



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 – August 31, 2022

Organizational and Staffing Updates

- Alexandra Gallo, Health and Equity Program Analyst is on loan with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) from July 2022 to January 2023 as part of the Manager Exchange program to help inform the Climate: Lead Whole of Community in Climate Resilience initiative, which is reflective of SGC initiatives.
- Kimberli Davila, SGC's former Executive Fellow is joining the Health and Equity team as a Program Associate from August 2022 to January 2023

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

- 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 is working hard to streamline, update, and clarify the complexities of the program and will be releasing a Draft Guideline in October 2022. for public comment with Final Guidelines presented to Council in December 2022.
- The Round 7 AHSC Timeline shifted during the summer to better fit in context of other housing funding programs including the HCD SuperNOFA and CDLAC. It is as follows: December 2022 Council adopts guidelines; January 2023 HCD releases NOFA and Application; Applications due March 2023 (90 days window); Awards announced in August 2023.
- Projects funded during previous rounds continue to break ground and formally open on an ongoing basis. In July, the first project from February 2022's Round 6 broke ground. The Central Terrace project in Oxnard, CA includes 87 units of Very Low and Extremely Low Income housing on a currently vacant site. This is the second AHSC-funded project in Ventura County and will include improvements to bicycling and walking facilities, as well as upgrades to the Oxnard Transit Center located just a few blocks from the Affordable Housing Site.

Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC)

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

- **Round 4 NOFA & Grant Applications:** The Round 4 TCC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$106.2 million, released March 8, closed on July 1. TCC received seven (7) Implementation and twenty-one (21) Planning grant applications. Staff Threshold and Interagency Panel Reviews are underway, with award recommendations scheduled for the October 2022 Council Meeting.
- **Release of Annual Program Evaluation Progress Reports:** TCC Program Evaluators released their Annual Progress Reports on the TCC Implementation Grantee activities and their impacts to date in June 2022. TCC has awarded 8 Implementation Grants between \$9 and \$66.5 M each since 2018. Researchers from the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation, the University of San Francisco

School of Management, and Sacramento State University Institute for Social Research are documenting the progress of TCC-supported hyperlocal, community-led climate action in Fresno, Ontario, Stockton, the Watts and Northeast San Fernando Valley neighborhoods of Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Oakland. Reports are accessible on the [SGC website](#).

- **Grand Opening of Oakland Grantee Resource Center:** *Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors: An East Oakland Neighborhood Initiative* (TCC Round 3 Implementation Grantee, \$28.2 M) held a grand opening for the TCC project’s Resource Center on July 13, 2022. The Resource Center in the TCC Project Area will primarily provide project area residents and businesses with anti-displacement, workforce development, and community engagement resources and updates. SGC Executive Director Lynn von Koch-Liebert gave remarks alongside Oakland Mayor Libby Schaff, Oakland District 7 Councilmember Treva Reid, East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative Community Organizer Scott Ortega-Nanos, and Higher Ground Deputy Director Khariyyah Shabazz. Regional representatives from the Governor’s Office of Gavin Newsom, Marjon Saulon and Antonio Isais, also attended the event.
- **Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Progress Update:** Staff attended a [site visit](#) to the disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUC) of Lanare (Fresno County) and Matheny Tract (Tulare County) on June 30, 2022. The site visit is the culmination of a Pew Charitable Trusts grant SGC received in 2021-22, which supported the development of the TCC Round 4 DUC Investment Framework and spurred a new partnership with the Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC). Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (LCJA) organized the trip for EPIC and SGC staff. The site visit also informed EPIC’s recently released report: [“Investing in America’s Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems for Equity and Sustainability”](#) (August 1, 2022). SGC and LCJA staff consulted on the report, which provides financing and technical assistance recommendations to improve access to sustainable wastewater treatment systems, particularly for disadvantaged unincorporated rural and tribal communities.
- **Federal Uptake of the TCC Program Model:** The *Inflation Reduction Act of 2022* under U.S. Congress vote includes a proposed “Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants” program modeled after SGC’s Transformative Climate Communities Program. The proposal includes \$3 billion to invest in community-led climate resilience projects in disadvantaged communities. As in the TCC Program, eligible projects must be community-driven, include workforce development, facilitate community engagement, and be led by community-based organizations (CBO) or government-CBO partnerships.

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)

Staff: Saharnaz Mirzazad, Shanna Atherton-Bauer (DOC), Emily Tibbott (OPR), and Department of Conservation Staff

- SALC staff determined 30 of the 31 acquisition pre-proposals submitted under the Round 8 SALC Guidelines to be eligible or eligible with conditions and invited submission of applications by the September 9th deadline. SALC Staff are conducting site visits for eligible applications between August and mid-October.
- Round 8 SALC Capacity applications were due August 8, 2022. The program will award up to \$3 million in funding to help organizations build capacity to complete agricultural conservation acquisition projects, develop agricultural acquisition projects for submission in future rounds, and complete agricultural conservation acquisition projects where the acquisition funding is provided by another organization. We received 26 applications totaling \$5.16 million in request. Staff will complete project reviews between August and November and bring award recommendations to the Council at its December meeting.



- SALC staff held one virtual application workshop to provide assistance to applicants invited to submit an acquisition application. The Acquisition workshop was held on August 4th. A total of 17 participants attended. A recording is available upon request, and staff are available to answer additional application questions as needed.

Climate Change Research Program (CCR)

Staff: Elizabeth Grassi, Montraï Spikes, and Natalie Obaldia

- Staff is working with SGC communications team to develop an impact fact sheet that describes how the CCR Round 1 research projects have contributed to communities and inform state climate policy.
- Our CCST Science Fellow is compiling data and information about the CCR Round 1 project and will develop a synthesis document based on project reports, developed metrics, and partner interviews.
- Our intern is developing an interview guide for CCR community partners to gather their feedback on how to improve the integration of meaningful community engagement in the research process.
- Staff continues to participate in initial sessions with the California 5th Climate Change Assessment team to implement steps on structures, processes, and networks that will support this initiative.
- Program hosted two events at UC Merced this morning. A science to policy briefing focused on wildfire and ecosystems research, and a a researchers/community partners networking event describing the program's research engagement model.

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 released its draft report to the state committee last month.
- SGC and CEC staff will disseminate the findings and recommendations of the report to our partners across state government and the contractor has conducted initial discussions with tribes and tribal liaisons from state agencies and departments.
- Staff are working with Tribes to close out their planning grant projects by September 30th. Part of this process is offering Tribes the opportunity to meet with state staff and present information about their planning projects, the outcomes of these efforts, and next steps for implementing these plans.

Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program

Staff: Saharnaz Mirzazad, Coral Abbott, and Lisa Hu

- SGC staff launched program development in July beginning with a kickoff webinar and series of listening sessions. After robust targeted outreach, the 7/15 CRC program kickoff webinar featured 520+ registrants and 300 day-of attendees. Since the public launch, SGC program staff have hosted 4 public listening sessions: two for general audiences, one for rural communities, and one exclusive to Tribal communities. Per request, program staff have added an additional 8/18 Tribal listening session. Program staff continue to meet directly with cross-sector stakeholders as requested, across federal and Tribal, state, regional, and local levels.



- To begin the process of drafting round 1 guidelines, the team has launched an interagency workgroup, held informational interviews with subject matter experts, and conducted research. The CRC team is hiring for two additional positions to support stakeholder engagement and program development. Staff are hoping to release draft guidelines for public comment in September 2022.
- Staff have presented on the program at various forums, developed communications materials, and worked with the communications team to launch the website to increase awareness of the program.
- SGC program staff continue to coordinate with CDFA program staff on CDFA's Community Resilience Centers program. SGC program staff also continue to coordinate closely with OPR ICARP program staff on ICARP's Adaptation Planning Grants and Regional Resilience Grant programs, to share best practices, public input, and align funding.

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

Staff: Michael Maguire (OPR), Elizabeth Grassi, Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- 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.
- Michael Maguire at OPR has taken over grant management for these four planning grant projects.
- All Prop 84 grants close September 30, 2022, and final reports and the final invoice are due October 30, 2022. Staff, in collaboration with the Department of Conservation, is designing a closeout process to support grantees and offer opportunities for grantees to share the results of these planning projects with state employees working on wildfire policy.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE)

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

- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Program Pre-Proposals:** Staff received 86 pre-proposals for Round 1 of the Regional Climate Collaboratives Program. The Pre-Proposals came from applicants across the state and included 6 Pre-Proposals led by Tribal applicants and 11 that included Tribal partners. SGC received 12 Pre-Proposals from the North State and Sierra Nevada Region, 1 from the Capitol Region, 20 from the Bay Area, 17 from the San Joaquin Valley, 8 from Inland Southern California, 6 from the Central Coast, and 18 from Coastal Southern California. Five Pre-Proposals did not state the region they proposed to work in.
- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Technical Assistance:** CACE staff and TA providers reviewed all the RCC Pre-Proposals and provided feedback on each of them. Feedback was sent to applicants on August 2 in an email that connected applicants with the TA providers who will help them prepare their full applications for the October 7th deadline.
- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Program Application Workshops:** CACE staff released the RCC Round 1 full application materials on July 7th and held an application webinar on July 19 to walk applicants through the application process and new materials posted to the website.



- **Partners Advancing Climate Equity Pilot Program:** In March of this year, SGC concluded the Partners Advancing Climate Equity Pilot Program, which was a capacity building program for 22 frontline community leaders. Next month SGC will release the Final Report, which provides an overview of the pilot’s goals, structure, activities, and evaluation results and is accompanied by the PACE Recommendations Report and the PACE Curriculum. These additional resources aim to share and expand upon PACE Learnings and propagate further capacity building throughout California.

Collaborative Policy Initiatives

Health and Equity Program (HEP)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Jazmine Garcia Delgadillo, Michael Jimenez, Kimberli Davila, and Alexandra Gallo (Loan to FEMA)

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.

- **HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meeting.** HEP, in collaboration with CDPH and PHI, held a virtual interagency HiAP Task Force Convening on Wednesday, August 17. During this meeting HiAP Task Force members had an opportunity to share updates on their work as it relates to racial equity; grant program, contract, and funding equity; and equity in data and access to information. Additionally, during this meeting the HiAP Partnership launched the Racial Equity Roundtable and PHI’s Safe & Equitable Communities Roundtable. As part of this launch, PHI introduced a funded community partner working to advance strategies that promote community safety and violence prevention, Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ). The goal of this meeting was to help identify priorities and direction for the Racial Equity Roundtable and the Safe & Equitable Communities Roundtable. Roundtables offer an opportunity to engage more informally around critical issues and are not tied to action plan development.
- **HiAP Task Force Workgroups Convene Monthly.** The Grant Programs, Contracts, and Funding Equity and Equity in Data and Access to Information workgroups have continued to meet monthly. Workgroups did not meet during the month of August; workgroup meetings are not held on months when the HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meetings take place. Workgroups have finalized problem and vision statements and objectives and have begun the process of identifying and prioritizing strategies and subtasks for action plan development.

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 tracking progress and completion of commitments that involve all SGC Programs, Operations, Leadership, and Council initiatives. SGC’s Racial Equity Action Plan is a three-year strategic plan (2019-2022), statement of intent, and accountability measure that ensures SGC will continue to implement strategies that prioritize racial equity. Through REAP implementation, HEP has advised and supported each program team on meeting their individualized REAP commitments. In July and August, HEP hosted a series of meetings with each SGC program to discuss REAP



implementation progress and reflect upon best practices, lessons learned, and how HEP can support or collaborate in the completion of REAP commitments. In addition, HEP has continued to facilitate working groups to collaboratively pursue or enhance REAP goals related to tribal coordination, technical assistance and contract equity, and workforce equity. With input from the Workforce Equity Working Group, HEP created a Jobs Outreach Template to improve and standardize the process by which SGC conducts outreach to increase the diversity and reach of our applicant pool.

- **SGC Workforce Equity Survey.** From July 18 to August 5, an optional and anonymous workforce equity survey was disseminated to all SGC staff and covered topics related to organizational culture, hiring, retention, racial equity competencies, and more. Almost 75% of staff responded to the survey. Findings from the workforce equity survey will help inform strategies and actions to pursue in the next iteration of the REAP. Administering a workforce equity survey is a commitment outlined in the SGC REAP, and this year’s survey was developed with close input from the Workforce Equity Working Group.
- **All-Staff Training: Advancing Racial Equity Through Government Communications.** HEP co-hosted a 2-hour all-staff training on communicating about race and racial equity on July 20, in collaboration with OPR/SGC Communications and External Affairs. The purpose of this training was to build staff capacity to communicate about race and racial equity in the context of OPR/SGC programmatic and policy-related work. All OPR/SGC staff were invited to the first hour of the training, which included a presentation documenting the history of race and racism in government communications and best practices for racial equity-centered communications. The second hour was hosted specifically for OPR/SGC Communications Liaisons (a selection of staff representing each SGC and OPR program) to receive and discuss a newly created Equity Checklist for Communications. The Checklist supplements an existing organization-wide communications protocol and serves as a tool for Liaisons to craft content collateral with a racial equity lens. HEP developed the Checklist in collaboration with the Communications and External Affairs team.
- **All-Staff Training: Contracting Basics and Best Practices.** HEP collaborated with SGC’s Administration and Legal teams and the Department of General Services to provide a training to SGC and OPR staff titled, “Contracting Basics and Best Practices,” hosted on August 10. The three-hour training covered various concepts related to OPR/SGC and State contracting operations and protocols. In support of the REAP, the training introduced best practices to advance diversity and equity in contracting and to support the inclusion of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise in OPR/SGC procurements. This training is the last of three that HEP supported and co-hosted with OPR/SGC leadership and administration to build competencies across the organization and to effectively advance racial equity principles and programmatic commitments outlined in the SGC REAP.

Racial Equity Resource Hub

Staff: HEP and the Communications Team

- **Updates to the Racial Equity Resource Hub.** The HEP team has continued to collect a variety of resources from state entities and partner organizations and has worked with the communications team to host these new resources in their respective categories within the Racial Equity Resource Hub. SGC’s Council members continue to contribute to the Resource Hub through ongoing blog posts and video announcements. The HEP team has also developed a resource intake worksheet to share across state entities and other organizations to help



promote the Racial Equity Resource Hub, while also facilitating the sharing and collection of resources to host on the hub. The intake worksheet only requires the name of the resource, a link to where it is hosted and a short description of the resource to create a streamlined process to collect new resources as they emerge.

- **Promotion of the Racial Equity Resource Hub.** HEP Manager, Jazmine Garcia Delgado participated in an interview with Telemundo, a Spanish television network, on June 21. Jazmine showcased the Racial Equity Resource Hub, including its resources and potential use to advance racial equity across California; the presentation included a screen-share, where a potential user scrolled through the Hub to identify resources. Highlights from this interview were shared along with local efforts to advance racial equity in the city of Salinas and Monterey County in a [televised media clip](#). During the August 17 HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meeting, HEP Associate, Kimberli Davila shared the Racial Equity Resource Hub with Task Force members representing 30 State agencies and departments to amplify its use to call for additional resources for the Hub.

Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity (CCORE)

Staff: SGC partners with the Public Health Institute's (PHI) State of Equity program 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.

- **CCORE Learning Cohort.** On Wednesday July 13, PHI hosted the third session of the 2022-2023 CCORE Learning Cohort. Facilitated in partnership with O&G Racial Equity Collaborative, the session focused on strategies, methods, and tools to support communicating to advance racial equity. Teams are now working to develop racial equity focused visions for their organizations and respond to scenarios centering racial equity. Additionally, on July 26, Executive sponsors and team coordinators convened for a special session to support relationship building across the cohort and executive engagement in support of the organizational transformation toward racial equity. The session on August 10th focused on Proposition 209, California's Anti-Affirmative Action law and strategies to advance racial equity in alignment with that legal framework and the session on August 24th focused on leadership for racial equity. The participants for the CCORE Learning Cohort include seven teams, each with up to 12 people from the following California state entities: California Conservation Corps, Department of Finance, Department of Health Care Access and Information, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Social Services, and California Health and Human Services Agency (including Departments of Public Health, Aging, Developmental Services, Healthcare Services, Rehabilitation, and State Hospitals, the Office of the Surgeon General, Center for Insights and Innovation, and the Medical Emergency Services Agency).
- **CCORE Implementation Cohort.** Planning for the CCORE Implementation Cohort is actively underway and tentatively set to launch late Fall 2022.

Land Use Planning and Economic Development

Staff: Emily Tibbott and Egon Terplan

- As part of an inter-agency policy team, staff has assisted in the implementation of EO N-82-20, including input to the CNRA-led Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Climate Smart Strategy and



the Pathways to 30X30 report, final versions of which have now been released. Staff is now supporting the development of an implementation plan for the NWL Climate Smart Strategy.

Regional Planning Initiatives:

- The final California Comeback Plan included a \$600M investment in augmenting the existing Regional Early Action Planning Grant (REAP) 2.0 funds. The proposed new program focuses on implementing regional plans in ways that reduce vehicle miles travelled (VMT), accelerate infill housing development in furtherance of the 6th Cycle RHNA goals, increase housing supply at all affordability levels, and affirmatively further fair housing. The REAP 1.0 program (initiated in 2019) was focused on helping regions meet their RHNA targets, which increased significantly from the 5th cycle to the 6th cycle for most areas of the state. The REAP 2.0 program is managed by a joint team across HCD, SGC, OPR and CARB. The final program guidelines for the \$510 million MPO allocation and the \$30 million competitive rural and Tribal allocation were released on July 26, 2022. The guidelines for the \$30 million competitive high impact/transformational tranche of funding will be released later this year. The REAP 2.0 Interagency Team continues to review Advance Applications from MPOs, and provide TA on applications. Since January 2022, OPR and SGC have each added one Program Associate to the REAP 2.0 Team. OPR is currently in the process of hiring a REAP 2.0 Program Analyst.
- SGC Staff, in conjunction with OPR, continue to manage the State/MPO Working Group that consists of the planning directors of the 18 MPOs and members of key state agencies (SGC, OPR, HCD, BCSH, CalSTA, CTC, Caltrans, CARB). The Working Group will hold its first in-person meeting in Sacramento on Friday, September 16th.

AB 285

- The California Transportation Assessment Final Report: Summary of Stakeholder Feedback During the AB 285 Outreach & Engagement Process will be publicly shared in August 2022.

Media Clips

California Strategic Growth Council

- [\[REbusiness Online\] Development Team Starts Construction of Evermont Mixed-Use Project](#): A co-development team consisting of BRIDGE Housing, the Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) and Primestor Development have started construction of Evermont, a mixed-use project on the former site of the 1992 Los Angeles riots. Financial partners include the *California Strategic Growth Council*.
- [\[UCI News\] UCI study: California's trees are dying, and might not be coming back](#): New research from the University of California, Irvine reports that trees in California's mountain ranges and open spaces are dying from wildfires and other pressures – and fewer new trees are filling the void. Collaborators include *California's Strategic Growth Council*.

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities

- [\[City and County of San Francisco\] City Celebrates Groundbreaking of Second Affordable Housing Development on Treasure Island](#): Mayor Breed and representatives from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) celebrated the groundbreaking of Star View Court on Treasure Island. One of the sources of funding that made Star View Court possible was the *Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC)* award.
- [\[CA FWD\] Making the Space to Talk Solutions to Homelessness in Tuolumne County](#): At the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), Dana Butow is currently



working on a project entitled “*Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities*” that funds new multi-family housing project developments that meet certain environmental and economic standards.

- [\[Multi-Housing News\] Wakeland’s New CEO on California’s Affordable Housing Crisis](#): President & CEO of Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation Rebecca Louie mentions an Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities project in Los Angeles that will provide transit- and environment-friendly homes for low-income families.
- [\[NBC Bay Area\] Walnut Creek Provides \\$6M for 95-Unit Affordable Housing Project](#): The Walnut Creek City Council approved a \$6 million loan for Resources for Community Development (RCD), which plans to build the four-story building at 699 Ygnacio Valley Road at the southwest corner at the intersection of North Civic Drive. RCD will pursue a state *Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities* program grant to help fund it.

Climate Change Research

- [\[Public Policy Institute of California\] Land Transitions and Dust in the San Joaquin Valley](#): The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires groundwater users to bring their basins into balance over the next two decades. In the San Joaquin Valley, this will mean taking more than 500,000 acres of agricultural land out of intensive irrigated production. The *Land Transitions and Dust in the San Joaquin Valley* report was supported with funding from the *California Strategic Growth Council’s Climate Change Research Program*.
- [\[Public Policy Institute of California\] Exploring the Potential for Water-Limited Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley](#): The rollout of California’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is altering the state’s agricultural landscape. The *Exploring the Potential for Water-Limited Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley* report was supported with funding from the *California Strategic Growth Council’s Climate Change Research Program*.

Community Resilience Centers Program

- [\[California Planning & Development Report\] CP&DR News Briefs July 26, 2022](#): The *Strategic Growth Council (SGC)* launched its new *Community Resilience Centers* program as part of the state’s 2021-2022 Climate Budget Package. Over the next two years, the SGC will receive \$100 million to invest in upgrades to local resilience centers that provide shelter and resources for residents experiencing dangerous climate and environmental conditions, including extreme heat and air pollution.

Transformative Climate Communities

- [\[New Security Beat\] Climate Solutions from the Ground Up: The Importance of Place-Based Approaches](#): Place-based programs designed to meet the needs and priorities of specific local communities are essential to drive policy implementation, technological and economic transition, and community-level investment. California place-based initiatives include the *California Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities* program.
- [\[PD&R Edge\] California Communities Use State Grant to Combat Climate Change and Rising Rents](#): Established in 2016, California’s *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program* helps communities choose strategies and projects that reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. At the 2022 National Planning Conference session “Planning for Community Development Without Displacement,” practitioners representing TCC grant recipients in Los Angeles, Fresno, and Oakland discussed the antidisplacement element of their grants.



- [\[Canary Media\] What will the climate bill do for environmental justice?](#): The Inflation Reduction Act will make historic investments in disadvantaged communities with provisions for renewable energy, electrified transportation, environmental review and cleaner air. To engage community organizations, administrators could assist them with the technical aspects of applying. A model might be *California's Transformative Climate Communities* program, which helps groups develop their project ideas and implement them.
- [\[City of Oakland\] Minority Contracting, BIPOC-owned Business Support Programs Launched:](#) Today, the City of Oakland announced the launch of two new business support programs funded by a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Agency (EDA). The mandated match for the EDA grant funding is being met by the Black Cultural Zone through the "Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors" *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)* grant.

