

Applicant	City of Yucaipa
Project Title	Viticulture Operation and Associated Development Standards Plan
Project Description	<p>City of Yucaipa is proposing to establish itself as an American Viticultural Area (AVA). Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program funding would support the AVA development through the implementation of an appropriate regulatory framework that can accommodate the agricultural operations and promote clustered residential development. The proposed grant would be used to prepare the land use tool to allow for vineyard development and associated conservation of ag land that is developed for vineyards.</p> <p>The proposed project would permit vineyard development in those areas identified in the City's General Plan for residential/rural use as well as allow for more creative land use design approaches to promote clustered/infill development and meet state housing goals.</p> <p>The SALC grant would allow the City to create an appropriate land use tool that could enhance and support the establishment of an AVA as well as meet state housing goals. Lands developed into vineyards would then be permanently protected through conservation easements and remove future conversion threats</p>
Land Use Conversion Threats	<p>The applicant states that there are a variety of vacant/underutilized properties that may be suitable for ag (vineyard development). As residential development continues to occur and acreage is lost, the economic viability of ag production would be further diminished. Under the current General Plan there is no mechanism in place to facilitate clustered development. The General Plan refers to "maximum buildout" that would allow for 2,910 rural living units to be developed and an additional 14,965 single residential units could be developed over areas suitable for ag.</p>
Strategic Value or Special Features	<p><u>Economic</u> – The California wine industry contributes quality jobs and significant tax and tourism dollars to national, state and local economies.</p> <p><u>Water Conservation</u> – Irrigation planned for vineyard establishment and viability would be provided by stormwater and recycled water and promote groundwater sustainability.</p>
Total Funding	\$275,000
Request	\$250,000
Match Funding	\$25,000
Priority Population Benefits	No

Applicant	County of Madera
Project Title	SGMA Agricultural Land Solution
Project Description	<p>The County of Madera is proposing to adopt an agricultural easement process that will identify agricultural lands affected by SGMA with the goal of incentivizing landowners to utilize less water intensive practices such as grazing, dryland farming, and/or temporarily resting the property. The primary goal of shifting intensive irrigated to less intensive or non-irrigated use in strategic fashion is to promote groundwater recharge and ensure that the land is not converted to other GHG intensive uses/abandonment through the conveyance of agricultural conservation easements and/or land use restriction contracts.</p> <p>Criteria developed through the planning project to identify and prioritize agricultural lands would include weighted rankings that consider access to surface water, soil quality, water quality, and threat of development/sprawl.</p> <p>The planning project will also assist in the development of a financial structure to incentivize landowners to adopt easements to retain the agricultural use of their lands as it shifts from irrigated to other methods of less water intensive agricultural uses.</p>
Land Use Conversion Threats	<p>SGMA legislation in Madera County has the potential for roughly 120,000 acres of currently irrigated land to come out of production, which may result in the abandonment and development of the County's farmland.</p>
Strategic Value or Special Features	<p>Benefits that could ultimately be expected from this planning project include improved air quality, improved groundwater quality, and potential habitat conservation. Air quality benefits and climate change resilience will result from this project via the reduction of GHG emissions and increased carbon storage due to avoided land use conversion, less particulate matter released, and reduced vehicle miles travelled on the undeveloped land.</p>
Total Funding	\$250,000
Request	\$200,000
Match Funding	\$50,000
Priority Population Benefits	No

Applicant	City of McFarland
Project Title	McFarland Comprehensive General Plan Update: Land Use and Agricultural Conservation
Project Description	<p>The City of McFarland's 2011 General Plan is a re-adoption of the 1991 Plan and requires substantial updates to ensure the adoption of an agricultural land component of an open-space element. The forthcoming update will lead to a more compact development pattern, which helps protect agricultural lands and water resources as required by the Kern Regional Sustainable Community Strategy.</p> <p>To develop a consensus-based comprehensive General Plan Update, Urban Water Management Plan, and Development Impact Fees that support policies and projects that maintain the economic viability of McFarland's agricultural industry, protect the agricultural base, and avoid greenhouse gas emissions. The completed general plan update will promote sustainable development in McFarland and update and adopt all the General Plan elements: land use, circulation, housing, agricultural, conservation, open space, noise and safety, environmental justice, and air quality that comply with the requirements of SB 732.</p>
Land Use Conversion Threats	<p>McFarland is the home of 15,242 residents (California State Finance Department, 2019) in an area of just over 2.5 square miles, surrounded by important farmland located in the northern portion of Kern County. It is approximately 20 miles North of Bakersfield and 3 miles South of Delano. The City has been experiencing significant population growth in the past decade. McFarland's development has been primarily residential, but 3 miles North of McFarland commercial and industrial development is blooming. Agriculture is the primary source of income for over half of residents. Thus, the City of McFarland is concerned that agricultural land conversions to the North and around McFarland continue, resulting in lost agricultural jobs and food supply. The proposed project will address the important farmland within our Sphere of Influence and address long-term environmental issues such as climate change and water resources.</p>
Strategic Value or Special Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of prime agricultural lands and farmlands of statewide importance. • Inclusion of water management plan. • Sustainable development which will avoid GHG emissions • Location in the Central Valley.
Total Funding	\$610,000
Request	\$250,000
Match Funding	\$360,000
Priority Population Benefits	No

Applicant	County of Mendocino
Project Title	Mendocino County Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation Program
Project Description	This project builds about the SALC funded Mendocino County Sustainable Agricultural Lands Strategy 2017. The goals of this project are to protect valuable agricultural lands while also supporting sustainable housing development and build a sustainable and resilient agricultural community through promotion of climate beneficial farming practices that sequester carbon and reduce GHG emissions. The project will implement key action items recommended in the Ag Lands Strategy and by building community support for a growth management program that acknowledges the value of both housing and important ag land and includes reasonable urban growth boundaries. Recommended action items that will be implemented through the proposed project include the development of an agricultural component for a future countywide Climate Action Plan, the scaling up of a Carbon Farm Plan and Soil Health program and increasing landowner participation in the Williamson Act and conservation easement programs.
Land Use Conversion Threats	A risk assessment indicates that 90 percent of Prime agricultural land, 85 percent of Farmland of Statewide Importance and 83 percent of Unique farmland was at risk of conversion to residential development. The highest risk areas occur within municipal services boundaries and the Sphere of Influence or within two miles of these areas in the Ukiah Valley. Mendocino County faces a significant housing shortage which has increased conversion pressure on agricultural lands, compounded by the loss of over 8,000 homes due to wildfires in the North Bay and North Coast regions over the last two years.
Strategic Value or Special Features	<u>Climate Change</u> - Development of a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and identification of GHG reduction measures for the agriculture sector. <u>Soil Health</u> - Development of carbon farm plans resulting in improved soil health. <u>Wildlife Habitat</u> -Protection of wildlife habitat on agricultural lands by avoiding land use conversion.
Total Funding	\$251,730
Request	\$206,000
Match Funding	\$43,130
Priority Population Benefits	No

Applicant	City of Arcata
Project Title	Arcata Gateway Planning Grant
Project Description	<p>The Proposed plan is an update to the City's General Plan Open Space, Resource Conservation and Management and Growth Management elements. The objective is to identify conservation and infill policies that will strengthen the City's current policies to accommodate infill development and preserve ag and forest lands in and surrounding the City. The plan will help meet the City's housing goals through infill development in the short-term and provide long-term climate change benefits by conserving agricultural and forest lands in and around the City.</p> <p>The Infill Plan includes updates to the several General Plan Elements. Among them, the Open Space, Resource Conservation and Management, and Growth Management Elements will be revised and updated with strengthened conservation and infill policies. The policy and implementation will be detailed enough to ensure the preservation by demonstrating future growth can be accommodated within the urban core. These policies will guide development for the next 20 years.</p>
Land Use Conversion Threats	<p>The City's existing lands zoned for housing are limited. The currently zoned residential lands will not meet the current Regional Housing Needs Allocation mandated by the state. This project and the ancillary plans associated with the Infill Plan will provide the framework for ensuring this added near-term pressure, and the long-term pressure sure to come with climate change, do not negatively impact resource conservation lands. While sites have been identified, the land use planning and policy development has not been completed. This grant will support this planning effort.</p> <p>The conservation risks will be addressed by developing policy and measures to concentrate development in the existing urban core. To the extent that there are agriculture inholdings within this core, the Infill Plan will require special findings and mitigation for conversion. The Infill Plan will also strengthen annexation policy.</p>
Strategic Value or Special Features	<p><u>Social Justice</u> - Social justice for vulnerable communities will be imbedded in the plan's analysis.</p> <p><u>Housing</u> - Analysis of recreational benefits proximate to housing</p> <p><u>Climate Change</u> - Address sea level rise impacts on agricultural lands.</p>
Total Funding	\$275,000
Request	\$250,000
Match Funding	\$25,000
Priority Population Benefits	No

Applicant	County of Mariposa
Project Title	Mariposa County Ag/ Working Landscape Conservation Plan
Project Description	Mariposa purposes to develop a comprehensive County Agricultural and Working Landscape Conservation Plan to protect the county's ag lands, reduce GHG, meet climate action goals while engaging the public and building consensus on a county vision for agriculture in the 21st century. The project will assess existing ecological and environmental values, assess existing land use policies, assess key social values, establish a baseline of social values throughout the County's Ag/Working landscapes, develop and implement stakeholder engagement activities, and identify co-benefits.
Land Use Conversion Threats	<p>Preservation of the working landscape and the lifestyle it supports is a cornerstone to the General Plan. Mariposa County was one of the first counties in California to enact "right to agricultural activities" that conserve our agricultural lands and maintain their economic and cultural viability. Losing agricultural lands to conversion hampers the local economy, and erodes the sense of identity, heritage, and place. A cohesive agricultural conservation plan will reinforce these policies by prescribing a value to agricultural and working lands and demonstrate the importance of conservation planning and related programs.</p> <p>Mariposa's land use conversion threats include subdivision of farms into small lot dispersed development. Additionally, there are fundamental, yet not fully understood, impacts of climate change on all of Mariposa County's landscapes, including its agricultural ones. As warmer temperatures, changing wildlife behaviors, and catastrophic events like wildfire, drought, and flooding continue to reshape the environment, the sustainability and viability of current agricultural practices becomes increasingly uncertain.</p>
Strategic Value or Special Features	<p><u>Leverages Other State Funding</u> – Mariposa County is the recipient of a Department of Conservation grant to implement TerraCount. Data gathered via TerraCount will be incorporated into the SALC Planning Grant.</p> <p><u>Stakeholder Engagement</u> - Diverse stakeholder team that will work on the project</p>
Total Funding	\$277,068
Request	\$245,639
Match Funding	\$31,429
Priority Population Benefits	No