



Mattress Recycling Council

Solicitation for Applications for Illegally Dumped Mattress Pilot Studies Funding

Release Date:
September 29, 2022

Due Date:
November 17, 2023

Mattress Recycling Council California, LLC

Attn: Taylor Grimes

Tgrimes@mrc-us.org

www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org

BACKGROUND

The [Mattress Recycling Council](#) California, LLC (MRC) is soliciting applications for Pilot Study(ies) to prevent or eradicate the illegal dumping of mattresses, box springs and futons (together referred to as "Mattresses") in communities identified as adversely impacted.

Based on the applications received in response to this solicitation, MRC intends to award funding to project(s) that will:

- (1) establish or improve education about existing Mattress collection channels (through no-cost retailer pickup and/or MRC drop-off sites)
- (2) establish or improve awareness or enforcement of illegal dumping laws for Mattresses
- (3) establish or improve Mattress drop-off programs
- (4) beautify the area of an illegal dump site to deter future dumping

The deadline for submitting completed applications is 5:00 PST Friday, November 17, 2023. All Pilot Studies under the Illegally Dumped Mattresses Pilot Studies Program (hereby referred to as "Program"), must be completed by December 31, 2024. An extension to this deadline may be granted under limited circumstances or on a per project basis.

Additional funding may be released based on the results of the Pilot Studies awarded under this Program.

Illegally dumped Mattress clean-up projects or Mattress collection events are not eligible. For those interested in undertaking this kind of MRC initiative, please visit [MRC's collection site and event host webpage](#).

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Program funding is limited to California-based entities that have either:

- Submitted data and participated in the MRC Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative (IDMCI) in 2022 or earlier; or
- Can provide at least one year of baseline data within the last three calendar years (2021, 2022 and/or 2023) identifying illegally dumped Mattresses collected out of the public right-of-way relevant to the proposed project area. The baseline data must be included with the application.

The final report must include data demonstrating how and if the Pilot Study(ies) reduced illegal dumping of Mattresses using baseline data from the IDMCI or the baseline data provided by awardee. MRC can provide the IDMCI baseline data to funding recipients. The awardee will receive a final report template for submission at the end of the project.

MRC will develop a case study summarizing the results based on the final report, which will require the awardee's involvement and a final review.

EXAMPLE OF ELIGIBLE PILOT STUDIES AND USE OF FUNDS

- **Education/Outreach**
 - Community workshops, school programs or social media campaigns that educate and encourage residents, property managers and other entities to stop illegal Mattress dumping from multifamily housing complexes, university off-campus housing, community parks and/or encampments.

- Programs that identify and tag illegally dumped items or hot spot areas with educational materials.
 - Print or electronic collateral focused on education and outreach programs that discourage illegal dumping, including one-time marketing costs and/or promoting free bulky item collection programs and MRC’s collection network. Projects that specifically address multilingual outreach are encouraged.
 - Implementing behavioral change strategies through multi-coordinated efforts with community leaders, local agencies or community partners.
- **Eradication**
 - Mattress collection infrastructure placed in non-traditional locations or unincorporated areas that serve several communities.
 - Improved collection access to environmental justice, rural and underserved communities.
 - Improved collection opportunities at targeted multifamily dwelling complexes
 - Beautification projects that deter illegally dumped units through the process of making visual improvements to a town, city, or urban area. **Additional points may be awarded to projects focused in environmental justice (EJ) areas.** EJ areas may also be described as a “disadvantaged communities” which are areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects, exposure or environmental degradation.
 - **Enforcement**
 - Increasing overall security enhancement and hazard mitigation through procurement of surveillance equipment, signage, lighting or fencing to be installed in illegal dumping hot spots for Mattresses.

For more information on illegal dumping issues, please refer to the [MRC Illegal Dumping Workshops Final Report](#), [Case Studies](#) and [White Paper](#).

FUNDING

MRC has allocated up to \$100,000 in 2024 to fund Pilot Study(ies) through this Program. Payment and reporting terms are described on page 5. The total funding for all Pilot Studies will not exceed \$100,000. MRC reserves the right to allocate all funding at its discretion, which may include funding of multiple Pilot Studies to Applicants.

TIMELINE

The following timeline is subject to revision by MRC.

Key Date	Action Taken
September 29 2023	Solicitation released. Question period opens.
October 14, 2023	Question period ends. Send all questions to Tgrimes@mrc-us.org
October 18, 2023	Informational webinar. Register HERE.
November 17, 2023	Applications due.
December 2023	Notification of funding to Applicants.

SCORING CRITERIA

MRC will rank applications based on a score of 0-100, according to the following set of criteria. All scoring criteria are subject to revision by MRC.

POINTS	DESCRIPTION
10	QUALITY OF APPLICATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application is complete and on time
15	APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has a successful history within its industry Applicant has implemented similar projects with success (if so, please provide an example(s)) Applicant has the resources necessary to complete the Pilot Study
45	PILOT STUDY IMPACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has articulated how the project will prevent Mattresses from being illegally dumped through proactive means Project can provide baseline illegally dumped Mattress data to justify funding Project description is robust; clearly demonstrates need Project includes mechanism to measure success Project includes a description of how a final report will detail results at the end of the contract
10	PILOT STUDY AREA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants identified target area will be in an environmental justice, rural or underserved community Additional points may be awarded to projects with a focus in EJ areas.

10	PILOT STUDY WORK PLAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plan is logical, efficient and includes measurable outcomes and explicit deadlines • Speed to delivery is high
10	PILOT STUDY BUDGET/COST EFFECTIVENESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project costs are justified, cost effective • Applicant provides matching funds (optional)

GUIDELINES AND QUESTIONS

All applications must include the Letter of Transmittal (attached) as the cover page to the Application.

Applicants may use the template application provided by MRC or their own format. All applications must include the following:

1. A description of the Applicant’s experience with illegal dumping mitigation and/or enforcement, education and outreach, research and/or similar projects.
2. A Pilot Study description that clearly outlines the impact and methods for measuring success, and justifies why the project will be effective in terms of:
 - a. Additional Mattresses that could be prevented from becoming illegally dumped
 - b. Improved awareness and enforcement of illegal dumping laws
 - c. Improved education around proper disposal of Mattresses
3. Historical baseline data of illegally dumped Mattresses that will be used for the analysis of this study. **Please provide as an attachment with the proposal**
4. A Pilot Study work plan and timeline for implementation
5. A Pilot Study budget, any matching funds from the Applicant (optional) and a clear request for a specific amount of funding
6. Quotes for equipment if equipment is being requested

Respondents not participating in MRC’s Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative must be able to provide to MRC at least one year of baseline data identifying illegally dumped Mattresses collected out for the public right-of-way within the last three calendar years (2020, 2021 and/or 2022).

Completed Applications must be received via email no later than 5:00 PST Friday, November 17, 2023, to MRC at Tgrimes@mrc-us.org.

Comments and questions should also be emailed to MRC at Tgrimes@mrc-us.org no later than 5:00 PM PST on Friday, October 14, 2023. MRC will respond to all questions. Applications that do not follow the guidelines may not be considered.

Applicants should describe in detail any potential conflicts of interest with MRC leadership or employees, or former employment in the Mattress industry within their application.

Funding recipients must agree to MRC's Project Terms as well as complete regular reporting requirements that may include photos or other documentation. MRC will use Project documentation for annual CalRecycle reporting and marketing purposes. Confidential information must be clearly marked as such and may be subject to regulatory disclosure requirements of CalRecycle or other state entities. Awardees will be reimbursed for costs based on achieving Project milestones. Awardees may submit reimbursement requests monthly if the scope of work is complete for the period for which funds are requested. MRC assumes no liability or ownership for infrastructure or equipment purchased with MRC funding. Costs incurred before contract execution or after the end of the contract term are not eligible. Applicants must have all permits (if necessary) and approvals in place before funds are disbursed.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Content and Liability Disclaimer:** MRC has used reasonable care in preparing the information set forth in this Application Solicitation. However, MRC shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions contained in this Solicitation or other documents issued or prepared by MRC. MRC provides no warranty, either expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of those documents.

FURTHER, MRC EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES WITH REGARD TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS APPLICATION, INCLUDING THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NONINFRINGEMENT OF PROPRIETARY RIGHTS.

In no event shall MRC, its affiliates, or their officers, directors, employees, agents or assigns be liable for any damages whatsoever. In particular, MRC, its affiliates or their officers, directors, employees, agents or assigns shall not be liable for special, indirect, consequential, or incidental damages, or damages for lost profits, loss of revenue, or loss of use, arising out of or related to this document or other pre-contract documents, or the information contained in them, whether such damages arise in contract, negligence, tort, under statute, in equity, at law or otherwise.

- 2. Application Questions:** Any questions pertaining to this Application must be transmitted by e-mail. MRC will respond to all questions; however, MRC is not responsible for questions that are not received. It is your responsibility to confirm MRC's receipt of any questions.

If substantive questions are received that, in the MRC's opinion, require a modification or clarification of the Application, the resulting modification or clarification will be provided in the form of an Addendum that will be forwarded to all Application Solicitation recipients in advance of the submittal deadline. MRC reserves the right to extend the Application question deadline if it determines in its sole discretion that such an extension is warranted.

- 3.** Submit one (1) electronic copy of your application, along with the Letter of

Transmittal in Microsoft Word or pdf, including all attachments and addendums. MRC will confirm receipt of each application. It is your responsibility to confirm MRC's receipt of your application.

4. An Applicant that is selected by MRC to provide services under a formal contract with MRC will be an independent contractor to MRC, and will not function as an agent, partner or employee of MRC. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as contemplating any relationship other than independent contractor. As such, the party under contract with MRC would be responsible for (i) making day-to-day and critical decisions regarding the undertaking, management and supervision of those activities; and (ii) achieving compliance with all applicable federal, state, local or other laws and regulations.
5. Under the Act, MRC has certain legal obligations to report to CalRecycle regarding the status and progress of the Program. This includes providing aggregate information furnished to MRC by Program Participants.
6. MRC intends to begin the contract term as early as January 2024.
7. By applying, you agree to be bound by your Application for 180 days or until a formal contract is negotiated.
8. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions specified in the RFP could lead to your response being considered non-responsive and ineligible for further consideration.
9. MRC shall not be obligated to disclose any information about the winning (or losing) Applications.
10. MRC shall not be responsible for any costs that you or others incur in preparing an Application.
11. You acknowledge that MRC's decision whether to enter into a contract at the conclusion of this Application process will be at MRC's sole discretion.
12. If you are selected to enter into a contract with MRC, you will be required to furnish at that time:
 - documentation that your organization (as necessary) is qualified to do business and provide services in California (and any other relevant jurisdictions if your company is headquartered or located in another state).
 - a. A valid and current Certificate of Insurance or Proof of Self-Insurance
Minimum limits include:
 - General Liability Coverage of not less than \$1 million per occurrence, \$2 million Aggregate.
 - Workers' Compensation Coverage as required by state law.

FORM 1 - LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Please complete this form and include it as the COVER PAGE of your Application

Date:	
Applicant Organization:	
Organization Address:	
Application Contact & Title:	
Contact Phone Number:	
Contact Email Address:	
Alternate Contact and Title:	
Alternate Email Address:	
If a corporation, state of incorporation	
Federal Tax I.D. Number	

I am authorized to submit this Application on behalf of the organization identified above to provide the services described in the Application.

I acknowledge receipt of, and have read, Application Solicitation (including all subsequent addenda) and that I have prepared the Application. This Application is to the best of my knowledge true and accurate. I acknowledge that if facts stated in this Application are found to be false, MRC in its sole discretion may reject this Application from consideration and disqualify me and/or my organization from responding to Solicitations issued by MRC.

In the event that MRC selects our organization, we are prepared to enter into a formal written contract with MRC on behalf of our organization for the program described, as well as any ancillary services related to this program. This application will remain valid for 180 days from the closing date.

In preparing and submitting this RFP response, I certify that:

- no person acting for, or employed by, the Mattress Recycling Council California, LLC has a personal interest in, or is personally concerned with, this bid; and,
- no person or persons, or organizations, other than the undersigned, have, or are interested parties in this Application.

Authorized Signature:

Print Name:

Title:

Date:
