



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT (TAG) APPLICATION

Applicant Information

Organization: City of San Luis Obispo - Public Utilities Department		
Applicant Name	First: Meg	Last: Buckingham
Applicant Physical Address	Street: 879 Morro Street	
City: San Luis Obispo	State: CA	Zip Code: 93401
Applicant Mailing Address	Street: 879 Morro Street	
City: San Luis Obispo	State: CA	Zip Code: 93401
Primary Contact Name	First: Meg	Last: Buckingham
Title	Solid Waste and Recycling Program Manager	
Work Phone: (805)783-7850	Cell Phone: (805)748-0887	
Email: mbuckin@slocity.org	Total TAG Funding Requested: \$10,000	

Brief Project Description (1-3 sentences)

This grant request is for the purchase cost of indoor two and three stream recycling, trash, and organics receptacle systems to be installed at various locations throughout City facilities in order to maximize landfill diversion opportunities in accordance with the City's Climate Action Plan implementation efforts.

Certification:

I declare, under the penalty of perjury, that all information submitted for the San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority's (IWMA's) consideration for allocation of grant funds is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief: ***If applicant is not Officer/Principal, have form signed before returning to IWMA.***

Company Officer or Principal Name	First: Meg	Last: Buckingham
Title: Solid Waste and Recycling Program Manager	Phone: (805)783-7850	
Email: mbuckin@slocity.org		
Signature	<i>Meg Buckingham</i> <small>Digitally signed by Meg Buckingham Date: 2024.03.06 11:27:47 -08'00'</small>	



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT (TAG) APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please provide the following information in the order requested. Additionally, limit your response to no more than (3) three pages.

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1. Provide a description of the project including project goals.

The City requests grant funding to purchase and install two and three stream indoor recycling and trash receptacles at public and high-use City facilities in order to maximize its internal recycling efforts.

The grant would further the City's efforts towards meeting the ambitious zero waste goal (90 percent landfill diversion by 2030) included in the adopted Climate Action Plan with the intent that by leading by example, the City will simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions and demonstrate replicable strategies to residents, businesses, and other organizations.

The container systems will provide new recycling opportunities at many locations for staff and the public, are anticipated to increase program participation, and reduce contamination.

2. Describe how the grant money will be used to purchase, lease, or rent equipment or pay for services/supplies needed to start and/or expand landfill diversion or source reduction efforts.

Grant funds would be used to purchase containers for high-use and/or public City facilities, including Sinsheimer Pool, the Police Station, Parking Services, Utilities Department office, and the City Corporation Yard.

The new bins would provide uniform colors consistent with SB 1383 and the opportunity for customizable signage based on the discarded materials specific to each location. Last year, the City implemented the first phase of this project, focusing primarily on locations with an immediate need for organics and recycling containers. This year, the City would like to implement the second and final phase of this project by installing bin systems at the remaining priority locations.

Some of these facilities have lobby areas and meeting rooms that do not currently offer recycling to the public. Other locations have been identified both by the City's Solid Waste and Recycling Team and a consultant hired by the City to conduct a waste characterization audit of City facilities and operations as high contamination areas resulting from roaming bins, poorly labeled bins resulting from bin/lid design, and the continual misplacement of the labeled lids on the wrong bins.



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3. Provide an itemized projected budget (revenues and costs) for the next (3) three years. Included the project's proposed in-kind contribution. In-kind contributions can be any services or equipment being provided by the applicant such as time, matching funding, etc.

Year 1:
 Grant Funds - \$10,000 (bin procurement - bin costs and shipping)
 In-Kind - 5 hours of staff time (Bin procurement, facilitation, and installation)
 In-Kind - 12 hours of staff time (Quarterly bin monitoring for contamination and diversion success)

Year 2:
 In-Kind - 12 hours of staff time (Quarterly bin monitoring for contamination and diversion success)

Year 3:
 In-Kind - 12 hours of staff time (Quarterly bin monitoring for contamination and diversion success)

No revenues will be received from this effort.

4. Describe how your program will reduce waste, divert waste, and/or conserve landfill space. Also, describe how you will track/measure project milestones in order to meet intended goals.

In July 2023, the City hired a consultant, ReCREATE, to conduct a waste generation and characterization audit of City facilities and operations. ReCREATE determined that the City's internal diversion rate was 30 percent, however, it could be doubled to 60 percent if discarded materials were properly source separated.

Placing uniformly paired, well-labeled, and SB 1383 consistent color-coded bins in areas where recycling is not currently offered and in high employee/public usage areas is expected to increase the amount of materials the City is able to divert from landfill disposal. In addition, the new bins allow for customized signage that can be designed and periodically updated to target location specific contamination based on the findings of quarterly visual audits.

The City will use an Excel spreadsheet to track the status of project milestones. Milestones include opening a purchase order to the bin system supplier, product delivery, and grant administrative tasks. Additional milestones beyond the scope of this funding request include product installation, quarterly visual waste contamination audits, and the design and installation of customizable signs.



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5. How does this project provide new or expanded landfill diversion and/or source reduction opportunities for San Luis Obispo County?

Placing uniformly paired, well-labeled, and SB 1383 consistent color-coded bins in areas where recycling is not currently offered and in high employee usage areas with inferior bin set ups is expected to increase the amount of materials the City is able to divert from landfill disposal.

A prime example is the Sinsheimer Pool that does not have public facing bins for mixed recycling and organics recycling in its lobby area. This facility has over 40 part-time lifeguards and can draw hundreds of members of the public for a single event who enter and exit through this area.

The new bins allow for customized signage that can be easily updated to target location specific contamination based on the results of periodic audits. The City has piloted both types of bin systems in many of its rental facilities, such as the Ludwick Center and Library Community room, and has received very positive feedback from facility users.

6. What resources and expertise do you have to complete this project?

The City implemented the first phase of this project in 2023 and has a clear understanding of what it will take to procure and install the bin systems at the identified locations.

The City has already conducted multiple surveys of its facilities to determine these high priority locations, that included stakeholder input from facility users.

Time will be dedicated from the Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator and Solid Waste and Recycling Manager to oversee the procurement of the bins, and City Building Maintenance staff will assist with their installation. The program also includes custodial training to make sure materials placed in each of the containers are properly discarded in the appropriate outdoor receptacles.

Note: In addition to responding to the above (6) six items, applicants may provide up to (10) ten pages of supplemental information such as brochures, equipment flyers, etc. Print application and submit the complete packet by US Postal Service. Applications must be date stamped by the application deadline.

