

Sustainable Communities Planning Grants & Incentives Best
Practices Pilot

GRANT GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION

DRAFT – FOR REVIEW

FUNDED BY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD
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PROPOSITION 84, CHAPTER 9



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

AND

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING & RESEARCH

SEPTEMBER 2016

I. Introduction

In September 2016, the Governor’s Office and all of the agencies of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) jointly released California’s “Vibrant Communities and Landscapes” vision. The vision acknowledges that “land use decisions, including development patterns, land conservation and protection, and land management practices, play a critical role in the State’s future and achievement of its long-term community health, environmental, and economic goals.” The Vibrant Communities vision describes how state policies can balance land use in California’s climate change policies and how the State can support actions, at all levels of government, to facilitate development and conservation patterns that help to achieve the State’s climate goals.

The SGC and its member agencies and departments, long supportive of this vision, previously funded 126 grants totaling more than \$63 million from Proposition 84 to provide local governments and regional agencies development and implementation support for plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve other sustainability objectives. The Program, the Sustainable Communities Planning Grants and Incentives Program (SCPGIP), prioritized funding for disadvantaged communities. Since the distribution of the grants, the SGC has continually bolstered the objectives of the SCPGIP to realize meaningful capital investments in our local communities and provide tools and resources to help attain our State’s climate goals on a local scale.

The Guidelines described in this document move the SGC into the next phase of sustainable communities planning, using the SCPGIP as a framework for ongoing State support of local implementation and the creation of useful resources and tools to help California’s communities implement their land use planning efforts. Local governments in California regularly confront new and evolving statutory mandates and technical guidance, many of which lack resources for implementation. Funding support is scarce for case studies to demonstrate successful implementation, and jurisdictions struggle with limited staff capacity to implement policies that address climate change mitigation and adaptation in their local plans.

Administered by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR), with support from SGC, the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Implementation Best Practices Pilot (Pilot), is an effort to support local land use planning related to climate and the State’s statutory planning priorities. SCPGIP funding in the amount of \$250,000 will be available for applicants to apply for up to \$50,000. These grants will support the development and/or implementation of **a specific portion of a land use plan, land protection or management practice, or development project**¹, that targets sustainable development and the State’s climate policies with the express intent of 1) implementation of that project or plan; and 2) identification of a best practice and creation of a Case Study to share amongst land use planning and policy peers. *This small grant is not intended to fund a long-range plan or project in its entirety.* Proposed applications must support local implementation of state policies, with a focus on creating more resilient communities through climate adaptation and mitigation

¹ Examples of these may be Climate Action or Adaptation Plans, Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Specific Area Plans, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Conservation Plans, Infill Plans, Targeted General Plan Updates or Elements, or Greenprint Plans.

II. Purpose and Background

SB 732 (2008) (Appendix H) created the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program. The Budget Act of 2010/11 authorized the Department of Conservation to implement and administer \$63.15 million in project funds (Proposition 84) to provide Planning Grants and Incentives awarded by the Strategic Growth Council (Council). The primary goal of this grant program is to develop and implement plans consistent with Chapter 13, Division 43, Public Resources Code, Sections 75127 and 75128. The funding plan was authorized for up to six years with a target of three separate funding rounds. This program funds local governments and regional agencies to develop and implement plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to achieve other sustainability objectives. The program has prioritized funding for disadvantaged communities. To date, the Council has awarded 126 grants totaling more than \$63 million, funding targeted general plan updates, climate action plans, specific plans, infill plans, zoning ordinances, infrastructure planning, and Sustainable Community Strategies.

To further support the State’s Vibrant Communities vision to balance land use in climate change policies, the program has incorporated three major guiding policies and funding programs:

- **Proposition 84** (Appendix E) added Division 43 to the Public Resources Code, Chapter 9, Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction Section 75065(a), authorizing the Legislature to appropriate \$580 million for improving the sustainability and livability of California’s communities through investment in natural resources.
- On April 29, 2015 Governor Brown issued **Executive Order B-30-15** (Appendix F) to establish a new statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. This target puts California on track to meet its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. EO B-30-15 also directs State agencies to account for climate change in all planning and investment. The Order also directs State agencies to prioritize actions that promote infill development and invest in existing communities, protect, preserve and enhance environmental and agricultural lands and natural and recreational resources and encourage location and resource efficient new development.
- The **State Planning Priorities**, referenced in Government Code §65041.1, are intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety in the state shall promote infill development, protect environmental and agricultural resources, encourage efficient development patterns by ensuring that any infrastructure associated with development, other than infill development, supports new development that uses land efficiently.

The incorporation of these State policies and priorities in the following guidelines will help to achieve the State’s climate goals through each funded project.

III. Pilot Objectives

The Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program Best Practices Pilot Program builds upon the guidelines and principles of past SGC Planning Grant Guidelines, Proposition 84 requirements, and various other State climate change policy and planning priorities. While maintaining the goals, objectives, and principles of the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentive Program, the Pilot seeks to create more targeted funding opportunities that capture best practices within sustainable planning practices.

Prior to launching the Pilot, OPR staff developed and implemented a preliminary version by leveraging the work of [CivicSpark](#), a Governor’s Initiative AmeriCorps program dedicated to building capacity for local governments to address climate change and water management needs. This preliminary phase was completed in September 2016, and served as a tool to identify the means of capacity that OPR can provide to participating jurisdictions. While creating proof of concept, this phase also resulted in case study reports, using the template in Appendix D, which will be uploaded to the OPR website and can be used by the State to inform policy discussions and efforts to scale successful local initiatives around the state.

The Pilot provides a mechanism to support local planning, policy development, and implementation and align local actions with State policies and priorities. SGC, OPR and program partners work with all jurisdictions that are awarded funding to:

- Provide policy development guidance, technical assistance, and implementation support,
- Identify and facilitate connections to resources and support across State agencies,
- Identify and support the creation of scalable policy and project implementation opportunities, and
- Provide a consistent template and methodology for documenting and sharing replicable case studies.

IV. Funding Criteria

A. Eligible Applicants

The following list encompasses all eligible Pilot participants and applicants:

- Cities
- Counties
- Regional Transportation Planning Agencies
- Joint Powers Authorities
- Councils of Governments

Applicants may submit joint work plans with partners along with letters of intent to participate in proposed activities from all partners. There may be no more than 2 joint partners on one project. One application is allowed per jurisdiction or agency.

B. Disadvantaged Communities Focus

- As defined by Proposition 84, a “disadvantaged community” must have an annual median household income (MHI) that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual MHI (PRC Section 75005(g)). Per *US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Data: 2010 – 2014*, California MHI is \$64,500, 80% of which is \$49,191. Therefore, a Disadvantaged Community as defined by Proposition 84 is that which falls under the \$49,191 MHI threshold. Priority consideration will be given to those jurisdictions that meet this definition.
- At least 75% of funds must go to a community that has one or more census tracts within the top 25% of [CalEnviroScreen 2.0](#) Disadvantaged Community status.
- Up to 25% of funds may go to a community that is suffering from drought impacts or lacks access to safe drinking water.

C. Examples of Eligible Proposals

Proposals should support the development and/or implementation of a specific portion of a land use plan, land protection or management practice, or development project, that targets sustainable development and the State’s climate policies with the express intent of 1) implementation of that project or plan; and 2) identification of a best practice to share amongst land use planning and policy peers. Examples of these plans are as follows:

- Climate Action or Adaptation Plans,
- Greenhouse Gas Inventories,
- Specific Area Plans,
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plans,
- Conservation Plans,
- Infill Plans,
- Targeted General Plan Updates or Elements, or
- Greenprint Plans.

Funding may be spent on direct services as follows:

- Staffing
- Plan and Policy Development
- Community engagement
- Data collection
- Outreach
- Coordination

- Materials

IV. Project Requirements

A. Thresholds

Projects shall achieve priorities as described in the following existing policy and statutory authorities in Section II of this document and demonstrate that they are accounting for changing climate conditions:

- Proposition 84
- EO-B-30-15
- State Planning Priorities

B. Funding Objectives

Projects must result in a best practice case study that can be used by other jurisdictions and achieve one of the following goals:

- Promote Local or Regional Resiliency;
- Improve Air and Water Quality;
- Promote Energy Efficiency;
- Protect Natural Resources and Agricultural Lands;
- Promote Infill and Compact Development;
- Reduce Automobile Usage and Fuel Consumption;
- Promote Water Conservation;
- Promote Public Health;
- Reduce Drought Impacts;
- Improve transportation;
- Encourage sustainable land use planning;
- Revitalize urban and community centers; and
- Increase the availability of affordable housing

C. Liaison Commitment

All projects are required to have a Liaison, who will serve as the primary contact person for planning, coordination, and scheduling, and will ensure the completion of the Case Study Report deliverable. Receipt of funding is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the Case Study Report.

D. Case Study Report

All funded Pilot initiatives are required to produce a case study report (Appendix G). OPR will provide a case study template and a mechanism for making that report available to other jurisdictions. Case study reports will walk through many elements of policy or program development and implementation such as barriers and tools, funding mechanisms, political structures, process, and replicable elements. All Pilot case studies will be hosted and promoted on an OPR webpage.

V. Application

Applications for funding must be filled out via an online survey platform by January 9th (estimated time frame). Applicants should view and answer questions prior to opening the link. The Pilot application is structured in 3 sections:

1. Threshold requirements to consider applicant eligibility
2. Short answer questions to help identify candidates based on need and suitability for the program.
3. Separate documentation to outline specific proposal plans

SCORING CRITERIA	
Program Goals and Objectives (30 points)	
➤ Project outcomes around local health, resiliency and vulnerable populations	5
➤ Project exemplifies a best practice related to the Pilot objectives.	10
➤ Project demonstrates current level of organizational capacity	5
➤ Project describes technical assistance needs	5
➤ Project indicates how it will build consistency to other local and regional plans	5
Required Submission Documents (40 points)	
➤ Proposal Summary	20
➤ Civic Engagement Plan	15
➤ Indicators	5
➤ Workplan	0
➤ Budget	0
Total Available Points	70

1. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

The following questions are requirements for consideration. Please answer each question with a brief statement (2 – 4 sentences) that demonstrates how the proposed project achieves the stated criteria. All of the criteria described in these questions must be addressed in order for the project to be considered eligible for funding.

1. Briefly describe how this project achieves one of the following Proposition 84 priorities:
 - Promote water conservation,
 - Reduce automobile use and fuel consumption,
 - Encourage greater infill and compact development,
 - Protect natural resources and agricultural lands and
 - Revitalize urban and community centers
2. Briefly explain how this project accounts for climate change.
3. Briefly explain how the project addresses at least one of the following EO B-30-15 priorities?
 - Both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
 - Are flexible in their approach to prepare for uncertain climate impacts;
 - Protect the state’s most vulnerable populations; and
 - Prioritize natural infrastructure solutions
4. Briefly discuss how the project accomplishes two or more of the following program objectives?
 - Promote Regional Resiliency;
 - Improve Air and Water Quality;
 - Promote Energy Efficiency;
 - Protect Natural Resources and Agricultural Lands;
 - Promote Infill and Compact Development;
 - Reduce Automobile Usage and Fuel Consumption;
 - Promote Water Conservation;
 - Promote Public Health;
 - Reduce Drought Impacts
 - Improve transportation;
 - Encourage sustainable land use planning;
 - Revitalize urban and community centers;
 - Increase the availability of affordable housing.
5. Briefly explain how the project is consistent with the State’s planning priorities pursuant to Section 65041.1 of the Government Code (Appendix G):
 - Promote infill development and invest in existing communities;
 - Protect, preserve and enhance environmental and agricultural lands and natural and recreational resources; and
 - Encourage location and resource efficient new development.

6. The project is required to have a **Liaison** to perform the following required tasks:
- Serve as the primary contact person
 - Available to schedule meetings when necessary
 - Ensure the completion of the case study report deliverable
- A. Is there someone in your agency or organization that can commit to the role of Pilot Liaison?
 YES NO
- B. If you answered yes, please provide the name, position and contact information for the planned Pilot Liaison.

2. SCORED QUESTIONS

The following six questions are designed to solicit specific facts regarding how the proposal addresses the program's priorities and objectives. Responses to these questions are the basis for evaluating and scoring a project's objectives and alignment with the Pilot goals. Use these questions to prepare your response prior to completing the Survey Monkey form.

1. Project outcomes around local health, resiliency and vulnerable populations (~200 words or less, **5 points**):
 - A. FOR ALL APPLICANTS: Briefly describe how this project will impact the health and/or resilience of your community.
 - B. FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES APPLICANTS ONLY: Briefly describe how your project would affect the disadvantaged communities in your city, county, or region.
2. Describe elements of this project that may exemplify a best practice related to the program's objectives. (~200 words or less, **10 points**)
3. Describe your jurisdiction's organizational capacity to do this type of work? (~200 words or less, **5 points**)
4. Describe the type and level of technical assistance that would be useful or helpful to successfully completing this project, if any. (~200 words or less, **5 points**)
5. Local plan alignment (~200 words or less, **5 points**):
 - A. List existing local or regional plans that cover the project area (for example General Plans, Sustainable Community Strategies, Greenprint Plans, Regional Conservation Plans, etc.).
 - B. Describe opportunities available to better align the project and its associated plans or policies with the plans listed in your response to Question 5A.
 - C. Identify how the project will increase consistency with specific objectives or priorities in the plans listed in your response to Question 5A.

3. SEPARATE DOCUMENT SUBMISSIONS

Applications are not considered complete without submitting the following five (5) separate project components via email to info@opr.ca.gov. The first three components will be scored. All attachments should be prepared in 12-point font with margins no less than 1 inch, single-spaced.

1. Best Practice Project Proposal Summary – 2 pages maximum (20 points)

The summary should describe and/or outline:

- Project description
- How the project aligns with State goals
- Why the project should be highlighted as a best practice by the State

2. Civic Engagement: Only applicable to disadvantaged communities (15 points)

Participants whose communities contain one or more census tracts that are defined as a disadvantaged community in the top 25th percentile by Cal EnviroScreen 2.0 must complete the following four steps and provide an outline of an Engagement and Outreach Plan (requirements detailed below).

A. Background (1 – 2 pages in length)

- 1) State your jurisdiction's median household income.
- 2) Using the [CalEnviroScreen Version 2.0](#) tool, describe and provide a map of the location of disadvantaged communities in your city, county, or region.
- 3) Identify the reasons for disadvantaged community status via CES 2.0 indicators (ozone, drinking water, pesticides, asthma, etc). Provide a summary of the available statistics by listing those indicators with the highest percentile ranking.
- 4) Provide any other background on these communities. Have you conducted previous outreach with the community? Are there other important characteristics of these communities that are not captured by the CalEnviroScreen tool? Explain.

B. Outreach and Engagement Plan (1 – 2 pages in length)

Grantees are required to create **two strategic goals** to better engage disadvantaged communities in the Pilot project. Each goal must have one or more supporting strategies. This plan is requested in outline form for application purposes, but a more detailed plan may be requested upon grant award.

Examples of community outreach and engagement strategies could include:

- Community workshops and visioning exercises,
- Promoting bilingual educational materials through workshops social media, media placements, email blasts, e-newsletters, online comments, etc, or
- Surveying or focus group exercises

3. Indicators and Tracking Progress (5 points)

Applicants must select one indicator from the list provided in Appendix A or another indicator that provides quantitative measurements, and complete the following table for that indicator.

Components of Measuring Performance	
Outcome	The final product or end result that reflects change over time resulting in a desired future condition. Outcomes generally begin with a verb like increase, decrease, expand, or improve. They are specific and measurable.
Indicator	Quantified information that measures changes over time. Its function is to simplify, quantify, and communicate.
Baseline Data	A quantitative measurement of existing circumstances used as a basis for periodic comparison with indicators. It is the initial information collected prior to receipt of services or commencement of activities.
Data Source	The title, provider, purpose, collection methods and repository location of data sets used to establish baselines, milestones, indicators or outcomes.

4. Work Plan (See Appendix B)

5. Budget Proposal (See Appendix C)

VI. Requirements upon Acceptance

A. Kick Off Meeting

OPR staff will hold two participant kickoff meetings on December 9th and 11th. Participating jurisdictions are required to send at least three representatives, either in person or by webinar, to participate in one of the kick-off meetings. The kick off meeting will go over program requirements and Work Plan requirements in detail. Representatives should include the following:

- Pilot project Liaison
- Project manager (may be the same person as the Liaison)
- Director for relevant department
- Others as appropriate

(Note: One person may satisfy two of these roles, in which case two more more representatives must be present.)

B. Refined Work Plan

Upon acceptance into the Pilot, the grantee must submit a refined work plan to OPR by December 2, 2016. A template will be provided upon acceptance, and will include the following elements:

- Project description
- Final Budget Proposal
- Final Outreach and Engagement Plan
- Final Indicator selection and progress tracking plan
- Timeline

- (Other potential items to include: past work in project area, documents related to project, partner descriptions, etc.)

VII. Grant Administration

A. Grant Selection Process

- 1) Applicants submit a complete grant proposal to the State by the deadline.
- 2) Proposals are reviewed for completeness and eligibility. (Incomplete or ineligible proposals may not be evaluated or considered for funding at the sole discretion of the State.)
- 3) Grant Committee (Committee) reviews proposals and makes recommendations for awards.
- 4) The Committee recommends the final proposals for awards to the Council.
- 5) The Council determines final project awards.

NOTE: Awards are contingent upon legislative appropriation of funds and sale of bond.

B. General Overview of Grant Process after Grants are Awarded

Executing the Grant Agreement:

- 1) State sends grant agreement and materials to grantee.
- 2) Grantee must submit all supporting materials and a signed agreement within twelve (12) months of the announcement or risk forfeiting the grant award.
- 3) Grantee signs and returns all required copies back to the State (a fully executed copy will be returned to the Grantee).
- 4) Upon Signature of the Grant Agreement:
- 5) Grantee participates in an orientation meeting with Department of Conservation and SGC staff.
- 6) Grantee commences work and submits requests for reimbursements, as applicable.
- 7) Grantee submits quarterly progress reports for review via electronic file and signed original document.
- 8) Grantee participates in ongoing technical assistance, learning collaborative activities, and reporting meetings that support the overall work plan (at least annually for three years).
- 9) Grantee may be asked to attend a future council meeting to discuss the merits of the grant project.
- 10) Grantee must submit a final report upon completion of the award agreement in order to receive a final payment for the withheld 10% of their project.

Changes to Approved Proposal

A grantee wishing to make changes or amendments to an approved proposal must first obtain approval from the State. Changes in the proposal must continue to meet the requirements of the grant as approved, including its goals, objectives, and tasks. The grantee jeopardizes funding if changes are made without State approval.

Eligible Costs

Direct costs, including staff to implement the work program, incurred during the performance period specified in the grant agreement will be eligible for reimbursement. All eligible costs must be supported by appropriate documentation. Costs incurred outside of the performance period and indirect/overhead costs are not eligible for reimbursement.

C. Payment of Grant Funds

Funds cannot be disbursed until there is a fully executed grant agreement between the State and the Grantee. Work done prior to a fully executed grant agreement will not be funded.

Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis (i.e. the grantee pays for services or staff then is reimbursed by the State).

Ten percent (10%) of the amounts submitted for reimbursement will be withheld and issued as a final payment upon work program completion, at the sole discretion of the State. Advanced payments are not allowed.

D. Cancellation of Grants

The Department of Conservation retains its discretion to cancel grant agreements, as a last resort, for failure to comply with the terms of the executed agreement. The following are examples of actions that may result in a Grantee's loss of funding. This is not a complete list:

- Grantee fails to obtain a Grant Agreement.
- Grantee withdraws from the grant program.
- Grantee fails to complete the funded work program.
- Grantee fails to complete a work program that meets the requirements agreed upon.
- Grantee fails to submit all documentation within the time periods specified in the grant agreement.
- Grantee changes scope of work program without approval of the State.
- Grantee changes the sub-recipient or entity(s) identified in the work plan or application without approval from the State.

E. State Audit and Accounting Requirements

Audit Requirements

Funded proposals are subject to audit by the State of California annually and for three (3) years following the final payment of grant funds. If the award is selected for audit, advance notice will be given. The audit shall include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of the grantee, as they relate to the work program for which the funds were granted.

The grantee must have the work program records, including the source documents and evidence of payment, readily available, and provide an employee with knowledge of the project to assist the auditor. The grantee must provide a copy of any document, paper, record, or the like, requested by the auditor.

The Department of Conservation will provide an initial guidance document outlining acceptable documentation.

Accounting Requirements

- The grantee must maintain an accounting system that:
- Accurately reflects fiscal transactions, with the necessary controls and safeguards.
- Provides a sufficient audit trail, including original source documents such as purchase orders, receipts, progress payments, invoices, time cards, canceled checks, etc.
- Provides accounting data to ensure that the total cost of each individual proposal can be readily determined.

Records Retention

Grant records must be retained for a period of three (3) years after final payment is made by the State. All grant records must be retained by the grantee at least one (1) year following an audit. Grantees are required to keep source documents for all expenditures related to each grant for at least three (3) years following work program completion and one year following an audit. A work program is considered complete upon receipt of final grant payment from the State.

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Indicators

Pilot applicants must select one indicator from the list below or another indicator that provides quantitative measurement. Please note that this list is not comprehensive, and applicants are encouraged to select or develop reliable, consistent indicators that will best track progress. Applicants must completed the following table:

Components of Measuring Performance	
Outcome	The final product or end result that reflects change over time resulting in a desired future condition. Outcomes generally begin with a verb like increase, decrease, expand, or improve. They are specific and measurable.
Indicator	Quantified information that measures changes over time. Its function is to simplify, quantify, and communicate.
Baseline Data	A quantitative measurement of existing circumstances used as a basis for periodic comparison with indicators. It is the initial information collected prior to receipt of services or commencement of activities.
Data Source	The title, provider, purpose, collection methods and repository location of data sets used to establish baselines, milestones, indicators or outcomes.

INDICATOR	SCALE	SCOPE OF DATA	LINKS TO THE SOURCES	AIR AND WATER QUALITY	PUBLIC HEALTH	PROMOTE INFILL / COMPACT DEVELOPMENT	REVITALIZE URBAN AND COMMUNITY CENTERS	PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES / AGRICULTURAL LANDS	REDUCE AUTOMOBILE USAGE / FUEL CONSUMPTION	PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION	PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY / CONSERVATION
Air Quality Attainment, days exceeding national average	Site, County, Air Basin, 8-hr Ozone Planning Area	1963-2012	http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/topfour/topfour1.php	X							
Air Quality Statistics	County, Region	1973-2012	http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/index.html	X							
Criteria and Toxic Emissions	District, State		http://www.arb.ca.gov/ei/areasrc/index0.htm	X							
Emissions from Mobile Sources	Source Category, State	Current	http://www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm	X							
GHG Emissions	Various	Various	http://www.coolcalifornia.org/article/climate-calculators	X							
GHG Emissions by Sector	State	2000-2011	http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/inventory/doc/doc_index.php	X							
Adults with active asthma in the past 12 months, by race/Ethnicity	Region	2007	http://www.chcf.org/~media/MEDIA%20LIBRARY%20Files/PDF/C/PDF%20ChronicConditionsCIS2007.pdf		X						
Annual Number of Walk Trips per Capita	Various	2001, 2009, 2011	Regional travel surveys, National Household Travel Survey (2001, 2009), California Travel Survey (2011) http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tsip/otfa/tab/chts_travelsurvey.html		X						
Diabetes and obesity	County	2007	http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/programs/chronic-disease/Pages/overview.aspx		X						
Diabetes Rates for Adults and Children	County	Biennial	http://ask.chis.ucla.edu/main/default.asp		X						

INDICATOR	SCALE	SCOPE OF DATA	LINKS TO THE SOURCES	AIR AND WATER QUALITY	PUBLIC HEALTH	PROMOTE INFILL / COMPACT DEVELOPMENT	REVITALIZE URBAN AND COMMUNITY CENTERS	PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES / AGRICULTURAL LANDS	REDUCE AUTOMOBILE USAGE / FUEL CONSUMPTION	PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION	PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY / CONSERVATION
Emergency Department Visit Rates for Asthma	County	2005 - 2011	http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Products/EmerDeptData/index.html		X						
Healthy Food Outlets using Retail Food Index	Census Tract	2011	http://www.cngis.org/viewer.aspx		X						
Obesity Rates for Children and Adolescents	County	Biennial	http://ask.chis.ucla.edu/main/default.asp		X						
Percent of population ever diagnosed, percent change, pollution-related hospital events/ Pollution-Related Hospital Events - California	Patient Zip Code	2005–2007	http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR777.pdf		X						
Percentage of Children Walking/ Biking to School	Region	2001, 2009, 2011	Regional travel surveys, National Household Travel Survey (2001, 2009), California Travel Survey (2011) http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tsip/otfa/tab/chts_travelsurvey.html		X						
Perception of Neighborhood Safety	County	Biennial	http://ask.chis.ucla.edu/main/default.asp		X						
Development Near Transit/ Change in Non-Residential Development Near Transit/ In Sq. Ft.	Silicon Valley	2000-2012	http://www.jointventure.org/images/stories/pdf/index2013.pdf			X					
Residential density –Units per acre, new construction	Silicon Valley	1998-2012	http://www.jointventure.org/images/stories/pdf/index2013.pdf			X					

INDICATOR	SCALE	SCOPE OF DATA	LINKS TO THE SOURCES	AIR AND WATER QUALITY	PUBLIC HEALTH	PROMOTE INFILL / COMPACT DEVELOPMENT	REVITALIZE URBAN AND COMMUNITY CENTERS	PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES / AGRICULTURAL LANDS	REDUCE AUTOMOBILE USAGE / FUEL CONSUMPTION	PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION	PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY / CONSERVATION
Travel Time to Jobs	County	census data, 2010	http://thedataweb.rm.census.gov/TheDataWeb_HotReport2/EPA2/EPA_Overview_Page2.html?STATE=6&COUNTY=274			X					
Open Access/Parks Acreage	State	13-Mar	http://www.calands.org/data/statistics				X				
Amount of acreage converted	County	2006-8	http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/pubs/2006-2008/Documents/FCR_0608_final.pdf					X			
Change in Agri. Land	County	up to 2008	http://www.cacleanenergyfuture.org/installed-capacity.html					X			
Installed Capacity (MW) by Technology	State	2001-2010,	http://www.cacleanenergyfuture.org/installed-capacity.html					X			
Patents by Green Technology	State	1990-2006	http://www.nextten.org/pdf/GII/Next10_FullFindings_EN.pdf					X			
Percent of acreage converted	County	2006-8	http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/pubs/2006-2008/Documents/FCR_0608_final.pdf					X			
Renewable Distributed Generation	1983-2020	1983-2010 (projected to 2020)	http://www.cacleanenergyfuture.org/renewable-energy.html					X			
Mode Share	County	census info/2010	http://thedataweb.rm.census.gov/TheDataWeb_HotReport2/EPA2/EPA_Overview_Page2.html?STATE=6&COUNTY=274						X		

INDICATOR	SCALE	SCOPE OF DATA	LINKS TO THE SOURCES	AIR AND WATER QUALITY	PUBLIC HEALTH	PROMOTE INFILL / COMPACT DEVELOPMENT	REVITALIZE URBAN AND COMMUNITY CENTERS	PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES / AGRICULTURAL LANDS	REDUCE AUTOMOBILE USAGE / FUEL CONSUMPTION	PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION	PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY / CONSERVATION
Particulate matter 2.5, days exceeding national average	Site, County, Air Basin, 8-hr Ozone Planning Area	1963-2012	http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/topfour/topfour1.php						X		
PEV sales CARB clean vehicle rebates	Category, County, Air District	2010-2013 by month	http://energycenter.org/programs/clean-vehicle-rebate-project/cvrp-project-statistics						X		
Total registered cars by type/ driver license registration			http://dmv.ca.gov/about/profile/official.pdf						X		
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and Vehicle Fuel Consumption	Source Category, State	Current	http://www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm						X		
Urban Water Use- gallons per person per day	Hydrologic Region	1960-2005	http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1209EHR.pdf							X	
Aggregated Demand Response / Total Energy Consumption Relative to 1970 California and US	State	1970-present	http://www.cacleanenergyfuture.org/demand-response.html								X
Natural gas, Electricity	Planning area, Entity, County	up to 2011	http://www.ecdms.energy.ca.gov/elecbycounty.aspx								X
Non-residential and residential electricity consumption	County, entity, planning area	C(2006-2011)/e., p. a. (1990-2011)	http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1209EHR.pdf								X
Non-residential and residential natural gas consumption	County, entity, planning area	C(2006-2011)/e., p. a. (1990-2011)	http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1209EHR.pdf								X

Appendix B – Work Plan

Governor’s Office of Planning and Research – Best Practices Pilot

Grantee	
Grant Number	
Jurisdiction	
Department/Office	
Project Title	
Date Updated	

Project Description

1-2 Paragraph description of project goals and objectives

High Level Activities/Milestones (With Deliverables and Indicators)	Responsible Parties	Timeline (Start Date)
<i>Task 1:</i> <i>Subtask A</i> <i>Subtask B</i> <i>Subtask C</i> <i>Deliverables:</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Months 1-3</i>
<i>Task 2:</i> <i>Subtask A</i> <i>Subtask B</i> <i>Subtask C</i> <i>Deliverables:</i> <i>Indicator</i>	<i>Consultant A</i>	<i>Months 3-9</i>

(*Note: Only one indicator is required per project)

Appendix C – Application Budget Form

Proposal Element (example only)		Total Cost	Grant	In-Kind	Cash
1 Administration					
	Staff				
	Consultant Contract				
	Surveys				
Subtotal Task 1					
2 Proposal Development					
	Research				
	Drafting				
Subtotal Task 2					
3 Public Outreach					
	Announcements				
	Web posting costs				
Subtotal Task 3					
4 Materials					
Subtotal Task 4					
GRAND TOTAL					

**Additional budget detail may be required upon award of funding

Appendix D – Case Study Report Template

This report is meant to serve as one of a series of case studies supported by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and may be promoted as best practice examples of policy or program implementation at the local level. This report should be 5-10 pages in length, single spaced. Please provide diagrams, maps, and graphs where appropriate as well as a reference page or footnote citations for any material that may help the reader understand the project.

The following template is meant to serve as a guide, although authors are welcome to shape their reports as they see best fit for their specific jurisdictions and projects. OPR will assist in the development of the report and provide feedback as requested. In sections that may require a nexus to State policy OPR can supply content upon request. Sections may be added or combined, so long as they follow this general format. Any questions may be directed to greta.soos@opr.ca.gov.

Executive Summary

- Overview of project and its outcomes
- Purpose of report and relevance to State policy goals

Project Description

- What were the goals of the project or program?
- Define the problem that needed to be solved
- Who were the key stakeholders?
- Was there agreement among stakeholders on a specific outcome?

Background of jurisdiction/region and problems faced by jurisdiction

- Give an overview of the community, city, county, or region, and describe its relevance to the project.
- Why was this jurisdiction a good candidate for the project?

Initial Goals

- What were the initial goals of the project?
- Did these goals change with time or knowledge?
- Was there agreement on the goal(s) among stakeholders?

Process and Tools used

- What were the tools used to achieve the goal(s)?
- Consider elements such as stakeholder engagement, efficient planning, online data tools, State resources, technical assistance etc.
- Discuss OPR’s role in providing technical assistance

Outcomes

- What were the outcomes of the project?
- Were outcomes as expected?

Project Difficulties

- Describe the difficulties of this project

- Are these difficulties present in other jurisdictions? Why or why not?

Technical Assistance

- Describe OPR's involvement in the project.
- How was technical assistance provided?
- Was OPR's involvement helpful?
- How could State resources be better distributed through technical assistance?

Identified paths to success

- What were the key tools, mechanisms, or entities that made this project a success?

Recommendations to State programs and partners

- Describe some issues you face on a local or regional level in developing or implementing programs that could be made easier or more efficient by a shift or addition to State resources or programs
- Provide recommended changes to State policies or programs that cause challenges or delays in implementing sustainability or climate changes related programs

Replicable elements

- What successful elements of this project could be replicable in other jurisdictions in California? In the U.S.?
- What might be some challenges in replicating this project elsewhere?

Appendix E – Proposition 84
(Chapter 9, Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction)

CALIFORNIA CODES
PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE
SECTION **75065–75066**

75065. The sum of five hundred eighty million dollars (\$580,000,000) shall be available for improving the sustainability and livability of California's communities through investment in natural resources. The purposes of this chapter include reducing urban communities' contribution to global warming and increasing their adaptability to climate change while improving the quality of life in those communities. Funds shall be available in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) The sum of ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000) shall be available for urban greening projects that reduce energy consumption, conserve water, improve air and water quality, and provide other community benefits. Priority shall be given to projects that provide multiple benefits, use existing public lands, serve communities with the greatest need, and facilitate joint use of public resources and investments including schools. Implementing legislation shall provide for planning grants for urban greening programs. Not less than \$20,000,000 shall be available for urban forestry projects pursuant to the California Urban Forestry Act, Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 4799.06) of Part 2.5 of Division 1.

(b) The sum of four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000) shall be available to the Department of Parks and Recreation for competitive grants for local and regional parks. Funds provided in this subdivision may be allocated to existing programs or pursuant to legislation enacted to implement this subdivision, subject to the following considerations:

(1) Acquisition and development of new parks and expansion of overused parks that provide park and recreational access to underserved communities shall be given preference.

(2) Creation of parks in neighborhoods where none currently exist shall be given preference.

(3) Outreach and technical assistance shall be provided to underserved communities to encourage full participation in the program or programs.

(4) Preference shall be given to applicants that actively involve community based groups in the selection and planning of projects.

(5) Projects will be designed to provide efficient use of water and other natural resources.

(c) The sum of ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000) shall be available for planning grants and planning incentives, including revolving loan programs and other methods to encourage the development of regional and local land use plans that are designed to promote water conservation, reduce automobile use and fuel consumption, encourage greater infill and compact development, protect natural resources and agricultural lands, and revitalize urban and community centers.

75066. Appropriation of the funds provided in subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 75065 may only be made upon enactment of legislation to implement that subdivision.

Appendix F – Executive Order B-30-15

EXECUTIVE ORDER B-30-15

WHEREAS climate change poses an ever-growing threat to the well-being, public health, natural resources, economy, and the environment of California, including loss of snowpack, drought, sea level rise, more frequent and intense wildfires, heat waves, more severe smog, and harm to natural and working lands, and these effects are already being felt in the state; and

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded in its Fifth Assessment Report, issued in 2014, that "warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia" and that "continued emission of greenhouse gases will cause further warming and long-lasting changes in all components of the climate system, increasing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems;" and

WHEREAS projections of climate change show that, even under the best-case scenario for global emission reductions, additional climate change impacts are inevitable, and these impacts pose tremendous risks to the state's people, agriculture, economy, infrastructure and the environment; and

WHEREAS climate change will disproportionately affect the state's most vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS building on decades of successful actions to reduce pollution and increase energy efficiency the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 placed California at the forefront of global and national efforts to reduce the threat of climate change; and

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has identified limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius or less by 2050 as necessary to avoid potentially catastrophic climate change impacts, and remaining below this threshold requires accelerated reductions of greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS California has established greenhouse gas emission reduction targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and further reduce such emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS setting an interim target of emission reductions for 2030 is necessary to guide regulatory policy and investments in California in the midterm, and put California on the most cost-effective path for long term emission reductions; and

WHEREAS all agencies with jurisdiction over sources of greenhouse gas emissions will need to continue to develop and implement emissions reduction programs to reach the state's 2050 target and attain a level of emissions necessary to avoid dangerous climate change; and

WHEREAS taking climate change into account in planning and decision making will help the state make more informed decisions and avoid high costs in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, in particular Government Code sections

8567 and 8571 of the California Government Code, do hereby issue this Executive Order, effective immediately

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. A new interim statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 is established in order to ensure California meets its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

2. All state agencies with jurisdiction over sources of greenhouse gas emissions shall implement measures, pursuant to statutory authority, to achieve reductions of greenhouse gas emissions to meet the 2030 and 2050 greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets.

3. The California Air Resources Board shall update the Climate Change Scoping Plan to express the 2030 target in terms of million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

4. The California Natural Resources Agency shall update every three years the state's climate adaptation strategy, Safeguarding California, and ensure that its provisions are fully implemented. The Safeguarding California plan will:

- Identify vulnerabilities to climate change by sector and regions, including, at a minimum, the following sectors: water, energy, transportation, public health, agriculture, emergency services, forestry, biodiversity and habitat, and ocean and coastal resources;

- Outline primary risks to residents, property, communities and natural systems from these vulnerabilities, and identify priority actions needed to reduce these risks; and

- Identify a lead agency or group of agencies to lead adaptation efforts in each sector.

5. Each sector lead will be responsible to:

- Prepare an implementation plan by September 2015 to outline the actions that will be taken as identified in Safeguarding California, and

- Report back to the California Natural Resources Agency by June 2016 on actions taken.

6. State agencies shall take climate change into account in their planning and investment decisions, and employ full life-cycle cost accounting to evaluate and compare infrastructure investments and alternatives.

7. State agencies' planning and investment shall be guided by the following principles

- Priority should be given to actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

- Where possible, flexible and adaptive approaches should be taken to prepare for uncertain climate impacts;

- Actions should protect the state's most vulnerable populations; and

- Natural infrastructure solutions should be prioritized.

8. The state's Five-Year Infrastructure Plan will take current and future climate change impacts into account in all infrastructure projects

9. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research will establish a technical, advisory group to help state agencies incorporate climate change impacts into planning and investment decisions.

10. The state will continue its rigorous climate change research program focused on understanding the impacts of climate change and how best to prepare and adapt to such impacts.

This Executive Order is not intended to create, and does not, create any rights or benefits, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 29th day of April 2015.

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA

Secretary of State

Latest News

Appendix G – State Planning Priorities

65041.1. The state planning priorities, which are intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety in the state, including in urban, suburban, and rural communities, shall be as follows:

(a) To promote infill development and equity by rehabilitating, maintaining, and improving existing infrastructure that supports infill development and appropriate reuse and redevelopment of previously developed, underutilized land that is presently served by transit, streets, water, sewer, and other essential services, particularly in underserved areas, and to preserving cultural and historic resources.

(b) To protect environmental and agricultural resources by protecting, preserving, and enhancing the state's most valuable natural resources, including working landscapes such as farm, range, and forest lands, natural lands such as wetlands, watersheds, wildlife habitats, and other wildlands, recreation lands such as parks, trails, greenbelts, and other open space, and landscapes with locally unique features and areas identified by the state as deserving special protection.

(c) To encourage efficient development patterns by ensuring that any infrastructure associated with development, other than infill development, supports new development that does all of the following:

- (1) Uses land efficiently.
- (2) Is built adjacent to existing developed areas to the extent consistent with the priorities specified pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (3) Is located in an area appropriately planned for growth.
- (4) Is served by adequate transportation and other essential utilities and services.
- (5) Minimizes ongoing costs to taxpayers.

Appendix H – SB 732 (2008)

SB 732, Steinberg. Environment.

The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, an initiative statute approved by the voters at the November 7, 2006, statewide general election makes about \$5.4 billion in bond funds available for safe drinking water, water quality and supply, flood control, natural resource protection, and park improvements.

This bill would require the State Department of Public Health, the Department of Fish and Game, and the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy, when implementing the provisions of the initiative, among other things, to develop and adopt guidelines and regulations, consult with other entities, conduct studies, and follow certain procedures for establishing a project, grant, loan, or other financial assistance program implementing the initiative.

The bill would establish the Strategic Growth Council and would appropriate \$500,000 from the funding provided by the initiative to the Resources Agency to support the council and its activities. The bill would require the council to take certain actions with regard to coordinating programs of member state agencies to improve air and water quality, improve natural resource protection, increase the availability of affordable housing, improve transportation, meet the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, encourage sustainable land use planning, and revitalize urban and community centers in a sustainable manner. The council would be required to manage and award grants and loans to support the planning and development of sustainable communities, for preparing, adopting, and implementing general plans, general plan elements, regional plans, or other planning instruments, and for preparing, planning, and implementing urban greening plans. The council would also be required to, not later than July 1, 2010, and

every year thereafter, provide a report to the Legislature with specified information regarding the management of the grants and loans.

The bill would provide that in any case in which the provisions of the bill and the initiative conflict, the initiative shall prevail.

Appropriation: yes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 75076 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

75076. Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to the development and adoption of program guidelines and selection criteria adopted pursuant to this division.

SEC. 2. Section 75077 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

75077. Funds provided pursuant to this division, and any appropriation or transfer of those funds, shall not be deemed to be a transfer of funds for the purposes of Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 2780) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code.

SEC. 3. Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 75100) is added to Division 43 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

CHAPTER 12. IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS

75100. (a) (1) Each state agency disbursing a competitive grant pursuant to this division shall develop project solicitation and

evaluation guidelines. The guidelines may include a limitation on the size of a competitive grant to be awarded.

(2) Prior to disbursing a competitive grant, each state agency shall conduct at least one public meeting to consider public comments prior to finalizing the guidelines. Each state agency shall publish the draft solicitation and evaluation guidelines on its Internet Web site at least 30 days before the public meetings. Meetings shall be held at geographically appropriate locations. Upon adoption, each state agency shall transmit copies of the guidelines to the fiscal committees and the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature. To the extent feasible, each state agency shall provide outreach to disadvantaged communities to promote access and participation in those meetings.

(3) The guidelines may include a requirement for the applicant to illustrate an ongoing commitment of financial resources, unless the purposes of awarding a grant financed by this division is to assist a disadvantaged community.

(4) The guidelines shall require a new grant solicitation for each funding cycle. Each funding cycle shall consider only those applications received as a part of the solicitation for that funding cycle.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a state agency, in lieu of adopting guidelines pursuant to subdivision (a), may use guidelines existing on January 1, 2007, and those guidelines as periodically amended thereafter.

75101. (a) For the purposes of implementing Section 75025, the State Department of Public Health shall do all of the following:

(1) Develop guidelines pursuant to Section 75100 in collaboration with the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the state board.

(2) In collaboration with the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the state board, develop and adopt regulations governing

the repayment of costs that are subsequently recovered from parties responsible for the contamination.

(b) For the purposes of implementing subdivision (a) of Section 75050, the Department of Fish and Game, when funding a natural community conservation plan, shall fund only the development of a natural community conservation plan that is consistent with the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 2800) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code).

(c) The San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy may use the funds made available pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 75060 to restore the salt ponds in the south San Francisco Bay and to create trails and visitor facilities for public use in that area.

75102. Before the adoption of a negative declaration or environmental impact report required under Section 75070, the lead agency shall notify the proposed action to a California Native American tribe, which is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission, if that tribe has traditional lands located within the area of the proposed project.

75103. It is the intent of the Legislature that any public funds made available by this division to investor-owned utilities regulated by the Public Utilities Commission should be for the benefit of the ratepayers or the public and not the investors pursuant to oversight by the Public Utilities Commission.

75104. State agencies that are authorized to award a loan or grant financed by this division shall provide technical assistance with regard to the preparation of an application for a loan or grant in a manner that, among other things, addresses the needs of economically disadvantaged communities.

SEC. 4. Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 75120) is added to Division 43 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

CHAPTER 13. STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL AND CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCTION

75120. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Council" means the Strategic Growth Council established pursuant to Section 75121.

(b) "Regional plan" means either of the following:

(1) A long-range transportation plan developed pursuant to Section 134(g) of Title 23 of the United States Code and any applicable state requirements.

(2) A regional blueprint plan, which is a regional plan that implements statutory requirements intended to foster comprehensive planning as defined in Section 65041.1 of, Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 65080) of Division 1 of Title 7 of, and Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of, the Government Code. A regional blueprint plan articulates regional consensus and performance outcomes on a more efficient land use pattern that supports improved mobility and reduces dependency on single-occupancy vehicle trips; accommodates an adequate supply of housing for all income levels; reduces impacts on valuable farmland, natural resources, and air quality, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, increases water and energy conservation and efficiency; and promotes a prosperous economy and safe, healthy, sustainable, and vibrant neighborhoods.

75121. (a) The Strategic Growth Council is hereby established in state government and it shall consist of the Director of State Planning and Research, the Secretary of the Resources Agency, the Secretary for Environmental Protection, the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing, the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, and one member of the public to be appointed by the Governor. The public member shall have a background in land use planning, local government, resource protection and management, or community development or revitalization.

(b) Staff for the council shall be reflective of the council's membership.

75122. The members of the council shall elect a chair of the council every two years.

75123. (a) The council's meetings shall be open to the public and shall be subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

(b) The council may sponsor conferences, symposia, and other public forums, to seek a broad range of public advice regarding local, regional, and natural resource planning, sustainable development, and strategies to reduce and mitigate climate change.

75124. Of the funds made available pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 75065, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) is hereby appropriated to the Resources Agency to be used in support of the council and its activities in accordance with this chapter.

75125. The council shall do all of the following:

(a) Identify and review activities and funding programs of member state agencies that may be coordinated to improve air and water quality, improve natural resource protection, increase the availability of affordable housing, improve transportation, meet the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code), encourage sustainable land use planning, and revitalize urban and community centers in a sustainable manner. At a minimum, the council shall review and comment on the five-year infrastructure plan developed pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 13100) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 3 of the Government Code and the State Environmental Goals and Policy Report developed pursuant to Section 65041 of the Government Code.

(b) Recommend policies and investment strategies and priorities to the Governor, the Legislature, and to appropriate state agencies to encourage the development of sustainable communities, such as those communities that promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety, and is consistent with subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 75065.

(c) Provide, fund, and distribute data and information to local governments and regional agencies that will assist in developing and planning sustainable communities.

(d) Manage and award grants and loans to support the planning and development of sustainable communities, pursuant to Sections 75127, 75128, and 75129. To implement this subdivision, the council may do all of the following:

(1) Develop guidelines for awarding financial assistance, including criteria for eligibility and additional consideration.

(2) Develop criteria for determining the amount of financial assistance to be awarded. The council shall award a revolving loan to an applicant for a planning project, unless the council determines that the applicant lacks the fiscal capacity to carry out the project without a grant. The council may establish criteria that would allow the applicant to illustrate an ongoing commitment of financial resources to ensure the completion of the proposed plan or project.

(3) Provide for payments of interest on loans made pursuant to this article. The rate of interest shall not exceed the rate earned by the Pooled Money Investment Board.

(4) Provide for the time period for repaying a loan made pursuant to this article.

(5) Provide for the recovery of funds from an applicant that fails to complete the project for which financial assistance was awarded. The council shall direct the State Controller to recover funds by any available means.

(6) Provide technical assistance for application preparation.

(7) Designate a state agency or department to administer technical and financial assistance programs for the disbursing of grants and loans to support the planning and development of sustainable communities, pursuant to Sections 75127, 75128, and 75129.

(e) No later than July 1, 2010, and every year thereafter, provide a report to the Legislature that

shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(1) A list of applicants for financial assistance.

(2) Identification of which applications were approved.

(3) The amounts awarded for each approved application.

(4) The remaining balance of available funds.

(5) A report on the proposed or ongoing management of each funded project.

(6) Any additional minimum requirements and priorities for a project or plan proposed in a grant or loan application developed and adopted by the council pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 75216.

75126. (a) An applicant shall declare, in the application submitted to the council for financial assistance for a plan or project pursuant to this chapter, the applicant's intention to follow a detailed budget and schedule for the completion of the plan or project. The budget and schedule shall be of sufficient detail to allow the council to assess the progress of the applicant at regular intervals.

(b) A project or plan funded pursuant to this chapter shall meet both of the following criteria:

(1) Be consistent with the state's planning policies pursuant to Section 65041.1 of the Government Code.

(2) Reduce, on as permanent a basis that is feasible, greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code), and any applicable regional plan.

(c) The council may develop additional minimum requirements and priorities for a project or plan proposed in a grant and loan application, including those related to improving air quality.

75127. (a) To support the planning and development of sustainable communities, the council shall manage and award financial assistance to a city or county for preparing, adopting, and implementing a general plan or general plan element that is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote

water conservation, reduce automobile use and fuel consumption, encourage greater infill and compact development, protect natural resources and agricultural lands, and revitalize urban and community centers.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the preparation and adoption of a general plan may include a comprehensive update of a general plan, amendment or adoption of an individual element of a general plan, or any other revision consistent with the intent of Section 75065.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the implementation of a general plan may include amendment or adoption of a specific plan, community plan, zoning ordinance, or any other plan, ordinance, or policy that is consistent with the intent of Section 75065.

(d) The funding provided pursuant to this section for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of a general plan may also include funding any activity necessary to conform a general plan to a regional plan.

75128. (a) To support the planning and development of sustainable communities, the council shall manage and award financial assistance to a council of governments, metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning agency, city, county, or joint powers authority, to develop, adopt or implement a regional plan or other planning instrument consistent with a regional plan that improves air and water quality, improves natural resource protection, increases the availability of affordable housing, improves transportation, meets the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code), and encourages sustainable land use. The financial assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be funded from moneys made available pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 75065.

(b) In awarding financial assistance pursuant to this section, the council shall give first priority to an application seeking funding to add or enhance elements of a regional plan that are not funded with federal moneys.

75129. (a) To support the planning and development of sustainable communities, the council shall manage and award financial assistance to a city, county, or nonprofit organization for the preparation, planning, and implementation of an urban greening project that provides multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, a decrease in air and water pollution, a reduction in the consumption of natural resources and energy, an increase in the reliability of local water supplies, or an increased adaptability to climate change. An eligible project funded pursuant to this section shall not include a mitigation action that is required under existing law. The financial assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be funded from moneys made available pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 75065.

(b) The council shall develop minimum requirements for funding eligible projects pursuant to this section, which shall require a project to meet at least one of the following criteria:

(1) Use natural systems, or systems that mimic natural systems, to achieve the benefits identified in subdivision (a).

(2) Create, enhance, or expand community green spaces.

(c) The multiple benefits of a project, may include, but are not limited to, the establishment or enhancement of one or more of the following:

(1) Tree canopy.

(2) Urban forestry.

(3) Local parks and open space.

(4) Greening of existing public lands and structures, including schools.

(5) Multi-objective stormwater projects, including construction of permeable surfaces and collection basins and barriers.

(6) Urban streams, including restoration.

(7) Community, demonstration, or outdoor education gardens and orchards.

(8) Urban heat island mitigation and energy conservation efforts through landscaping and green roof projects.

(9) Nonmotorized urban trails that provide safe routes for both recreation and travel between residences, workplaces, commercial centers, and schools.

(d) The council shall give additional consideration to a funding project pursuant to this section that meets one or more of the following criteria:

(1) The project uses interagency cooperation and integration.

(2) The project uses existing public lands and facilitates use of public resources and investments including schools.

(3) The project is proposed by an economically disadvantaged community.

(e) Up to 25 percent of the moneys allocated pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 75065 may be used to award revolving loans or grants to a council of governments, countywide authority, a metropolitan planning organization, local government, or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of creating urban greening plans that will serve as the master document guiding and coordinating greening projects in the applicant's jurisdiction. These urban greening plans shall be consistent with the jurisdiction's general plan or regional plan, where one exists.

75130. This chapter does not authorize the council to take an action with regard to the exercise of a local government's land use permitting authority.

SEC. 5. In any case in which any of the provisions of this act, and Division 43 (commencing with Section 75001) of the Public Resources Code conflict, that division shall prevail.

SEC. 6. The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.