

SWC PROJECT PRIORITIZATION GUIDANCE

Projects submitted during the project planning inventory process¹ that meet SWC cost-share eligibility requirements will be considered for prioritization. In the interest of strategically investing in the state's highest water development priorities, the Water Commission will give funding preference to projects designated as higher priorities for the first 12 months of each budget cycle.

ESSENTIAL PROJECTS *(No Priority Ranking)*

Agency operational expenses.

An imminent water supply loss to an existing multi-user system, an immediate flood or dam related threat to human life or primary residences, or emergency response efforts.

Existing agency debt obligations.

SWC project mitigation.

HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS

Federally authorized water supply or flood control projects with a federal funding appropriation.

Federally authorized water supply or flood control projects that do not have a federal appropriation.

Corrects a lack of water supply for a group of water users or connects a city to a regional/rural system.

Corrects a violation of a primary water quality condition in a water supply system.

Addresses severe or anticipated water supply shortages for domestic use in a service area or city with rapid population growth.

Protects primary residences or businesses from flooding in population centers or involves flood recovery property acquisitions.

MODERATE PRIORITY PROJECTS

Dam safety repairs and emergency action plans.

Expansion of an existing water supply system.

Levee system accreditations, water retention, or flood protection property acquisitions.

Irrigation system construction.

New rural flood control projects.

Bank stabilization.

Snagging and clearing in population centers.

LOW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Studies, reports, analyses, surveys, models, evaluations, mapping projects, or engineering designs.¹¹

Improvement or extraordinary maintenance of a water supply system.

Improvement or extraordinary maintenance of rural flood control projects.

Recreation projects.

Individual rural and farmstead ring dike constructions.

Snagging and clearing in sparsely populated areas.

Footnotes

1. All local sponsors are encouraged to submit project financial needs during the budgeting process. Projects not submitted as part of the project information collection effort may be held until action can be taken on those that were included during budgeting, unless determined to be an emergency that directly impacts human health and safety or that are a direct result of a natural disaster.

11. May be considered as a higher priority if the related project is of higher priority.

Disclaimer

This process is meant to provide guidance for prioritizing water projects during the budgeting process that may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the Department of Water Resources. Interpretation and deviations from the process are within the discretion of the state as authorized by the State Water Commission or Legislature.