Potential Funding Sources and Other Types of Assistance

Although California requires local jurisdictions to adopt a General Plan, including an EJ Element or integrated EJ policies, the state does not provide funds to support these efforts. Therefore, it is important for local governments to consider ways in which they can fund planning and SB 1000 efforts in particular.

Potential funding sources exist at the local, regional, state, and federal levels as well as through private philanthropic sources. However, funding availability depends on administration changes, budget allocations, continued program existence, and application deadlines. Some of these funds can be used for planning in general, while some are dedicated to specific EJ objectives such as food access, safe and sanitary homes, and water quality.

There are also several technical assistance programs that can provide expert consultation to help cities and counties learn more about a specific topic or method to achieve certain tasks. Services may be provided on-site or remotely, and can vary in the degree of support. Technical assistance sources available to local jurisdictions in support of SB 1000 objectives include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), councils of governments (COGs), and the Prevention Institute.

Local Funds
- General Plan Maintenance Fee
- General Fund

Regional Funds
- SCAG Sustainability Planning Grants Program
- ABAG/MTC One Bay Area Grant Program
- SANDAG Healthy Works Phase II Program
- AMBAG Sustainable Communities Strategy Implementation Project
- BCAG Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy
- Fresno COG’s EJ Advisory Committee and EJ Equity Analysis Report
- Kern COG Regional Transportation Plan
- KCAG Climate Action Plan
- MCTC Sustainable Energy Roadmap
- SACOG Programs
- SJCOG Measure K Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safe Routes to School Smart Growth Incentive Program

Community-based air quality monitoring in East Oakland (CBE).
State Grants
- Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program
- Caltrans Environmental Justice and Community-Based Transportation Planning Grants
- Supplemental Environmental Projects
- The Transformative Climate Communities Program Implementation and Planning Grants
- Community Revitalization and Investment Authority
- CDFA: California Healthy Food Financing Initiative
- CalEPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Program
- State Water Resources Control Board Proposition 1 State Water Grants
- State Water Resources Control Board Site Cleanup Subaccount Program

Federal Grants
- Choice Neighborhoods (HUD)
- Agricultural Marketing Service and Food Environment Atlas (USDA)
- Community Economic Development (HHS)
- Community Development Financial Institutions Program and New Market Tax Credits Program (Treasury)
- The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) Cooperative Agreement Program
- The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program
- Technical Assistance Services for Communities

Private Philanthropy
- The California Endowment
- California FreshWorks Fund
- The Liberty Hill Foundation
- Marguerite Casey Foundation
- Prevention Institute
- Kresge Foundation
- American Planning Association (APA) California Chapter, Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) Program

New Funding Sources
Additional funding sources will continue to be established over time to support General Plan updates and the update of specific elements, which can also be utilized to support local SB 1000 efforts.

SB 2 - Building Homes and Jobs Act (Atkins, 2018): Created the Planning Grants Program (PGP) to provide “one-time, over-the-counter (OTC) grants to local governments to update a variety of planning documents and processes that streamline housing approvals and accelerate housing production.”

Check out the full toolkit for more information: https://caleja.org/2017/09/sb-1000-toolkit-release/