

**Bishop General Plan Update  
Sustainable Communities Grant Program  
Preliminary Web Text 3/19/11**

The City of Bishop is preparing an application for grant funding through the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program. Funding for this program comes from Proposition 84, The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006. The program is administered by the Strategic Growth Council of the California Department of Conservation.

This program supports the development and implementation of plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with Assembly Bill 32, improve air and water quality, encourage infill and compact development, reduce automobile use, protect natural resources, promote public health, increase housing affordability, revitalize urban and community centers, promote energy efficiency and conservation, and strengthen the economy.

Communities may submit proposals for funding in amounts between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000. Funding is divided into three focus areas:

1. Local Sustainable Planning
2. Regional SB 375 Plus
3. Regional Planning Activities with Multiple Partners

Bishop will be applying under Focus Area #1. The intent of this focus area is the support of development and implementation of effective and/or innovative local plans that address the state's AB 32 GHG emission reduction targets and implement SB 375, while creating sustainable communities. Proposals eligible under this focus area include:

- Targeted General Plan Updates or Element(s)
- Specific Plans/Infill Plans/Zoning Ordinances
- Other implementation instruments and plans needed to successfully meet AB 32 greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements and to implement SB 375, while improving community-wide sustainability; and
- Climate Action Plans

Bishop is currently considering an application for a targeted General Plan Update and Municipal Code Update. Actions being discussed as possible components of the application include:

- Development and adoption of drainage/runoff standards
- An energy efficiency plan for the municipal facilities
- Downtown general plan policies to enhance economic opportunities and energy efficiency, possibly including form-based regulations

- Coordination of land use policies and infrastructure planning with Inyo County and the Bishop Paiute Tribe to improve connectedness and promote economic growth in all parts of the larger community
- Update of the Land Use Element in support of the revisions to the Mobility and Transportation Elements.
- A recreational and Commuter trails system
- An Economic Development Element considering the Retail Gap Analysis, digital 395, enhanced tourism, and other identified gaps or opportunities

The tentative grant schedule from the Strategic Growth Council is:

- Adoption of revised grant application guidelines in March 2011
- Release of the Request for Proposals in late April or early May 2011
- Application deadline - July 31, 2011
- Award announcement – November or December 2011

The city welcomes comments and additional suggestions for planning programs that would benefit Bishop and that fall within the grant guidelines. Comments and suggestions may be submitted by mail, e-mail or phone to:

Gary Schley, Public Services Officer  
City of Bishop City Hall  
377 West Line Street  
Bishop, CA 93514  
[garyschley@ca-bishop.us](mailto:garyschley@ca-bishop.us)  
760.873.8458

At least one public workshop to receive comments and suggestions will be held after the final guidelines have been released. Submittal of the application will also require formal action of the City Council.