DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, Environmental Health Administration

Program: Water Quality Management Planning

Award: $306,600

Project contact: Mr. Glenn Haae

1. For each group/category or program/project for which ARRA funds have been obtained, please provide the following information:
    a. A brief summary of the program/project, including goals
    Funds associated with the EPA's Water Quality Management Planning are being used to provide support to Hawaii Department of Health water programs. Specifically, two positions were created to support the Water Quality Assessment Project: a Water Quality Standards Administrative Associate (WQSAA) to provide administrative support to water program functions including revision and recordkeeping of the State's Water Quality Standards, development of waterbody Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and contract and grant management, and a Geospatial Information Specialist (GIS) to edit multi-agency state waterbody spatial data to conform to a standard waterbody map for the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD).
    b. Whether funds were appropriated for expenditure by a federal agency, were awarded as a formula/block grant to a State or country agency, or were awarded on a competitive grant basis;
    Funds were appropriated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a formula/block grant to the State of Hawaii.
    c. Whether matching funds are required, and, if so:
        i. Are they available; N/A
        ii. Have they been secured; N/A
        iii. If they have not been secured, why not; and N/A
        iv. Will the State be required to continue that match or provide increased/full funding in the future in the future; N/A
    d. If there additional requirements to receive funds, what are they; N/A
    e. The amount of funds involved and the state/federal fiscal year within which the funds must be expended (e.g. SFY 2009 – 2010 or FFY 2009 – 2010);
    The award total was $306,600 and must be expended within FFY 2009 - 2010.
    f. What criteria were used to identify the program/project as a priority and how does the program/project meet them;
    Funds were intended to provide supplemental funding for existing water quality management planning programs.
    g. Efforts undertaken to coordinate application for funds and administration of the program/project, including expenditure of funds, with other federal, state, and county agencies;

DOH is collaborating with the City and County of Honolulu to allocate 40% of the total award as a pass-through to support a "How-To" handbook for organizations to plan for green infrastructure alternatives in their development or renovation projects.

h. The criteria used to select activities for the program/project;
Projects are following and established and approved trajectory based on the fact that they are supplemental funds for existing programs.

i. Efforts made to provide public notice and seek public comment/input or, if public comment/input was not sought, why;
Not applicable.

j. Efforts made during the bidding/award process to ensure that it was transparent and that the funds were awarded based on merit and in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner;
Normal state and county procurement practices were followed and duly documented.

k. Measures employed to 1) reduce duplication of efforts, 2) ensure that funds were used for authorized purposes, and 3) prevent cost overruns, fraud, waste, error, and abuse;
The Department of Health has published draft guidance for internal programs as well as an internal ARR Oversight Committee to assure timeliness and accuracy, and to scrutinize for waste, fraud, error, and abuse. This Committee convenes monthly or as needed. In turn, the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism also provide oversight and guidance.

l. Current status of the program/project, including percentage of awarded funds that have been obtained, percentage of awarded funds encumbered and/or expended, and what part(s) of program/project have been completed; and
Project proposals are under review with the EPA, and contract modifications are in process with vendors and the City and County of Honolulu.

m. Actual or anticipated economic impact to the State of the program/project, including the number of jobs saved/created and the long-term public benefits of the program/project.
Jobs retained/created cannot be calculated at this time. The long-term public benefit of the project will be improved administrative rules for water quality standards, more sophisticated green infrastructure planning and projects, expanded geological and hydrological datasets through GIS mapping to support planning across the state on each island; all of which contribute to more efficient, economical, and fair use of water for drinking, industrial, and agricultural use.