

# Funding Programs

## Utah Division of Water Resources: Project Funding Section

**Water Funding Program History:** In 1947, the Utah Legislature established the Utah Water & Power Board and granted the board the ability to fund the construction of water and power projects. The Water & Power Board became the Board of Water Resources in 1967 when the Department of Natural Resources and Division of Water Resources were established.

**Who can apply for funding?** Board funds can be obtained by most private or public water service providers in Utah. Over the past 70 years, over 1,450 private water companies, irrigation companies, municipalities and water districts have sought and received financial assistance from the board.

**How is a project funded?** Entities initiate the funding process by submitting an application found online at [water.utah.gov/funding.html](http://water.utah.gov/funding.html). A division staff member is assigned to work with the entity throughout the funding process. Funding of a project depends on the availability of funds at the time the project comes before the board for committal, repayment ability and economic analyses.

**Why do water providers utilize the Board of Water Resources funding programs?** The Utah Legislature established these revolving funds to benefit Utah citizens. The board has provided zero or low-interest funding for water projects statewide. Repayments, including any interest charged, are returned to the board and used to fund additional projects. Entities seeking funding from the board, will work with professional, friendly staff who work effectively to make the funding process as simple as possible.

**What is an eligible project?** To be eligible for funding, a project cannot be routine operation and maintenance, cannot be sponsored by a developer or an individual/family and cannot be for a domestic water system where less than half of the residents live in the service area year-round. All other water projects will be considered for funding.

**New Secondary Water Meter Funding Program:** The board recently reserved specific funds to encourage secondary water metering. The metering of secondary water combined with educational and/or tiered rate components has resulted in significant efficiency. This stretches water supplies and reduces the impact on water delivery infrastructure. An interest rate of 1 percent has been approved for secondary water metering.

**Bond Insurance:** Municipalities funding their projects with bonds on the market may be eligible to receive a grant from the board to purchase bond insurance.

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### Some examples of projects that the board has funded include:

**Alpine Irrigation Company** - Pressurized Irrigation Project (\$27,200): Construction of three diversion structures on Chipman, Dry, and Box Elder Creeks, installing 1.3 miles of pipeline to deliver water for sprinkler irrigation of farmland. (1960)

**Weber-Box Elder Conservation District** - Secondary Water System (\$1.5M): Installed 77,250 feet of 3 to 18-inch pipe, constructed two pump stations and lined two existing regulating reservoirs. (1990)

**Magna Water Company, an Improvement District** - Water Treatment Plant (\$7.1M): Construction of a new 5 million gallon per day water treatment plant to successfully remove arsenic from the water supply and meet drinking water standards. (2011)

**Provo Reservoir Water Users Company & Provo River Water Users Association** - Murdock Canal enclosure (\$51.8M): Installation of 21.5 miles of 120 inch steel pipe to replace the Murdock Canal from Orem to Point of the Mountain. The enclosure reduces water leaking from the canal and largely eliminates canal safety and liability concerns. Water conserved by this project is being released to provide instream flow for the endangered June Sucker in the lower Provo River. (2012)

**Centerville City** - Drinking water system improvements (\$80,000): Provided bond insurance so the city could obtain a better interest rate on the market and save \$280,000 in interest payments. The project included a new well, 9,600 feet of pipe and other appurtenances. (2012)

**Cache Highline Water Association** - Canal Efficiency Project (\$4.8M): Combine the diversion works & canals of Logan and Northern Irrigation Company with those of Logan, Hyde Park, & Smithfield Irrigation Company. The canals were enclosed in concrete box culverts and HDPE pipe. (2015)

**Beaver City** - Canal Safety Project (\$442,000): Constructed a new diversion structure, sluice gate, and improved stabilization to prevent erosion damage. (2016)

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