

Urban Southern California Coalition
Proposition 50 Project Summary
(Please limit the length of responses to the space provided)

County: San Diego

Sponsoring Agency: San Diego County Water Authority

Project Title: Artificial Turf for Sports Fields

Preferred Proposition 50 Chapter: Chapter 8, Integrated Regional Water Management

Alternative Proposition 50 Chapter: 79560Chapter 7, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 79550

Project summary:

This project will provide up to \$30,000 per site to install artificial turf in ten sports fields. The average sports field will save 94.7 AF per year at a cost of \$316 per AF. Total program water savings on ten fields over the 15- year life of an artificial field are estimated to be 14,205 AF. Administrative costs will be staff time to write agreements and issue checks.

Project Goal(s) and Benefit(s):

Urban sports fields have proven to be a particularly problematic water conservation problem. The high use on park and school sports fields requires high levels of irrigation and maintenance to keep fields safe, attractive and playable. With decreasing budgets to maintain fields properly and increasing costs to build new sports fields, artificial turf sports fields enable landscape managers to keep fields playable 365 days a year, save water and save maintenance costs. Landscape water savings will: 1) reduce contaminated urban run-off flowing into our streams and ocean; 2) reduce California's demand on the Colorado River thus assisting Californians in living within their 4.4 MAF allocation; and 3) reduce demand on the Bay-Delta supplies, particularly during the summer and winter when Bay-Delta water quality and quantity declines just as anadromous fish begin migrating upstream. Landscape water savings also helps to provide a new source of water supply thus decreasing dependence on expensive imported water.

Project status (*What phase is the project in now? Planning, Design Feasibility Study, Construction, Other*):

This project is in the planning stages as high quality artificial turf is a relatively new product. The project will be operated as a rebate type program Authority water conservation staff. Artificial turf is included in the Conservation Action Plan approved by the Board in December 2002.

Project Partners:

Authority member agencies may provide co-funding and will solicit potential customers in their service areas. .

Project Timeline: The Authority proposes to utilize funds in fiscal years 2003-04 through 2005-06.

Was Project submitted for funding under Proposition 13? (*If yes, under what category?*)

No

Total Project Cost (\$): \$300,000 for incentives only.

Local/Other Funding Committed (\$): The Authority's proposed FY 04 and FY 05 budgets contain \$73,000 of matching funding. Member Agencies may provide additional incentive funding. Authority staff will administer the program.

Proposition 50 Funding Request (\$): \$150,000 for incentives only.