



ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP ALLOCATION PROGRAM



IMPACTED CITIES

All 34 Orange County cities and the County of Orange

AT A GLANCE

FUNDING: Approximately \$265 million available from Measure M (over 30 years)

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Fact sheet as of 7/2/2025

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Environmental Cleanup Program (Program) helps improve overall water quality in Orange County from transportation-generated pollution. Program funds will be allocated on a countywide competitive basis to assist jurisdictions in meeting the Clean Water Act for controlling transportation-generated pollution. The funds are designed to supplement, not supplant, existing transportation-related water quality programs.

Eligible applicants include Orange County city and county agencies such as planning departments, public works agencies, recreational departments, etc. Third parties, such as water and wastewater public entities, environmental resource organizations, nonprofit 501(c) environmental institutions, and homeowners associations cannot act as the lead agency for a proposed project; however, these entities can jointly apply with an eligible applicant.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

The Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee (Allocation Committee) is responsible for developing the program and making funding recommendations to the OCTA Board of Directors. Comprised of 12 voting and two non-voting members, the Allocation Committee has been meeting on a regular basis since November 2007.

TIER 1 GRANT PROGRAM

The Tier 1 Grant Program is designed to mitigate the more visible form of pollutants, such as litter and debris that collects on roadways and in storm drains prior to being deposited in waterways and the ocean. Tier 1 consists of funding for equipment purchases and upgrades to existing catch basins and related best management practices (BMPs) such as screens, filters, inserts and other streetscale low-flow diversion projects.

To date, more than \$40 million has been awarded to 233 projects throughout Orange County.

TIER 2 GRANT PROGRAM

The Tier 2 Grant Program consists of funding regional, potentially multi-jurisdictional, capital-intensive projects. Examples include constructed wetlands, detention/infiltration basins and bioswales, which mitigate pollutants including litter and debris, but also heavy metals, organic chemicals, sediment and nutrients.

To date, three rounds of Tier 2 funding have been allocated. Approximately \$35 million was awarded to 26 projects from 13 cities and the County of Orange. OCTA is working with the Allocation Committee, the County of Orange, and local jurisdictions to determine the best timing to issue the next Tier 2 call for projects.