



# **Mattress Recycling Council**

## **Funding for Illegally Dumped Mattress Pilot Studies**

**Release Date:**

October 2, 2024

**Due Date:**

November 15, 2024

**Mattress Recycling Council California, LLC**

Attn: Taylor Grimes

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[www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](http://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 curbside pickup, retailer take-back, 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 15, 2024. All projects under the Illegally Dumped Mattresses Pilot Studies program (hereby referred to as “Program”), must be completed by December 31, 2025. 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 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 participation in the MRC Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative in calendar year(s) 2023 and/or 2024; or
- Can provide at least one year of baseline data from 2023 and/or 2024 identifying illegally dumped mattresses collected out of the public right-of-way relevant to the proposed project area. **The baseline data must identify the location where the illegal dumping occurred.**

The final report must include data demonstrating how and if the pilot reduced illegal mattress dumping using baseline data from the Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative or the baseline data provided by the awardee.

MRC can provide the IDMCI baseline data to funding recipients upon request. At the end of the project, the awardee will receive a final report template for submission.

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

## EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND USE OF FUNDS

- **Education/Outreach**
  - Educating single-family and multi-family residents about proper disposal options and the economic, environmental, and social implications of illegal dumping through social media campaigns, community workshops, or school programs.
- **Eradication**
  - Beautification projects that improve public spaces aesthetically to deter the illegal dumping of mattresses through visual improvements to a town, city, or urban area.
  - Improving access to proper disposal by establishing mattress collection infrastructure in:
    - Traditional or non-traditional locations, illegal dumping hot spots and/or low-income areas
    - Environmental justice, rural and/or underserved communities or neighborhoods.
    - Multifamily dwelling complexes.
- **Enforcement**
  - Increasing overall security enhancement and illegal dumping mitigation through procurement and installment of surveillance equipment, signage, lighting and/or fencing in illegal dumping hot spots or areas with high rates of illegal dumping.

**Additional points may be awarded to projects focused on environmental justice (EJ) areas.** EJ areas may also be described as “disadvantaged communities,” disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.

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 2025 to fund a pilot study(ies) through this Program. Payment and reporting terms are described on page 5. Projects are limited to a maximum amount of \$100,000.

## TIMELINE

The following timeline is subject to revision by MRC.

<b>Key Date</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
October 2, 2024	Program proposal solicitation released. Question period opens.
October 10, 2024	Question period ends. Send all questions to <a href="mailto:Tgrimes@mrc-us.org">Tgrimes@mrc-us.org</a>
October 16, 2024	Informational webinar at 10am. Register <a href="#">HERE</a> .
November 15, 2024	Program applications due.
November 26, 2024	Notice of awards.

## 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.

<b>POINTS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
10	<b>QUALITY OF APPLICATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application is complete and on time</li></ul>
15	<b>APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applicant has a successful history within its industry</li><li>• Applicant has implemented similar projects with success (if so, please provide an example(s))</li><li>• Applicant has the resources necessary to complete the project</li></ul>
45	<b>PROJECT IMPACT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applicant has articulated how the project will prevent mattresses from being illegally dumped through proactive means</li><li>• Project can provide baseline illegally dumped mattress data to justify funding</li><li>• Project description is robust; clearly demonstrates need</li><li>• Project includes mechanism to measure success</li><li>• Project includes a description of how a final report will detail results at the end of the contract</li></ul>

10	<p><b>PROJECT AREA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants identified target area will be in an environmental justice, rural or undeserved community</li> <li>• Additional points may be awarded to projects with a focus in EJ areas.</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>PROJECT WORK PLAN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work plan is logical, efficient and includes measurable outcomes and explicit deadlines</li> <li>• Speed to delivery is high</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>PROJECT BUDGET/COST EFFECTIVENESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project costs are justified, cost effective</li> <li>• Applicant provides matching funds (optional)</li> </ul>
Up to 5 Extra Points	<p><b>BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional points will be awarded to projects focusing on beautifying a community or neighborhood negatively affected by illegal dumping.</li> </ul>
Up to 5 Extra Points	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AREAS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional points may be awarded to projects proposed in environmental justice areas that are designated as such by CalEnviroScreen 4.0</li> </ul>

## 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 project description that clearly outlines the expected impact and methods for measuring success. The description should also justify the project's effectiveness in terms of:
  - a. The estimated number of additional mattresses prevented from becoming illegally dumped
  - b. Improved awareness and/or enforcement of illegal dumping mitigation strategies
  - c. Improved education on the proper disposal of mattresses
3. Historical baseline data of illegally dumped mattresses will be used for the comparative analysis at the end of this study. **Please attach the baseline data to the project proposal.**
4. A detailed project work plan and timeline for implementation

5. A project 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

Applicants not participating in MRC's Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative must be able to provide MRC with at least one year of baseline data identifying illegally dumped mattresses collected out for the public right-of-way from calendar year 2023 and/or 2024.

Completed Applications must be emailed by 5:00 PST Friday, November 15, 2024, to [Tgrimes@mrc-us.org](mailto:Tgrimes@mrc-us.org).

Comments and questions should also be emailed to MRC at [TGrimes@mrc-us.org](mailto:TGrimes@mrc-us.org) no later than 5:00 PM PST on Friday, October 10, 2024. 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.

Awardees must agree to MRC's Project Terms and 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 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. Awardees must have all permits (if necessary) and approvals 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 Invitation. However, MRC shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions contained in this Invitation 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 or its affiliates be liable for any damages whatsoever. In particular, MRC and its affiliates 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 Invitation 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 2025.
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 Application 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:
  - a. documentation that your organization (as necessary) is qualified to do business in California (and any other relevant jurisdictions if your company is headquartered or located in another state) to provide the services under your program.
  - b. A valid and current Certificate of Insurance. Minimum limits include:
    - Commercial General Liability Insurance of not less than \$1 million per occurrence.
    - 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 corporation	
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 Invitation (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 invitations 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 Application, 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:

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Print Name:

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Title:

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Date:

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