



The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program accelerates investment in our nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects.

## SANTA CRUZ WATER PROGRAM

---

**BORROWER:** City of Santa Cruz

**LOCATION:** Santa Cruz, California

**WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT:** \$128 million

**TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS:** \$260 million

**POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT:** 98,000 people

**NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED:** 1,045 jobs



*Photo Credit: City of Santa Cruz*

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Santa Cruz's Water Program will improve water supply reliability, enhance its drinking water system's resiliency to climate change, and support compliance with regulatory requirements. Located in a drought-prone region, the City of Santa Cruz is dependent on local water supplies. This program will modernize critical facilities nearing the end of their useful life to improve the reliability of the whole system. With this WIFIA loan, the city will convert existing groundwater wells to aquifer storage and recovery wells and improve its raw water conveyance pipeline. Treatment process upgrades will support addressing current and emerging contaminants, as well as source water quality variability. Since successful conservation efforts have reduced demand, the City will decrease the capacity of its water treatment plant from 24 million gallons per day to 18 million gallons per day. The project will also support development of the City's Water Supply Augmentation Program to identify alternative water source supplies and improve long-term, sustainable water supplies.

### PROJECT BENEFITS

- Increases water supply reliability, energy efficiency, and climate change resiliency.
- Supports compliance with current and future regulatory requirements.
- Saves the City of Santa Cruz approximately \$18 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.