

FEATHER RIVER AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM
06/01/2020

TO: FRAQMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Christopher D. Brown, AICP, APCO

SUBJECT: Authorize the Air Pollution Control Officer to approve and sign extension of current agreements up to six months due to COVID-19 delays.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Air Pollution Control Officer to approve and sign extension of current agreements up to six months due to COVID-19 delays.

ALTERNATIVES:

Keep in place current requirement that Board of Directors must approve extensions.

BACKGROUND:

The District's Blue Sky Grant is composed of \$4 Motor Vehicle Registration Fees (AB 2766) and \$2 Motor Vehicle Registration Fee (AB 923). The AB 2766 portion provides incentive and grant funds for air quality projects designed to reduce motor vehicle (mobile source) air pollution. The AB 923 portion may be used for limited project types which include school bus replacements and retrofits according to the Lower Emission School Bus Program Guidelines or the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program.

Projects are solicited through a Request for Proposals, and then are reviewed by the District staff to weigh eligibility, viability, local health impact, district goals, emissions reduced, and cost-effectiveness criteria. The Policy/Finance Committee reviews the projects and makes a recommendation for approval to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors approve Blue Sky Grants each year, typically during the December Board Meeting. The grant terms are provided by the applicants in the proposal and approved by the Board. The grant terms include the timeline for completion of the project and the submittal of the final report.

DISCUSSION:

The Coronavirus public health emergency may cause some Blue Sky projects to be delayed. The District staff are seeking authority to extend current Blue Sky Grants that have been approved by the Board of Directors upon request by the applicants. The Air Pollution Control Officer may offer an extension of up to six months if the project deliverable such as completion date or submittal of final report are impacted by the public health emergency.

The authorization would not allow the awarding of new projects or the alternation of the grant amount without Board approval.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The approval of this item does not have a direct fiscal impact to the District as the grants have already been awarded by the Board of Directors and the granting of extensions is not expected to result an increase or reduction in the grants. There may be a savings of several hours of staff time from APCO approval of the extensions by removing the need to prepare Board Meeting materials.