



# CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

**To:** California Strategic Growth Council Members  
**From:** Lynn von Koch-Liebert, SGC Executive Director  
**Re:** Executive Director Report to the Council – April 28, 2022

## Organizational and Staffing Updates

- The Climate Change Research program welcomed Natalie Obaldia, Research Analyst, to serve as one of the communications team members for California’s Fifth Climate Change Assessment.
- The Community Resiliency Centers (CRC) program welcomed Coral Abbott, previously Senior Program Analyst for Community Assistance for Climate Equity program, as Program Manager. CRC also welcomed Lisa Hu as Program Analyst for the CRC program. Lisa joins SGC from OPR, where she led the development of the Vulnerable Communities Platform.

## Investment Program Updates

### Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC)

Staff: Saharnaz Mirzazad, Marc Caswell, Shep Wilbun, Jessica Lopez, Justin DeWaele and California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) Staff Team

- Round 6 Awards completed at January Council Meeting and HCD staff continues to finalize agreements with awardees. SGC’s work with Round 6 Awards is considered complete.
- SGC AHSC staff continues to work with our “Core AHSC Team” including staff from CARB and HCD, to update Program Guidelines for Round 7 & Beyond. The team brought the Policy Discussion Document that lays out nearly 100 changes to streamline, clarify, and strengthen the program goals to the Advisory Committee on April 6<sup>th</sup> and released it publicly soon after. Updates were guided by four key questions:
  - Is this change required by statute or Council?
  - Is this change identified as a priority by stakeholders?
  - Will this change improve clarity for applicants and/or reviewers?
  - Will this change reduce the complexity of applying, while maintaining the integrity of the program?

### Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC)

Staff: Saharnaz Mirzazad, Sophie Young, Jerry Rivero, Jennifer Kim, Sarah Newsham, Bo Chung, and California Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- The Round 4 TCC NOFA for \$106.2 million was released March 8 after the adoption of the TCC Round 4 Program Guidelines at the February Council meeting.
  - Implementation Grant Pre-Proposals are due April 22. The final Implementation and Planning Grant Applications will be due July 1, 2022, and award recommendations are scheduled for October 2022.
  - TCC staff held three public workshops on the Round 4 application: one for all audiences on March 11, and one for tribal communities and one for disadvantaged unincorporated and rural communities on March 18. Current TCC Grantees shared lessons learned with potential applicants, and the third-party technical assistance providers provided an overview of how applicants can access technical assistance services.

- OPR and SGC staff attended TCC site visits:
  - Green Together: Northeast Valley (TCC Round 2 Implementation Grant) hosted a site visit on March 4, 2022. The Green Together Collaborative, led by Community Partners, received a \$23 million grant from SGC in 2018. OPR Director and Council Chair Samuel Assefa, SGC Executive Director Lynn von Koch-Liebert, TCC Senior Program Analyst Jerry Rivero, and DOC TCC staff attended.
  - Watts Rising (TCC Round 1 Implementation Grant) hosted a site visit on April 11, 2022. Watts Rising, led by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, received a \$33.25 million grant from SGC in 2018. OPR Director and Council Chair Samuel Assefa, SGC Executive Director Lynn von Koch-Liebert, TCC Senior Program Analyst Jerry Rivero, TCC Program Analyst Jennifer Kim, and DOC TCC staff attended.
- TCC Grantees celebrated key project milestones:
  - Transform Fresno (TCC Round 1 Implementation Grant) held a ribbon cutting for the Clean Shared Mobility Project’s brick-and-mortar Mobility Hub Customer Service Center on February 25, 2022. The Mobility Hub, led by the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce and partners, will serve as the central resource hub for the TCC-funded low-cost mobility share that includes 34 electric cars, 8 electric vans, 200 electric bicycles, and 42 electric vehicle charging stations. TCC-HSR Senior Projects Analyst Bo Chung attended with DOC TCC staff Brendan Pipkin.
  - Stockton Rising (TCC Round 3 Implementation Grant) held a ribbon cutting for the Miner Avenue Complete Streets Project on March 16, 2022. Miner Avenue transformed a previously car-dominated street to a complete street with pedestrian, bicycle, and landscaping improvements. The project will provide clean transit connectivity for South Stockton residents to Downtown Stockton destinations, including the transit station. SGC Deputy Director Saharnaz Mirzazad attended with DOC TCC staff.
  - Transform Fresno (TCC Round 1 Implementation Grant) graduated the first cohort of students for the VOICE Gladiator Welding Program led by the State Center Community College District on March 23, 2022. Eighteen graduates and their families alongside elected officials celebrated this achievement as a successful outcome of a workforce development project for Transform Fresno and the local community. TCC-HSR Senior Projects Analyst Bo Chung attended.
- SGC and TCC Program Staff made several public presentations on the TCC program model and upcoming NOFA opportunities. Public presentation forums in March and April include the California Assembly Transportation Committee, Gateway Cities Council of Governments Energy Working Group, Local Energy Resources Network, The Climate Center, Environmental Policy Innovation Center, and ClimateXChange.

### Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)

Staff: Saharnaz Mirzazad, Emily Tibbott (OPR), and Department of Conservation Staff

- SALC staff held three virtual public workshops on proposed Guidelines changes on March 9 and March 10. Staff did not hold in-person workshops due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 93 people participated in the workshops. The public comment period closed on March 25, 2022. Staff received seven comment letters containing 50 distinct comments, including 22 comments expressing general support for the changes incorporated into the Round 8 Guidelines. Staff reviewed and incorporated revisions to address the remaining comments where appropriate.



- Round 8 SALC Draft Guidelines are proposed for approval during the April 28 Council meeting. Proposed revisions are based on Council guidance related to how the program meets its goal of providing multiple benefits and assesses infill development, as well as feedback provided by stakeholders during listening sessions and working group meetings conducted throughout 2021 and in early 2022, and during the thirty-day public comment period held in advance of Guidelines approval. Revisions include:
  - o The addition of a capacity grant type to fund the development of agricultural conservation acquisition projects.
  - o The addition of funding targets for acquisition projects that:
    - Provide secure land tenure to new or Veteran farmers or ranchers, or farmers or ranchers who are residents of a disadvantaged community, low-income community, or low-income household; or that provide meaningful benefits to a disadvantaged community, low-income community, or low-income household.
    - Involve a California Native American tribe either as the applicant, co-applicant or project partner.
  - o Revisions to improve accessibility to the program for tribes.
  - o Revisions to the selection criteria to improve accessibility and allow flexibility in how the program meets its goal of providing multiple benefits
  - o Revisions to how the threat of residential property conversion and a project’s infill supportive elements are evaluated.
  - o Increase in acquisition associated costs allowance from \$50,000 to \$60,000 per grant
  - o Increase in maximum planning grant amount from \$250,000 to \$500,000 per grant
  - o Expanding the list of eligible partner applications to include special districts with a mission related to agricultural preservation
  - o Administrative revisions.
- SALC staff have received initial program feedback via two contracts with tribal-affiliated consultants to review the Guidelines and associated program materials to improve the program’s accessibility to tribes. Initial feedback has been incorporated into the Round 8 Guidelines. Additional feedback may be incorporated into the Round 9 Guidelines as appropriate.
- 18 acquisition project grant agreements have been executed. One acquisition grant agreement remains in process. Planning grant agreements are still in process.

## Climate Change Research Program (CCR)

Staff: Elizabeth Grassi, Montrai Spikes, and Natalie Obaldia

- The CCR team has successfully closed out all ten CCR Round 1 research grant projects. Over the last month, CCR staff hosted the final four exit presentations with up to 80 staff participants from SGC member agencies and legislative staff attending these events. The presentations discussed:
  - [Cal-THRIVES, A California Toolkit for Heat Resilience in Underserved Environments](#);
  - [Toxic Tides: Sea Level Rise, Hazardous Sites, and Environmental Justice in California](#);
  - [Connecting Wildlands and Communities](#); and,
  - [Predicting Investment-Related Displacement in Disadvantaged Communities](#).
- On April 21, CCR hosted a webinar titled [Social Ground Truthing Climate Change Research: Centering Community in Research Partnerships](#) that highlighted the program’s integration of



meaningful engagement and celebrating the completion of the ten research projects that were awarded Round 1 funding. SGC Public Member Juan Sánchez Muñoz provided opening remarks, followed by a summary of the program’s successes, and a “Partners Panel” presentation and questions/ answers session featuring Bernadette Austin, Center for Regional Change; Ben Russak, Liberty Hill Foundation; and Gurjeet Singh, Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

- Staff is working with SGC communications team to develop a “Completed Projects” section in the program’s resources web portal. This section will provide a summary of each project’s research findings/outcomes, the grantee’s Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) case study submission, a link to the project’s exit presentation available on the Strategic Growth Council YouTube channel’s [Climate Change Research Playlist](#), and a link to additional information provided by the grantee (i.e., tools, reports, additional research, etc.).
- Staff has participated in initial sessions of the California 5<sup>th</sup> Climate Change Assessment team to discuss preliminary steps on structures, processes, and networks that will support this initiative.

### Tribal Government Challenge Program (TGC)

Staff: Elizabeth Grassi, Coral Abbott, Ena Lupine, and the California Energy Commission (CEC) Staff Team

- The Statewide Gap Analysis of California Tribal Lands expects to release its draft report by the end of the month. This report provides analysis and synthesis on a diverse set of primary and secondary data. It employed survey responses to identify patterns, themes, and trends in the development of a complete data set and set of initial findings.
- SGC and CEC staff will collaborate to disseminate the initial and final findings and recommendations of the Statewide Gap Analysis report to our partners across State government that include an initial discussion of the draft report with department/agency Tribal Liaisons next month, and various presentations at meetings with policy and technical staff on the final report when it is released later this year.
- The TGC team received the first final report from a Planning Grant awardee. The Tule River Tribe completed a funded strategic plan addressing energy vulnerability to implement a renewable energy strategy and develop a climate action plan for the tribe. The Tribal Council adopted the Final Report of the Energy Feasibility Study as the SMART Reservation Implementation Plan on March 22, 2022.

### Proposition 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Planning Grant Program (WRRG)

Staff: Clay Kerchof (OPR), Elizabeth Grassi, Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- OPR staff is working with the four “Prop 84” grantees on invoicing and quarterly progress reports.
- OPR staff produced a case study for the California Adaptation Clearinghouse that synthesizes the Prop 84 projects and how they can inform future integrated wildfire resilience planning efforts.
- All Prop 84 grants will close October 31, 2022.

## Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

### Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Ena Lupine, Coral Abbott, Sarah Risher, and Kavleen Singh

## Regional Climate Collaboratives and Partners Advancing Climate Equity:

- Staff have posted the proposed final RCC Round 1 program guidelines, which will come to the Council for adoption. Staff have updated the document based on the written and verbal comments received during the public comment period and public workshops for the draft program guidelines, which were released in February.
- The Partners Advancing Climate Equity (PACE) program concluded the second (and final) phase of the program in March. In the final session, cohort members shared the Community Needs Assessments they developed during their time in the program, and how they have used or plan to use them to build the capacity of their organizations and communities. The Project Team is working on a recommendations report to be finalized this Spring that will provide learnings from the PACE pilot program on how the State can best invest in capacity building for frontline community leaders.

## California Climate Investments Technical Assistance (CCI TA) Program:

- The following BOOST communities were recently awarded a Clean California grant: Maywood, McFarland, Needles, and South San Francisco. Collectively, these awards result in over \$6 million in funding to transform unsightly roadsides and provide much-needed recreation and outdoor education spaces in their cities. In April, the BOOST cohort will engage in a Community of Practice session on Grant Management, which will provide templates, tools, and best practices for seeking and implementing funding.
- The final report for the CCI TA Evaluation will be released in early April. In collaboration with the evaluators, SGC is hosting a forum – Learning from the CCI TA Evaluation Findings – to present and discuss the findings with CCI program administrators, TA providers, and other audiences seeking to increase access to State resources and investments.

## Collaborative Policy Initiatives

### Health and Equity Program (HEP)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Jazmine Garcia Delgadillo, Alexandra Gallo, and Michael Jimenez

### Health in All Policies (HiAP)

Staff: SGC partners with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Public Health Institute (PHI) to staff the Health in All Policies Task Force. The Task Force brings together over 25 agencies, departments, and commissions to integrate health and racial equity considerations into programs and policies that advance State priorities.

- **Post-Meeting Survey to the HiAP Task Force:** The next HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meeting is scheduled on May 11, from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. To prepare for this convening, the HEP Team administered a survey among all HiAP Task Force members to receive feedback on the February 17 quarterly meeting and learn about members' interest and capacity to collaborate in potential workgroups and goal-driven initiatives. In the survey, Task Force members were prompted to volunteer as ongoing facilitators – or “champions” – of potential workgroups.
- **Additional Organizations Join the HiAP Task Force.** Since the February 17 HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meeting, the HEP Team has secured additional participation in the HiAP Task Force from the following agencies and departments: California Business, Consumer Services, and



Housing Agency; California Health and Human Services Agency; Department of Finance; and the Office of the Surgeon General.

<b>Agency or Department</b>	<b>Council Agency</b>	<b>Participation Status</b>	<b>Number of Staff</b>
Air Resources Board	CalEPA	Confirmed	2
California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency	BCSH	Confirmed	1
Community Services and Development	CHHS	Confirmed	2
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation		Confirmed	2
Department of Education		Confirmed	1
Department of Finance		Confirmed	1
Department of Food & Agriculture	CDFA	Confirmed	3
Department of Forestry & Fire Protection	CNRA	Confirmed	3
Department of General Services		Confirmed	1
Department of Housing and Community Development	BCSH	Confirmed	2
Department of Parks & Recreation	CNRA	Confirmed	3
Department of Public Health	CHHS	Confirmed	3
Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery	CalEPA	Confirmed	2
Department of Social Services	CHHS	Confirmed	2
Department of Transportation	CalSTA	Confirmed	4
Energy Commission		Confirmed	2
Environmental Protection Agency	CalEPA	Confirmed	2
First 5 California		Confirmed	3
Governor's Office of Emergency Services		Confirmed	2
Governor's Office of Planning & Research	OPR	Confirmed	1
Health and Human Services Agency	CHHS	Confirmed	2
Housing Finance Agency	BCSH	Confirmed	1

Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission		Confirmed	2
Natural Resources Agency	CNRA	Confirmed	2
Office of the Surgeon General		Confirmed	1
Public Utilities Commission	CNRA	Confirmed	3
State Water Resources Control Board	CalEPA	Confirmed	1
Transportation Commission	CalSTA	Confirmed	2
Workforce Development Board		Confirmed	1
Additional agencies and departments contacted for engagement on the HiAP Task Force include: Department of Human Resources and FI\$Cal.			

### Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP)

Staff: HEP and SGC Program and Administrative Managers

- SGC REAP Implementation:** HEP continues to facilitate implementation of SGC’s REAP, including commitments for all SGC Programs, Operations, and Council initiatives. HEP facilitated bimonthly Program Meetings in late March and early April where SGC Staff shared progress updates, challenges, and next steps for implementation. HEP also worked with Program teams to identify methods of evaluation and tracking for individual commitments. Further, in coordination with SGC leadership, HEP instituted several organizational adjustments to infuse the REAP into all SGC’s operations, including agendaing REAP discussions in SGC all-staff meetings, tracking REAP progress in SGC’s weekly updates reports, and embedding racial equity into SGC-wide communications, among others. Additionally, HEP launched three SGC workgroups focused on Workforce Equity, Tribal Coordination, and Technical Assistance and Contract Equity, based on incomplete REAP tasks, as a forum for SGC teams to share lessons learned and coordinate ongoing REAP activities. HEP continues to work with SGC’s legal, administrative, and communications teams to develop and implement staff trainings and resources to build the capacity of staff to implement specific REAP commitments. HEP staff continue to support and inform the development of new projects and initiatives related to the REAP, including supporting the Communications team on a community crowdsourcing form for communications content, and analyzing SGC’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) policies.
- CA State Agency Technical Assistance:** As needed, HEP delivers technical assistance to interagency partners on the topic of public health and racial equity. In March, HEP received a request from CalEPA to discuss a forthcoming online climate data dashboard. HEP offered input on how the dashboard may further integrate public health and racial equity topics and encouraged the CalEPA staff, who participate on the HiAP Task Force, to solicit input from the Task Force on this project.
- 2022 Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) Annual Membership Meeting:** The GARE Annual Membership Meeting took place from April 19 to April 21, with the theme, “Reimagining Government to Advance Racial Equity and Justice.” Various SGC staff attended the conference and led two panel discussions across the following topics: Organizational Change and Cultivating

Resilience. The first session, hosted online with the Public Health Institute, highlighted the accomplishments of the Capitol Collaborative on Race & Equity (CCORE) and discussed SGC’s REAP as a case study for organizational change within State government to embed racial equity into investments, policies, programs, and operations. The second panel, hosted in person by SGC HEP and Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) staff and California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Climate Equity & Resilience staff, highlighted the implementation of racial equity objectives into diverse SGC and OPR programs. This discussion illustrated examples of policy implementation centered on resilience and racial equity outcomes, including TCC’s expansion to include Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities through the development of an Investment Framework; the development of OPR’s Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program’s Vulnerable Communities Platform to build climate resilience with a strong equity lens; and an innovative adaptation of the SGC AHSC Program within a community to be served by High-Speed Rail.

### Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity (CCORE)

Staff: SGC partners with the Public Health Institute (PHI) to host a racial equity capacity-building program for California State government institutions and employees. CCORE brings together approximately 40 agencies, departments, boards, and offices to build a people-power movement inside of California State government to advance racial equity by deploying organizing principles inside and outside of the system.

- **Application and Enrollment for 2022-2023 CCORE Learning Cohort:** PHI released the application to be considered for enrollment in the 2022-2023 CCORE Learning Cohort in February 2022. Over 25 state entities participated in 2 informational sessions about the application and enrollment process and cohort objectives. Eight state entity teams have been invited to participate in the Learning Cohort. Orientations are in April and the Learning Cohort will span from May 2022 through August 2023. For more information, email [CCORE@phi.org](mailto:CCORE@phi.org).
- **CCORE Supports Network Building with Other States Advancing Racial Equity:** In partnership with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), CCORE convened government leaders advancing racial equity in California and other states. Following a gathering of more than fifty people from state governments, research organizations, racial equity partners, and philanthropy from across the U.S. in December 2021, CCORE continues to coordinate informal gathering spaces for government leaders from across the nation to connect and explore structures, practices, and networks needed to create a strategy in support of broadening and deepening racial equity work in state governments. Vermont, Kentucky, and New York are a few of the states that have joined California in these gatherings.
- **CCORE Releases Survey Results from 2020-2021 Learning Cohort:** Included in the staff report for the April 28, Strategic Growth Council meeting is the *Summary of Pre- and Post-Survey Findings & Planned Program Improvements*. This document shares cohort demographics, respondents’ participation goals, reported impacts of the initiative, success and challenge factors, and outlines a number of program improvements CCORE staff are implementing for the 2022-2023 Learning Cohort.
- **CCORE Presentations:**
  - CCORE staff participated in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Science Symposium Special Session: Expanding Equitable Engagement to share lessons learned and a racial equity framework for meaningful engagement.



- CCORE staff participated in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity Annual Membership Meeting (GARE AMM) and hosted interactive sessions and networking opportunities for state leaders. On April 20th, PHI hosted a session titled Advancing Racial Equity in State Governments Hot Topic Discussion Time (in-person), engaging participants to build relationships with other State leaders, share experiences, and learn from each other. On April 19th, Reimagining State-Level Government: Updates from California featured PHI and SGC discussing updates on racial equity in the state of California, including the concrete transformation of informal and formal policies, procedures, and practices as well as an overview of an expanded network of learners in California state government.

## Land Use Planning and Economic Development

Staff: Emily Tibbott and Egon Terplan

- As part of an inter-agency policy team, staff has supported the implementation of EO N-82-20, including input to the near-final CNRA-led Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and the Pathways to 30X30 report. We anticipate that these will have been publicly released by the April SGC meeting.

### Regional Planning Initiatives:

- The final California Comeback Plan included a \$600M investment in augmenting the existing Regional Early Action Planning Grant (REAP) funds. The proposed new program focuses on implementing regional plans in ways that reduces vehicle miles travelled (VMT) and meets infill housing goals. The current REAP program (initiated in 2019) was focused on helping regions meet their higher RHNA targets. This proposed augmentation would also expand to allow for both planning and infrastructure investments across housing and transportation. The expanded REAP program is being managed by a joint team across HCD, SGC, OPR and CARB. Staff are currently developing a concept paper that will be shared publicly. SGC will also add one staff person on the AHSC team to support bringing best practices and lessons learned from AHSC Program to REAP team and provide coordination support. OPR will have three positions, including a program manager.
- Staff are continuing to administer a contract with the UC Institute of Transportation Studies to produce a report assessing transportation planning and funding activities pursuant to AB 285 (Friedman, 2019). The team kicked off work in June 2021 with researchers from UC Berkeley, UCLA, and UC Davis. The final report will be submitted to the Legislature in 2022.
- Staff continue to manage the State/MPO work group that consist of the planning directors of the 18 MPOs and members of key state agencies (SGC, OPR, HCD, BCSH, CalSTA, CTC, Caltrans, CARB).

### AB 285

- During the February SGC Council Meeting, SGC staff presented a summary of the Report's Findings and Recommendations. SGC Council Members had a public conversation on the report's findings, alignment with their agency's priorities, and provided direction on next steps for staff. A recording of the conversation can be found on SGC's YouTube or in the [meeting minutes](#).



- In April, SGC staff, in coordination with interagency partners at the Office of Planning and Research, California State Transportation Agency, California Department of Transportation, and California Air Resources Board, hosted 4 working sessions with external stakeholders to discuss Planning, MPOs, Projects, and Programs.
- On April 20, SGC staff, in coordination with interagency partners, hosted a public webinar on AB 285.
- The public is also welcome to share their thoughts on AB 285 via a [Survey](#) or by emailing [transportation@sgc.ca.gov](mailto:transportation@sgc.ca.gov).

## Legislative Updates

Staff: Will Robinson

- **AB 2076 (Rivas, Luz) Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program: Extreme Heat Hospitalization and Death Reporting System.**
  - **Summary:** Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP), to be administered by the Office of Planning and Research, to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as prescribed. This bill would establish the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program in the office, to be administered by the office through ICARP, for the purpose of coordinating state efforts and supporting local and regional efforts to prevent or mitigate the impacts of, and reduce the public health risks of, heat. The bill would require the Director of State Planning and Research to appoint a Chief Heat Officer in the office to, among other things, implement the program and establish the Interagency Heat Taskforce, as provided. Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the bill would authorize the program to award grants and provide technical assistance to eligible entities, as defined, for specified projects that support local and regional efforts to mitigate the impacts and reduce the public health risks of heat. The bill would require the office, in the awarding of grants, to prioritize projects that serve disadvantaged or vulnerable communities, as specified, that demonstrate participation in a regional climate collaborative program, or that are a component of a comprehensive heat action plan.
- **AB 2237 (Friedman) Transportation planning: regional transportation improvement plan: sustainable communities strategies: climate goals.**
  - **Summary:** Current law requires certain transportation planning agencies to prepare and adopt regional transportation plans directed at achieving a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system. Current law requires each regional transportation plan to also include a sustainable communities strategy prepared by each metropolitan planning organization. Current law requires the Strategic Growth Council, by January 31, 2022, to submit a report to the relevant policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature that includes, among other things, an overview of those sustainable communities strategies, an assessment of how implementation of those sustainable communities strategies will influence the configuration of the statewide integrated multimodal transportation system, and a review of the potential impacts and opportunities for coordination of specified funding programs, including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program. This bill would require the council, in consultation



with the State Air Resources Board, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Transportation Agency, to convene a task force to review the roles and responsibilities of metropolitan planning organizations and to define “sustainable community.

- **AB 2387 (Garcia, Eduardo) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022.**
  - **Summary:** Would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7,430,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.
- **AB 2419 (Bryan) Environmental justice: federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: Justice40 Oversight Committee.**
  - **Summary:** The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides additional federal funds to rebuild the nation’s infrastructures. Executive orders issued by President Biden established the federal Justice40 Initiative with the goal that 40% of the overall federal benefits flow to disadvantaged communities and stating that the implementation of the IIJA should prioritize investing public dollars equitably, including through the Justice40 Initiative. This bill would require a minimum of 40% of funds received by the state under the IIJA to be allocated to projects that provide direct benefits to disadvantaged communities and a minimum of an additional 10% be allocated for projects that provide direct benefits to low-income households and low-income communities, as provided. The bill would require specified agencies administering federal funds to perform specified tasks related to the expenditure of those federal funds.
- **AB 2438 (Friedman) Transportation funding: alignment with state plans and greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards.**
  - **Summary:** Current law provides for the funding of projects on the state highway system and other transportation improvements, including under the state transportation improvement program, the state highway operation and protection program, the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and the program within the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program commonly known as the Local Partnership Program. This bill would require the agencies that administer those programs to revise the guidelines or plans applicable to those programs to ensure that projects included in the applicable program align with the California Transportation Plan, the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure adopted by the Transportation Agency, and specified greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards.
- **SB 989 (Hertzberg) Climate Change Preparedness, Resiliency, and Jobs for Communities Program: climate-beneficial projects: grant funding.**
  - **Summary:** Would establish the Climate Change Preparedness, Resiliency, and Jobs for Communities Program, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council, and would require the council to fund grants to develop and implement multibenefit, community-level, climate-beneficial projects to support community and landscape resiliency and

workforce development. The bill would require the council to award competitive grants to eligible entities, as defined, through an application process, as provided. The bill would require the council, on or before July 1, 2023, to develop guidelines to implement the program and criteria to select projects eligible for grant funding that include, at a minimum, specified information related to community resiliency grants, landscape resiliency grants, and climate and career pathways grants.

- **SB 1078 (Allen) Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Pilot Program.**
  - **Summary:** Current law requires the Ocean Protection Council to, among other things, establish policies to coordinate the collection, evaluation, and sharing of scientific data related to coastal and ocean resources among agencies. Current law establishes the State Coastal Conservancy with prescribed powers and responsibilities for implementing and administering various programs intended to preserve, protect, and restore the state’s coastal areas. This bill would require the council, in consultation with the conservancy, to develop the Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Pilot Program for purposes of providing low-interest loans to local jurisdictions for the purchase of coastal properties in their jurisdictions identified as vulnerable coastal property located in specified communities, including low-income communities, as provided. The bill would require the council, before January 1, 2024, in consultation with other state planning and coastal management agencies, as provided, to adopt guidelines and eligibility criteria for the program. The bill would authorize specified local jurisdictions to apply for, and be awarded, a low-interest loan under the program from the conservancy, in consultation with the council, if the local jurisdiction develops and submits to the conservancy vulnerable coastal property plan and completes all other requirements imposed by the council.
- **SB 1123 (Caballero) Resilience Navigators Program: climate-related disaster resilience grant and loan programs.**
  - **Summary:** Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, to be administered by the Office of Planning and Research, to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as provided. Current law requires the program to include working with and coordinating local and regional efforts for climate adaptation and resilience, including, but not limited to, developing tools and guidance, promoting and coordinating state agency support for local and regional efforts, and informing state-led programs to better reflect the goals, efforts, and challenges faced by local and regional entities pursuing adaptation, preparedness, and resilience. Current law requires the office to coordinate with appropriate entities to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided. This bill would require the office, on or before July 1, 2023, to establish within the program the Resilience Navigators Program to provide support and guidance to potential applicants for state-funded grant and loan programs related to planning and implementing climate-related disaster resilience projects, including, but not limited to, projects related to wildfires and extreme heat.

## Media Clips

### California Strategic Growth Council

- [Streetsblog USA, LA, SF, CA: Why Does California Keep Building Freeways in a Climate Crisis?](#)

### Climate Change Research

- [How Rising Sea Levels Could Push Up a 'Toxic Soup' Into Bay Area Neighborhoods | KQED](#)
- [KQED: Why Environmental Justice Is Crucial in Climate Resilience: Just Look at New Sea Level Rise Predictions](#)

### Transformative Climate Communities

- [San Francisco Chronicle: How an East Oakland grass-roots effort is using \\$28 million to help residents tackle climate problems](#)

### Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation

- [Agri-Pulse: California to overhaul farmland conservation program](#)
- [CalCan: A Conversation with Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation Program Support Specialists](#)

### Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities

- [The Registry SF: California Strategic Growth Council Awards \\$95m to BRIDGE Housing](#)
- [Construction Review Online: \\$30m Granted to Little Tokyo for LA Crocker Apartments](#)
- [Mountain Democrat: State Grant to Bring Sustainable Workforce Housing to Tahoe](#)
- [The Antelope Valley Times: Lancaster awarded \\$24.6M for housing and infrastructure improvements](#)
- [Streetsblog LA: State Grants \\$808M to Support Housing as a Climate Strategy](#)
- [Sacramento Bee: Sacramento needs thousands of affordable housing units. These major projects are coming](#)
- [Metro Magazine: Caltrain-Supported Affordable Housing Projects Receive Grants](#)
- [Imperial Valley Press: Officials celebrate new affordable housing complex](#)
- [KRON4 Oakland Awarded More Than \\$200m to Build Affordable Housing Units](#)
- [Mass Transit Media: State funding advances Santa Clara VTA's Tamien Station TOD](#)
- [Green Caltrain: Affordable Housing partnership helps fund electric trains](#)
- [East Bay Times San Jose transit village with hundreds of homes lands fresh financing](#)
- [The Business Journal: Downtown Madera's first affordable housing in decades opens](#)
- [San Diego Union Tribune National City's 22-story affordable-housing project gets state funding](#)
- [LA West - Spectrum News 1: Compton residents want road repairs after city receives grant](#)

