



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT AWARDS / CONTRACTS / GRANTS

☐ Award ☐ Contract ☒ Grant

Requested Board Meeting Date: May 16, 2023

or Procurement Director Award: ☐

* = Mandatory, information must be provided

***Contractor/Vendor Name/Grantor (DBA):**

Environmental Protection Agency

***Project Title/Description:**

Expanding Localized Air Quality Monitoring at Pima County Schools to Address Environmental Justice Grant Award

***Purpose:**

PDEQ plans to partner with the University of Arizona and multiple school districts throughout the County to deploy and operate additional low-cost outdoor air pollution sensors capable of measuring selected air pollutants in identified environmental justice locations. Based on data collected by these sensors, project partners will develop models to predict air pollution levels across the county and develop action plans. Partners will also use data to develop modules to educate students for community science efforts, such as education sessions on air pollution and related health effects and the relationship between data and localized environmental justice issues identified by the students. Pima County was notified about its selection for this award in late 2022 but asked to wait for further contact from EPA Region 9 personnel. EPA Region 9 has made tentative outreach, but has not forwarded any grant documentation or agreement information, although that information is expected. Under EPA terms and conditions, awards are considered accepted if no affirmative rejection is made within 21 days of receipt of the proposed grant agreement. By accepting this notice of award, the Board is accepting the announced award from EPA. PDEQ is authorized to complete any agreement subsequently proffered to it by EPA for this award.

***Procurement Method:**

Not applicable

***Program Goals/Predicted Outcomes:**

- Establish a network of low-cost sensors measuring particulate matter and gaseous pollutants in 30 Pima County schools, with an emphasis on underserved communities that have a higher risk of cumulative exposure to air pollutants due to their proximity to more air pollution sources. The data collected will also be made available to the public.
- Construct spatiotemporal models to predict air pollution levels across Pima County.
- Develop and implement community science education plans at schools to educate students about air pollution and its connection to environmental justice.

***Public Benefit:**

The general public will have greater awareness of localized air pollution so that they can understand the differences in air pollution levels in different areas of Pima County. Students will also have more knowledge and awareness of air pollution sensor equipment and data collection and how that data can be used to advocate for policies that are more protective of public health, especially in higher risk communities.

***Metrics Available to Measure Performance:**

- 30 sensors installed at Pima County schools
- Data is made publicly available
- Action plans developed
- Students have completed curriculum developed

***Retroactive:**

No.

GMT approves
4/24/23 (signature)

THE APPLICABLE SECTION(S) BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A". Make sure to complete mandatory (*) fields

Contract / Award Information

Document Type: _____ Department Code: _____ Contract Number (i.e., 15-123): _____
Commencement Date: _____ Termination Date: _____ Prior Contract Number (Synergen/CMS): _____
☐ Expense Amount \$ _____ * ☐ Revenue Amount: \$ _____

***Funding Source(s) required:** _____

Funding from General Fund? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes \$ _____ % _____

Contract is fully or partially funded with Federal Funds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, is the Contract to a vendor or subrecipient? _____

Were insurance or indemnity clauses modified? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, attach Risk's approval.

Vendor is using a Social Security Number? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, attach the required form per Administrative Procedure 22-10.

Amendment / Revised Award Information

Document Type: _____ Department Code: _____ Contract Number (i.e., 15-123): _____

Amendment No.: _____ AMS Version No.: _____

Commencement Date: _____ New Termination Date: _____

Prior Contract No. (Synergen/CMS): _____

☐ Expense ☐ Revenue ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease

Amount This Amendment: \$ _____

Is there revenue included? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes \$ _____

***Funding Source(s) required:** _____

Funding from General Fund? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes \$ _____ % _____

Grant/Amendment Information (for grants acceptance and awards)

☐ Award ☐ Amendment

Document Type: GTAW Department Code: DE Grant Number (i.e., 15-123): 23*124

Commencement Date: 07/01/2023 Termination Date: 06/30/2026 Amendment Number: _____

☐ Match Amount: \$ _____ ☒ Revenue Amount: \$ 488,210

***All Funding Source(s) required:** US Environmental Protection Agency

***Match funding from General Fund?** ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes \$ _____ % _____

***Match funding from other sources?** ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes \$ _____ % _____

***Funding Source:** _____

***If Federal funds are received, is funding coming directly from the Federal government or passed through other organization(s)?**

Direct funding from EPA

Contact: Natalie Shepp

Department: Environmental Quality

Telephone: 724-6885

Department Director Signature: Ursula Nelson

Date: 4/20/2023

Deputy County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 27 Apr 2023

County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 4/27/2023

Jeannette Montano

From: Dorothee Harmon
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 9:45 AM
To: Katherine Hahn
Subject: Fwd: IMPORTANT Updates for Selected Applications for EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01

Look what came in this morning!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: AirMonitoring <AirMonitoring@epa.gov>
Date: December 13, 2022 at 8:31:55 AM MST
To: AirMonitoring <AirMonitoring@epa.gov>
Subject: IMPORTANT Updates for Selected Applications for EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01

CAUTION: This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Good morning-

This update/reminder is being sent to the authorized representatives for the selected applications of the EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01 (Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities) grant competition. EPA notified all applicants that we selected for an award on October 31, 2022, by sending a message from this email account to the authorized representative listed on the EPA Key Contacts Form. This message was a notification of selection, which indicates that the application has been selected to receive an award, and not a notice of award to begin work. There are additional steps required before you receive a signed notice of award from the EPA Regional Grants Management Office. A grants officer is the only person who is authorized to give the notice of award, binding the government to the expenditure of funds.

A regional EPA contact will be reaching out to you soon because some applicants may need to prepare and submit additional documents and forms, which then must be approved by EPA before the grant can officially be awarded. **Please note that the time between notification of selection and award of a grant can take up to 90 days or longer. With the unprecedented funding amounts as well as unprecedented number of selected applications, this process very well may take longer than 90 days.** This information can be found in Section VI.A. (page 24) of the request for applications.

Urgent questions (e.g., changes of address) may be directed to AirMonitoring@epa.gov, but general grant questions should be reserved until you are contacted by the regional EPA project officer. Thank you for your patience as EPA continues to work through the large volume of awards associated with this competition.

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Air and Radiation
AirMonitoring@epa.gov

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$53 Million for 132 Community Air Pollution Monitoring Projects Across the Nation

Largest investment for community air monitoring in EPA history funded by President Biden's Climate and Economic Plans

November 3, 2022

Contact Information

EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that 132 air monitoring projects in 37 states will receive \$53.4 million from President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act and American Rescue Plan to enhance air quality monitoring in communities across the United States. The projects are focused on communities that are underserved, historically marginalized, and overburdened by pollution, supporting President Biden's Justice40 Initiative.

The air pollution monitoring projects are made possible by more than \$30 million in Inflation Reduction Act funds, which supplemented \$20 million from the American Rescue Plan and enabled EPA to support 77 additional projects, more than twice the number of projects initially proposed by community-based nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, and Tribal governments. More than \$4 million will be awarded to communities visited by EPA Administrator Michael Regan during his first Journey to Justice tour.

"I've traveled across the country and visited communities who've suffered from unhealthy, polluted air for far too long. I pledged to change that by prioritizing underserved communities and ensuring they have the resources they need to confront longstanding pollution challenges," **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan**. "The air monitoring projects we are announcing today, which include the first EPA grants funded by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, will ensure dozens of overburdened communities have the tools they need to better understand air quality challenges in their neighborhoods and will help protect people from the dangers posed by air pollution."

These grant selections further the goals of President Biden's Justice40 Initiative and Executive Order, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, which directed that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to overburdened communities that face disproportionately high and adverse health and environmental impacts. By enhancing air monitoring and encouraging partnerships with communities, EPA is investing in efforts to better protect people's health, particularly those in underserved communities.

The amount of the anticipated grant funding ranges from \$57,000 to \$500,000, which will enhance air monitoring in communities and establish important partnerships to address air quality concerns. More than half of the selected applications are from community and nonprofit organizations. Tribes are receiving 12 percent of the total funding for this competition. EPA will start the process to award the funding by the end of 2022, once the grant applicants have met all legal and administrative requirements. The grantees will have three years to spend the funds from the time EPA awards the grants.

"Ensuring Americans have clean air to breathe starts with having an effective system to measure the pollutants that exist," **said Senator Tom Carper, Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee.** "Fortunately, the Biden Administration is taking action to improve our nation's outdated air quality monitoring system thanks to our historic investments in the Inflation Reduction Act and American Rescue Plan. These grants will go a long way toward enhancing air quality and improving public health, especially in low-income and historically disadvantaged communities. For too long, these communities have been overburdened by air pollution while often contributing disproportionately little to the cause. I commend Administrator Regan for his steady commitment to delivering cleaner air in communities across our nation, and I look forward to continuing the important work of advancing legislation that improves our nation's air monitoring systems."

"With today's announcement, the Biden EPA is safeguarding Americans' right to clean air by strengthening air monitoring across the country and providing communities the localized information they need to protect public health," **said Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr., Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.** "These projects are especially crucial for environmental justice communities, which continue to bear the brunt of air pollution and its adverse health effects. I'm thrilled the funding we included in the American Rescue Plan and Inflation Reduction Act is providing these communities with the resources they both need and deserve, and I commend EPA for being a steadfast partner in our fight to ensure these communities will never again be left behind."

The announcement today delivers on Administrator Regan's commitment to action following his ongoing Journey to Justice tour. Following the first leg of the tour through Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas in November 2021, EPA encouraged communities to apply for the grants. Today's selectees include eight projects in communities from the tour, totaling nearly \$4 million from this grant program. These awards to communities from Journey to Justice and additional awards to underserved and overburdened communities reflect the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to deliver environmental justice and the whole-of-government approach to addressing these issues in communities that are historically marginalized.

[See the list of applications selected for award.](#)

Background

In spring 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan, providing EPA with a one-time supplemental appropriation of \$100 million to address health outcome disparities from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. Half of that \$100 million, was dedicated to air quality monitoring.

EPA Regions began awarding nearly \$22.5 million from this appropriation in 2022 as direct awards to state, tribal, and local air agencies for continuous monitoring of fine particle and other common pollutants. In addition, EPA Regions are in the process of procuring monitoring equipment using \$5 million in American Rescue Plan funding to advance the EPA Regional Offices' mobile air monitoring capacity and establish air sensor loan programs. These investments will improve EPA's ability to support communities that need short-term monitoring and air quality information.

In July 2021, EPA announced the \$20 million American Rescue Plan Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities Grant Competition. The goal of this competition was to improve air quality monitoring in and near underserved communities across the United States, support community efforts to monitor their own air quality, and promote air quality monitoring partnerships between communities and tribal, state, and local governments. EPA received more than 200 applications in response to the competition.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 provides funding to EPA to deploy, integrate, support, and maintain fenceline air monitoring, screening air monitoring, national air toxics trend stations, and other air toxics and community monitoring. Specifically, the Inflation Reduction Act provides funding for grants and other activities under section 103 and section 105 of the Clean Air Act. EPA is using approximately \$32.3 million of this funding to select 77 high-scoring community monitoring applications.

Selected Applications

Cocopah Indian Tribe	AZ	\$185,029	Recipient will establish long term air quality monitoring capacity at the Cocopah Indian Tribe through the deployment of air monitors, data collection and analysis, staff training, and community outreach.
Pima County, Department of Environmental Quality	AZ	\$488,210	Recipient will deploy and operate additional low-cost outdoor air pollution sensors at Pima County schools. This will improve exposure measurements of selected air pollutants for the entire population, especially identified environmental justice locations.
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	AZ	\$404,372	Recipient will hire additional staff to support the air quality program activities. Additional staff will support the air program needs in quality assurance and data management to fulfill the EPA ambient monitoring requirements to ensure that the data meets its quality objective.