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently \$10,000) will use a competitive procurement method.

The contractor will do the following (which include, but not limited to) high-level tasks:

- Turf
  - Remove existing turf
  - Dispose existing turf
- Irrigation
  - Purchase new nozzles

- Install new nozzles
  - Make irrigation adjustments
  - Purchase new controller
  - Install and test new controller
- Site Preparation
  - Purchase weed barrier
  - Install weed barriers
  - Markup plant layout
  - Soil treatment
- Plants and Mulch
  - Purchase water-wise plants
  - Install water-wise plants
  - Purchase groundcover like mulch and decomposed granite
  - Install groundcover

### **Third-Party In-Kind Contributions**

There are no third-party, in-kind contributions related to the Project.

### **Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs**

The Project is anticipated to be fall within a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA and Categorical Exclusion pursuant to NEPA that will require minimal effort for filing applicable documentation. Western will not be seeking reimbursement for staff time related to this effort. Therefore, no budget is included for this category.

### **Other Expenses**

Western will not be seeking reimbursement for expenses other than the above categories.

### **Indirect Costs**

No indirect costs are included in the proposed budget.

### **3. Additional Project Details**

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#### **3.1 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance**

*Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.*

All work will be completed on private property landscapes and irrigation systems. Some earth-disturbing work will include watered and maintained turf-grasses being replaced with a low-water use landscape, as well as modifying the irrigation system to accommodate the new low-water use landscape. The site has compacted earth. No sensitive resources are anticipated.

*Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?*

Project activities will be located within existing facility boundaries. Based on prior assessments of sensitive species and habitats within the Western district area, sensitive species or habitats will not be impacted by the Project.

*Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States”? If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.*

There are no “waters of the United States” located within the Project boundaries and the Project will not impact nearby wetlands or surface waters.

*When was the water delivery system constructed?*

The formation of Western dates back to 1954.

*Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.*

Modifications to the private property irrigation sprinkler system will be needed to accommodate the new low-water use landscaping. There are no planned modifications to Western’s water system.

*Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your*

*local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.*

No buildings, structures or features associated with the Project are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Places.

*Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?*

There are no known archaeological sites within the Project area.

*Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?*

The Project will not have a disproportionately high or adverse effect on low income or minority populations. The Project would benefit Western's water customers and could provide financial benefits to customers through reduction of imported water supply and creating a buffer in Western implementing a Drought Fine.

*Will the proposed project limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?*

No, the Project will not limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands.

*Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?*

The Project is not anticipated to contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of, noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.

### **3.2 Required Permits or Approvals**

No permits or special approvals are needed for implementation of the Project. Project work will be conducted at existing March Field Air Museum and will be entirely within the Museum property.

### **3.3 Letters of Support**

A letter of support from the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) is included in Appendix A. Western has also included a Memorandum of Understanding with the March Field Air Museum in Appendix B. A letter of support from the March Field Air Museum is Appendix C.

### **3.4 Official Resolution**

The Western Board of Directors adopted a resolution on 20, April 2022 authorizing Western to apply for a WaterSMART grant, to execute an agreement with Reclamation for implementation of the Project and verifying Western's funding capability. A copy of the resolution is provided in Appendix D.

### **3.5 Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

At the time of submission, no actual or potential conflict of interests exists.

### **3.6 SAM Registration**

Western is registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). Its unique entity identifier (DUN) is: 030589311 and its CAGE code is oAEE2. Western will maintain an active SAM registration with current information during the period of its federal assistance agreement.

#### 14. Areas Affected by Project

Communities located near March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, CA.





# Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

OVER 50 YEARS OF INNOVATION, VISION, AND WATERSHED LEADERSHIP

March 28, 2022

Attn: Craig Miller, General Manager  
Western Municipal Water District  
14205 Meridian Parkway  
Riverside, CA 92518

**Re: Support for Western Municipal Water District's Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART:  
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Application for the Inspirational Landscape Retrofit  
Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project**

Dear Mr. Miller:

Western Municipal Water District (Western) is applying to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)'s WaterSMART Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program. This Funding Opportunity supports small-scale water efficiency projects that have been prioritized through planning efforts led by Western. These projects are generally in the final design stage. USBR will provide funding for small-scale, on-the-ground water efficiency projects which seek to implement work identified in an applicant's water planning efforts and includes activities related to turf replacements and landscape retrofits. Western is applying to the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program to implement the Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project (Project).

The Project will replace approximately 20,000 square feet of landscaping with drought-tolerant vegetation and upgrade the irrigation system at the March Field Air Museum (Museum), a local non-profit with approximately 60,000 annual visitors.

There are multiple benefits from the Project, including:

1. Improving Western's water supply efficiency by conserving approximately 13.2-acre feet every 5 years,
2. Increasing Western's water supply reliability,
3. Highlighting to the public inspirational drought-tolerant landscape designs and the variety of landscape styles options available with no entrance fee,
4. Increasing public awareness by educating the community about water conservation and environmental restoration, and
5. Improving water quality by reducing runoff from over irrigation.

The Project will help create a regional inspiration garden for the entire inland Southern Californian community to enjoy. By replacing 20,000 square feet of landscaping with drought tolerant plants, this project is expected to reduce water usage for that property by 28%, thus improving overall water usage

Marco Tule  
Chair  
Inland Empire  
Utilities Agency

Bruce Whitaker  
Vice Chair  
Orange County  
Water District

Mike Gardner  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Western Municipal  
Water District

June D. Hayes  
Commissioner  
San Bernardino Valley  
Municipal Water District

David J. Slawson  
Commissioner  
Eastern Municipal  
Water District

Jeffrey J. Mosher  
General Manager

Mr. Craig Miller

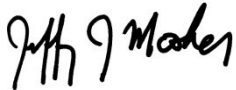
March 28, 2022

Page 2

and water efficiency. The Museum receives imported water that is conveyed through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, so this water use efficiency project will also provide increased water supply reliability benefits to Western. By reducing irrigation needs, this Project will also reduce peak season and peak day demands. A lower peak demand will delay and/or reduce the size and cost of future expansions to Western's treatment and delivery infrastructure.

As a regional partner to Western, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) can attest to the benefits and water efficiency this project will bring to the region. SAWPA is proud to support Western's WaterSMART grant application for the Project.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff J Mosher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jeffery J. Mosher  
General Manager

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**Between the**  
**MARCH FIELD AIR MUSEUM**  
**And the**  
**WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
**Regarding**  
**THE POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF WATER CONSERVATION EDUCATION LANDSCAPING**  
**ON MARCH FIELD AIR MUSEUM PROPERTY**  
**AND ITS PERIODIC USE BY WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**PURPOSE**

The March Field Air Museum (MFAM) desires to make several improvements to the entrance to the MFAM, including but not limited to traffic flow, parking, visual esthetics, and upgrading the property adjacent to several monuments/memorials outside of the main building's entrance. Western Municipal Water District (Western) desires to create a publicly accessible water wise demonstration to promote the use of climate appropriate and water conserving landscaping within its service territory. Western also desires to partner with the MFAM so that members of the public can freely experience landscaping examples and to provide opportunities for enhanced public education on topics related to water supply, service, and management.

MFAM is able to contribute, in the furtherance of Western's stated goals, two significant resources: (1) land, with freeway frontage and accessibility; and (2) an annual audience in excess of 60,000 visitors.

As there are mutual benefits in achieving these goals, the two entities agree to partner on a project to make select improvements and establish future public educational opportunities. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to memorialize general and provisional terms agreed to by both parties regarding the desire to work together to construct improvements on the MFAM property and the relationship between the two parties to this MOU. Future detailed agreements will be necessary to define the specific roles and responsibilities of the parties.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The MFAM has created a conceptual plan that has three phases for different parts of the exterior property. Phase 1 focuses on the area with the greatest landscaping opportunities. Phase 2 is primarily related to parking area improvements. Phase 3 is primarily related to traffic flow as well as some additional landscaping opportunities.

Major efforts/milestones for the project will include:

- Conceptual Plan. This effort has been completed. Exhibit A is attached hereto for reference.
- Site base mapping. This effort was funded by Western and has been completed by the MFAM. Exhibit B is attached hereto for reference.
- Project cost estimates. Each phase focuses on different aspects of the project in addition to specific geographic parts of the MFAM entryway exterior. Each phase will have different cost

estimates for demolition, plants, irrigation, walkways, paving, painting, signage, etc. These estimates will be made by a Registered Landscape Architect or Registered Civil Engineer. This effort is ongoing.

- **Hardscape Design.** A project design plan for hardscape areas will need to be developed. At a minimum, these designs may include a phasing plan, demolition plan, a construction plan, a signage plan, and any needed detail plans. This work will be completed by a Registered Landscape Architect and/or a Registered Civil Engineer. This effort will include project cost estimates and all relevant bid package documentation. Western and the MFAM will collaborate to select a vendor to develop design or designs that meet the requirements of each party.
- **Landscape Design.** A landscape design plan will need to be developed. At a minimum, these designs may include a phasing plan, demolition plan, a construction plan, an irrigation plan, a plant materials schedule, a planting plan, and any needed detail plans. This work will be completed by a Registered Landscape Architect. This will include project cost estimates and all relevant bid package documentation. Western and the MFAM will collaborate to select a vendor to develop design or designs that meet the requirements of each party.
- **Construction.** Western and MFAM will jointly participate in the contractor selection process to ensure the process is conducted in a manner that is impartial, fair, and within a cost range that agreed to by both parties and approved by Western's Board of Directors and March Field Air Museum Board.
- **Construction Management.** Western will be responsible for the selection and contract management of the most responsive and responsible contractor and for execution of a professional services contract between Western and the selected contractor. Western and MFAM will participate in the contractor selection process to ensure the process is conducted in a manner that is impartial, fair and within a cost range that agreed to by both parties and approved by Western's Board of Directors and March Field Air Museum Board.
- **Funding:** Western will provide funding for agreed upon design work and construction improvements directly to the MFAM. MFAM records of payment for the project will be subject to review and audit by Western. Western will directly manage and fund the professional services contract for construction management services during construction of the landscape demonstration.
- **Liability and Insurance.** The MFAM will be responsible for all liability and insurance associated with the MFAM property and the improvements.
- **Long-term maintenance.** The MFAM and Western will jointly participate in the long-term maintenance of the landscape demonstration. Prior to awarding a construction contract, both parties jointly will formulate and execute a maintenance and funding agreement.

#### **PARTNERSHIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**MFAM.** Because the improvements project will benefit both parties, it is agreed both parties will assume specific responsibilities as delineated below. The MFAM will take the lead administrative role in planning, managing, and executing the improvement project. The MFAM will also provide a level of support (as property owner/host) to ongoing future public events directly associated with the improvements.

The MFAM would also own all property, improvements, plantings, signage, and related materials at the completion of the project, and would be responsible for maintenance of all related hardscape, signage, and utilities. The MFAM does not have the in-house resources or expertise required for the upkeep and maintenance of the landscape plantings and irrigation system. As the welfare and upkeep of said plantings would be to the benefit of both MFAM and WMWD, a separate operations and maintenance agreement for contract services will be required. The MFAM would identify and maintain opening hours/public access availability of the enhancements, as well as provide for security as appropriate.

The MFAM would be responsible for all advertising/outreach related to the core mission of the MFAM.

**Western.** Western will provide financial support, subject matter expertise in landscape-related topics, reviews and consultation on the planning and construction efforts, recommendations for educational signage design, and longer-term development and holding of public education events related to, but not limited to water and wastewater services, water conservation and efficiency, and general customer services provided by the district at the MFAM.

Western will not contribute funds for items outside the scope of the landscape demonstration project to remain in compliance with legal requirements in the use of public funds.

Western would be responsible for advertisement/outreach related to the landscaping project and educational events associated with the goals as stated in this Memorandum.


#### **FUTURE DOCUMENTS**

Following joint approval of this Memorandum, the two entities will create one or more additional documents that will become agreements. These documents will address topics in more detail than this MOU, including specific funding/cost sharing of the improvement project, details related to Western holding events at the MFAM, legal commitments/responsibilities such as insurance requirements, operations and maintenance, and other topics as they are determined to be needed.

#### **TERM**

This Memorandum will be in effect through the project implementation, which is expected to be one year in term. Further, it will also be in effect for an additional four years (for a total of five years) during which Western will hold events at the MFAM and provide support.

Approved February 9, 2022

DocuSigned by:  
  
4016332AABFC41E...  
Craig D. Miller  
General Manager  
Western Municipal Water District

DocuSigned by:  
  
00F15C68074B4C1...  
Jamil Dada  
President, Board of Directors  
March Field Air Museum



An AAM Accredited Museum

P.O. Box 6463  
March Air Reserve Base, CA 92518  
(951) 902-5949  
www.marchfield.org

**Founder**

General James P. Mullins, USAF (Ret)  
☆☆☆☆

**Executive Committee**

- Jamil Dada  
*President*
- Mel Gutierrez  
*Vice-President*
- Richard Lemire  
*Secretary*
- Rick Teichert  
*Treasurer*
- Robert Field  
*Member At Large*
- Glen Newman  
*Member At Large*
- Jim Roeever  
*Member At Large*

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- Richard Van Rennes

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- Bob Gilliland
- Supervisor John Tavaaglione
- Jacques Yeager

April 19, 2022  
Attn: Craig Miller, General Manager  
Western Municipal Water District  
14205 Meridian Parkway  
Riverside, CA 92518

Re: Support for Western Municipal Water District’s Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Application for the Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project.

Dear Mr. Miller,

Western Municipal Water District (Western) is applying to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)’s WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America’s Resources for Tomorrow) Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program. This Funding Opportunity supports Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects that have been prioritized through planning efforts led by the applicant. These projects are generally in the final design stage. USBR will provide funding for small-scale, on-the-ground water efficiency projects which seek to implement work identified in an applicant’s water planning efforts and includes activities related to turf replacements and landscape retrofits. Western is applying to the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program to implement the Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project (Project).

The proposed project will replace approximately 20,000 square feet of landscaping with drought-tolerant landscaping and upgrade the irrigation system at the March Field Air Museum (Museum), a local non-profit museum with approximately 60,000 annual visitors.

Benefits of this Project are multi-fold:

- 1) Improving Western’s water supply efficiency by conserving approximately 13.2 AF every 5 years
- 2) Increasing Western’s water supply reliability
- 3) Highlighting what inspirational drought-tolerant landscaping can look like, and the variety of landscape styles options available
- 4) Increase public awareness by educating the community about water conservation and environmental restoration
- 5) Improve water quality by reducing runoff from over irrigation

The Project will help create a regional inspiration garden for the entire inland Southern Californian community to enjoy. The inspirational, drought-tolerant, landscape will be accessible to the public free of charge and will highlight different landscape styles. By replacing 20,000 square feet of landscaping to drought tolerant plants, this project is expected to reduce water usage for that property by 28%, thus improving overall water usage and water efficiency. The Museum receives imported water from the Bay-Area Delta, so this water use efficiency project will also provide increased water supply reliability benefits to Western. By reducing irrigation needs, this Project will also reduce peak season and peak day demands. A lower peak demand will delay and/or reduce the size and cost of future expansions to Western’s treatment and delivery infrastructure.

As Western’s partner on this project, we, the Museum can attest to the benefits and water efficiency this project will bring to the region. We are proud to support Western’s WaterSMART grant application for the Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum Project.

Very Respectfully,

Jamil Dada,  
President, March Field Museum Foundation, Inc.

*March Field Air Museum:  
Where stories of military and civil aviation come alive!*

RESOLUTION 3215

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT'S APPLICATION FOR AND APPROVING NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FOR FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER WATERSMART SMALL-SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County (Western) is a municipal water district established pursuant to Section 71000 et seq. of the California Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the March Field Air Museum (Museum), a non-profit 501 (c)3 charitable organization, desires to make improvements to the entrance of the museum facility, including but not limited to traffic flow, parking, visual esthetics, upgrading the property adjacent to several monuments/memorials outside of the main building's entrance, and drought-tolerant landscaping; and

WHEREAS, Western desires to promote the use of climate-appropriate and water-conserving landscaping within its service area so that members of the public can freely experience such landscaping examples; and

WHEREAS, Western and the Museum entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on December 15, 2021 to assist the Museum with their landscape improvements; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) under the WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency (WaterSMART) Program will make funding available to qualifying applicants; and

WHEREAS, Western's Board of Directors has identified a project that exemplifies the objectives of the WaterSMART program in its Inspirational Landscape Retrofit Project – Drought-Tolerant Landscape Transformation for March Field Air Museum (Project); and

WHEREAS, all applicants wishing to obtain state and federal funding are required to provide a resolution designating Authorized Agents to act on behalf of the applicant to receive these funds from the USBR; and

WHEREAS, WMWD desires to designate the General Manager and his designee as Authorized Agents for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, WMWD agrees to the administration and cost requirements of the grant criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Directors that:

1) WMWD is hereby authorized to receive, if awarded, the WaterSMART funding and will make a good faith effort to enter into an agreement with the USBR for the receipt and administration of said grant funds and agree to abide by the federal award terms and conditions as set forth in the Articles of Agreement;

2) The General Manager Craig Miller, or his designee, is hereby authorized to take any and all action which may be necessary for the completion and execution of the Project agreement and to take any and all other action which may be necessary for the receipt and administration of the grant funding in accordance with the requirements of the USBR;


3) This resolution officially becomes a component part of Western's grant application that will be submitted to the USBR before April 28, 2022;

4) Western is capable of providing the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions specified in the grant application funding plan;

5) This resolution shall be effective as of the date of adoption.

6) The Recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and made an operative part of this resolution.

ADOPTED, this 20th day of April, 2022.

  
BRENDA DENNSTEDT  
President



April 20, 2022

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution 3215 adopted by the Board of Directors of Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County at its regular meeting held April 20, 2022.



---

MIKE GARDNER  
Secretary-Treasurer