



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

To: California Strategic Growth Council Members
From: Matt Read, SGC Acting Executive Director
Re: **Executive Director Report to the Council – October 31, 2024**

Staffing Updates

- Connor Finney joins as a Legislative Analyst for the Legislative Affairs team.
- Kenna Davis joins as a CivicSpark Fellow supporting SGC's Energy Investment portfolio.

Investment Program Updates

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC)

Staff: Amar Cid, Marc Caswell, Jessica Lopez, Shep Wilbun, Justin DeWaele, Brianne Logasa, Ella Manashil and California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) Staff Team

- The AHSC program is presenting an overview of the program, process improvements, and program improvements. The team has been in continuous discussions with leadership from interagency partners, AHSC's Advisory Committee, and Key Staff. The team has identified various areas of improvement to improve the program's application and scoring review.
- Following AHSC Round 8 awards the team has provided extensive debriefs with unawarded applicants and sent awarded projects their conditional letter of award for applicants to accept. Approximately 15 of the 24 awarded projects applied to CA Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) 4% federal tax credit funding round on Aug. 27t.
- The team has also worked to develop concrete program updates to ensure that the program is achieving its priorities and is responsive to stakeholder concerns, while decreasing the overall complexity of the program.

Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC)

Staff: Amar Cid, Nicole Cartwright, Jennifer Kim, Sarah Newsham, Jess Ison, Chynell Freeman, Noni Ifyefobi, Joyce Tse, and California Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- Staff have continued conducting the Post-Award Consultation process with the 11 grantees who were awarded a total of \$98.1 million during the December 2023 Council Meeting. To date, two Planning Grants and three Project Development Grants have been fully executed, with several others in the last stage of the Post-Award Consultation process.
- Staff continue to process advance pay requests for Round 4 and Round 5 grantees as authorized by AB 156 (2022) and AB 590 (2023). To date, staff have submitted three advance pay requests to LCI Accounts Payable.
- TCC staff participated in multiple events and conferences including:
 - Chynell Freeman participated on a panel at the Ethnic Media Conference Panel, highlighting case studies regarding urban greening, holistic approach to climate

resiliency, CACE TA to leverage alternate funding, and Connecting Communities TCC successes.

- Jess Ison sat on the panel “Lessons Learned Across Three Transformative Climate Communities Grants in the Inland Empire” at the American Planning Association California 2024 Conference. This panel was led by GRID Alternatives Inland Empire and included current TCC Implementation Grantees, including the cities of Ontario, Coachella, and County of Riverside. Nine community engagement events from several grantees including: the County of San Diego, the City of Stockton, the City of Fresno, and the County of Monterey.

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)

Staff: Amar Cid, Shanna Atherton-Bauer (DOC), and Department of Conservation Staff

- Staff reported three easement closings between Aug. 3 and Oct. 15, 2024. These projects have resulted in the permanent conservation of 989 acres of land that support irrigated agriculture in three counties.
- Between Aug. 3 and Oct. 10, 2024, SALC staff have submitted 36 invoices totaling \$6.2 million to DOC Accounting for payment. This includes two acquisition invoices, payments for associated costs related to acquisition transactions, payments for capacity and project work, and payments for planning work.
- Staff are presenting the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Draft Guidelines to the Council for approval at this Oct. 31 Council meeting. The guidelines include new guidance regarding notification to tribes and were informed by months of staff research, partner interviews, and extensive SGC staff and Council review and feedback. As part of this process, staff hosted two hybrid public workshops, one in Sacramento on Aug. 28 and one in Ventura on Aug. 29 with a combined 63 attendees, and two online Tribal Roundtables on Sept. 11 attended by 17 tribal representatives. The Guidelines presented to the Council are informed by feedback received throughout the process, including via 14 public comment letters capturing 26 separate comments. Following approval of the Guidelines, SALC staff will release a NOFA and request for grant applications. Pre-proposals will be due Jan. 31, 2025.

Climate Change Research Program (CCR)

Staff: Hoi-Fei Mok, Elizabeth Grassi, Emely Anico, and Natalie Obaldia

- CCR has funded collaborations with academic leaders in the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) and California State University (CSU) system’s Chancellor’s Office to further the study and practice of participatory research. The following highlights capacity-building efforts taking place to support researchers:
 - The UCOP “Advancing Community Engagement in Climate Research” project conducted the eighth webinar in the [Community-Engaged S/HERO Awards Workshop Series](#) on Sept. 30, promoting the value of community engagement in climate action research and supporting collaborative approaches to ensure genuine multi-institutional and community/end-user engagement in climate



action research across the state. The September workshop focused on [Sustainable Partnerships](#), discussing building sustainable partnerships between communities and academics by facilitating knowledge-sharing and co-creating a vision for these relationships, emphasizing persistence, mutual benefit, and respect.

- Staff is collaborating with UCOP in the development of the University’s Climate Action Initiative Convening and State Agency Briefing event that will occur in Sacramento next February. Research teams that received SGC’s Community-Engaged S/Hero Supplements will report on lessons learned from integrating the [Participatory Research to Policy](#) framework into their projects.
- The [CSU Water](#) project, “Tracking the Impacts of Actionable Research”, is completing a survey to understand the breadth of researchers’ practices, challenges, and incentives before, during, and after community-based participatory action research and award phases. Results from this survey will be used to compare how researchers are implementing participatory action research under current institutional and funding circumstances, and support recommendations that address both SGC needs for research outcomes and the challenges researchers face within existing institutional and funding frameworks.
- Round 2 of the CCR Program focused on filling in existing gaps within the state’s research and development portfolio. Exit presentations from the four research projects are available for view on [YouTube](#). The playlist features presentations on UCOP’s Working Lands Innovation Center, UC Irvine’s Center for Ecosystem Climate Solutions, the Electric Power Research Institute’s project on Low GHG Space Conditioning Technologies, and UC Merced’s Mobile Biochar Production for Methane Emission Reduction and Soil Amendment.
- The CCR team continues to lead the engagement efforts of California’s Fifth Climate Change Assessment and the development of the Assessment more broadly. This includes:
 - A [video](#) about the Fifth Assessment was released during Climate Week (Sept. 25, 2024). This video describes how the Assessment serves as a unique model of research - compiling original research, existing information, and lived experience into a collection of resources that help inform climate adaptation and resilience policy, planning and action.
 - Staff is working on executing contracts with UC/CSU Coordinating Lead Authors to develop three of California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment’s Topical Synthesis Reports on issues of statewide significance: Economics, Racial Equity & Climate Justice, and Migration & Displacement.
 - All nine Regional Report Author Teams are now under contract and completing engagement plans in alignment with SGC’s Participatory Research to Policy Model to guide the development of the reports throughout the coming years.
 - The Fifth Assessment team published a [Progress Update](#) highlighting key milestones at this halfway point in the Assessment’s development. It includes new climate data & projections, awards and project profiles for the Assessment’s



original research programs, and announcing the Regional Report Coordinating Lead Authors.

Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program

Staff: Amar Cid, Anna Jane Jones, Dora Monterroza, Jessica Cervantes, Jess McCool, and Jin Zhang

- The Community Resilience Program has executed its first three Planning Grants of Round 1 Awardees, with four more Planning Grants circulating for signatures. The remaining 18 awardees, including five Planning, four Project Development, and nine Implementation awards, are engaged in the Post Award Consultation process and are set to be executed in October and November. Program Staff are collaborating with technical assistance (TA) provider, Civix, to conduct the Post-Award Consultation process for Grantees and prepare for Grant Implementation, including development of grant agreements, grant management manuals, and preparing a Grantee Orientation.
- Program Staff continue to support all CRC Round 1 applicants (both unawarded and awarded) with capacity building in resource identification and matching for additional funding sources that align with CRC project proposals.
- Staff continues to develop an evaluation framework and process for the Round 1 Implementation Grants.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE)

Staff: Hoi-Fei Mok, Ena Lupine, Blanca Escobedo, Catherine Foster, Markie Price, and Nancy Cheng

- **Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program:** CACE staff finalized RCC Round 2 applicant profiles for the SGC website and are currently exploring federal and philanthropic funding opportunities and partnerships to help applicants access other sources of funding. Staff also provided feedback to RCC Round 2 applicants, recognizing the time, energy, and resources that applicants devoted to their applications. CACE staff continue to manage the Round 1 grantees and have finalized RCC Round 1 Annual Reports for the SGC website that summarize milestones achieved in the first year. These reports will be a communication resource for demonstrating program success to funders and legislators.
- **Tribal Capacity Building Pilot Program:** CACE staff held post-award consultation calls with the six awardees to finalize their grant agreements. Staff also finalized the TA provider contract and held a kick-off meeting to begin regular check-ins to facilitate the grant program, including development of the peer learning curriculum. Staff also offered debrief calls to unsuccessful applicants in addition to applicant profiles that would highlight the unfunded proposals to other potential funding partners.
- **BOOST Imperial Valley:** Staff coordinated with the Governor's Office, Energy Commission, and Institute for Local Government for an on-site, high-level funder and



dignitary convening in Imperial on Sept. 30-Oct 1. The convening included a walking tour of Niland, panels of community-based organizations and city managers, and strategic discussions of the role of state and funders in capacity building for the region. A portion of the Irvine Foundation grant for the Connected Communities Initiative was utilized for the convening logistics. Staff also held in-depth launch meetings and site tours on Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 with each city's representatives and the Institute for Local Government.

Collaborative Policy Initiatives

Health and Equity Program (HEP)

Staff: Hoi-Fei Mok and Michael Jimenez

Health in All Policies (HiAP)

Staff: SGC partners with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Public Health Institute State of Equity program (PHI) to staff the Health in All Policies Task Force. The Task Force brings together nearly 30 agencies, departments, and commissions to integrate health and racial equity considerations into programs and policies that advance state priorities.

- **HiAP Task Force hosts quarterly interagency convening.** On Sept. 24, the HiAP Task Force hosted its third quarterly interagency convening of 2024. The agenda featured a variety of highlights, including an overview of SGC's Council Priority 2: Advancing Capacity Building as a Key Equity Strategy, and update on the Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity, and a guest presentation from Health Justice Commons (HJC). The feature from HJC focused on health equity and disability justice and the presenter brought forth actionable recommendations for the HiAP Task Force – and state government, broadly – to take to ensure health, equity, and resilience for disabled people in California and beyond.
- **HiAP Task Force hosts Safe and Equitable Communities Roundtable.** On Oct. 15, the HiAP Task Force hosted its second quarterly Safe and Equitable Communities Roundtable Meeting of 2024. The Roundtable is a subunit of the California Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force, which launched in late 2022 to address systemic issues in the way state government can promote safe communities and address violence prevention. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Roundtable agenda featured a guest presentation from the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color highlighting [A Call for Change Helpline](#), which is a cutting-edge approach in use in Massachusetts to help people who use control and abuse in their intimate partner relationships and want to stop, AND for their family, friends and professionals who want to help them. The virtual meetings of the Roundtable are facilitated by staff from State of Equity and Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice.



Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP)

Staff: HEP and SGC Program and Administrative Managers

- **HEP administers 4th annual SGC staff demographic survey** in alignment with a commitment in the 2023-2025 SGC Racial Equity Action Plan. The opt-in survey aims to capture the demographic identities represented in the SGC staff workforce and assess how our organization reflects the diversity of California. Results from the survey are anonymous and staff respond to questions regarding their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, education level, age, and more. Key results and findings will be visualized and included in the Dec. 17 Racial Equity Action Plan Staff Report.
- **HEP coordinating cross-programmatic racial equity updates.** Ahead of the Dec. 17, 2024, Council meeting, HEP is leading an effort to compile updates demonstrating implementation progress of the 2023-25 SGC REAP. This year's updates will focus on key accomplishments for programs from fall 2023 to fall 2024. Staff track REAP progress using an organization-wide tracking spreadsheet, which includes detailed progress updates across all facets of the REAP.

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.

- **Application now open: CCORE Transformative Leadership Cohort!** Applications for the Transformative Leadership Cohort (TLC) of the Capitol Collaborative on Racial Equity are open through December. TLC centers the experiences of racial equity practitioners, workers, and learners who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Over the course of seven months, learners from a diverse array of state and community organizations come together for a comprehensive learning and peer-exchange experience that supports their individual growth as well as their capacity to advance racial equity in their own lives and institutions. Applications close on Dec. 31, 2024 and the first session will be held in February 2025. [Access the application here.](#) Please email questions or requests for information: CCORE@phi.org.
- **CCORE Learning Cohort 2024 Season underway.** The 2024 Learning Cohort launched in June 2024 and will convene through December. This foundational racial equity capacity building program for California State entities is facilitated by State of Equity (a program of the Public Health Institute) and the Strategic Growth Council is the state co-host. Participants in the 2024 cohort represent First 5 CA, the Department of Industrial Relations, Department of Transportation, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Social Services, and the Department of Public Health. Upcoming sessions will focus on race conscious policymaking and leadership for racial equity. For more information about the CCORE Learning Cohort visit: <https://stateofequity.phi.org/learning-cohort/> or email CCORE@phi.org.



Natural and Working Lands

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

Staff: Sean Kennedy, Camille Frazier, Tessa Salzman, Caleb Swanson

- The Task Force hosted its fourth quarterly meeting in Fresno on Aug. 14 and 15. In addition to the three existing subcommittees, the Task Force established three additional subcommittees at the August meeting: 1) Land Access, Acquisition, & Ancestral Land Return; 2) Land Use Governance & Sovereignty; and 3) Land Tenure. All six subcommittees held public meetings in September and October 2024. During these meetings, subcommittee members began organizing into working groups to consider specific questions or topics and begin drafting language for the final report.
- The fifth quarterly Task Force meeting is scheduled for Nov. 13 and 14 in Salinas. Members will discuss ongoing work and confirm next steps to achieve a preliminary draft of recommendations by February 2026.

Federal Funding Initiatives

Connecting Communities

Staff: Adrienne Moretz and Aatisha Singh

- To meet the Initiative's goal of supporting SGC grantees and unawarded applicants in accessing federal funding through technical assistance (TA), SGC contracted with HORNE to deliver wrap around technical assistance to SGC Partners. To date, 17 applications have been submitted, across two federal grant programs, with three applicants from Round 5 of TCC's Implementation Grant selected for award for the U.S. EPA's Community Change Grant Program (CCG).
- SGC, in partnership with the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation – LCI (formerly the Office of Planning and Research - OPR), will plan a series of regional roundtables in 2025 as a continuation of the commitments made at the 2023 and 2024 Catalyst Conferences. The goal of the roundtables is to integrate local perspectives into state policy contexts and identify concrete steps to better align the long-term vitality of these communities. This place-based approach will facilitate greater collaboration between local stakeholders to achieve local and regional objectives. Insights from the series will inform future convenings. SGC & LCI will host a virtual meeting with stakeholders in December to discuss plans for the 2025 roundtables and have tentative plans for the first roundtable to take place in early 2025 in the LA area. This work is part of the Connecting Communities Initiative's goal to accelerate community-led climate projects and demonstrate best practices in centering communities burdened by pollution and other structural harm.



Factory-Built Housing Pre-Development Pilot Program

Staff: Sean Kennedy, Justin DeWaele, Shep Wilbun

- The first round of applications was due on October 15 and review of these applications will be completed by Nov. 15. The Program will accept rolling applications every two months thereafter until March 2026.
- SGC has assembled an Interagency Review Panel to score applications. We will hold a training session for them this month.

News Media Clips

California Strategic Growth Council

- [“In Brief: Take Part in Coastal Cleanup Day Along Berkeley’s Waterways”](#) (East Bay Times) Sept. 11, 2024: “This funding, approved by the California Strategic Growth Council, will help finance a 70-unit affordable housing building adjacent to the El Cerrito Plaza BART station, which is part of a larger effort to provide 743 new housing units in the area.”
- [“The Sacramento Bee’s AAPI Change Makers: The Top 20 leaders you need to know”](#) (The Sacramento Bee) Sept. 26, 2024: Highlighting former SGC Deputy Director Allison Joe: “As deputy director of the California Strategic Growth Council, she also worked on the state’s pioneering Cap-and-Trade Program, which limits greenhouse gas emissions while generating funds for decarbonization projects.”
- [“Coachella Prioritizes Climate Resiliency and Sustainability”](#) (Palm Springs Life) Oct. 7, 2024: “A \$10 million grant from the California Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities Program will help convert the Hidden Harvest facility into a Community Resilience Center, providing workforce training, business incubation, and emergency services.”
- [“San Diego Foundation and Coastal Community Foundation Merge”](#) (San Diego Business Journal) Oct. 7, 2024: “Charmed by Tubbs, then a young rising star in California’s Democratic Party, Waters signed Edible Schoolyard on to a California Strategic Growth Council grant request he was spearheading for 2020.”
- [“Multi-Billion Dollar Funding Available for Greening Low-Income Communities.”](#) (Ethnic Media Services) Oct. 11, 2024: “As part of its first round of funding, the California Strategic Growth Council will also distribute \$93.6 million to help build climate resiliency centers in neighborhoods most impacted by extreme heat and other climate related issues.”

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities

- [“7 Los Angeles County affordable housing and transit projects receive millions in state funds”](#) (The Business Journals) Aug. 23, 2024: “In addition to affordable housing, the California projects include green public transit upgrades and bike and pedestrian paths.”
- [“Sacramento receives \\$38 million to build affordable housing”](#) (ABC10 Sacramento) Aug. 23, 2024: “A new affordable housing project may soon break ground in Sacramento thanks to funding from the state. The project is a proposed five-story development that will have 134 affordable homes according to the Sacramento Strategic Growth Council.”



- [“State awards \\$238M for affordable housing developments in L.A. County”](#) (LA Urbanize) Aug. 26, 2024: “The eighth round of grant awards for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities, which provides money for housing and transportation projects. Roughly \$3.8 billion has been awarded through the program to date.”
- [“California Allocates \\$789 Million for Affordable Green Housing”](#) (Hoodline Los Angeles) Aug. 28, 2024: “As part of the state's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Grant Program, 20 communities have struck luck with a collective \$789 million earmarked for the development of 24 housing and infrastructure projects.”
- [“San Diego Secures \\$33.7 Million from State for Affordable Homes in San Ysidro”](#) (Mayor of San Diego) Aug. 28, 2024: “The State of California’s Strategic Growth Council (SGC) has awarded \$33.7 million in competitive grant funding from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program to Hitzke Development Corp. and Casa Familiar for their Avanzando housing project in San Ysidro.”
- [“San Francisco secures over \\$70 million in state funding for affordable housing”](#) (San Francisco County Press) Aug. 28, 2024: “These funds come from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program, which aims to advance the near-term construction of affordable housing and greener, more walkable communities.”
- [“South Bay affordable housing project receives \\$33.7 million grant”](#) (FOX 5 San Diego & KUSI News) Aug. 30, 2024: “A housing project in San Ysidro received \$33.7 million from the State of California’s Strategic Growth Council’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, city officials said.”
- [“Housing Grants; Bicycle Ratings; Wages-Housing Disparity; and More”](#) (California Planning and Development Report) Sept. 3, 2024: “The state will allocate nearly \$789.8 million in cap-and-trade funds to support 24 projects across 20 communities, aiming to build 2,483 new affordable homes and enhance infrastructure. ... This investment, part of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program.”
- [“What’s new: \\$50 million in state grants going to 2 Inland housing projects”](#) (The San Bernardino Sun) Sept. 3, 2024: “In San Bernardino, the state’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities grant program awarded \$15.8 million to phase four of the \$200 million Arrowhead Grove Neighborhood Revitalization project.”
- [“El Cerrito Secures \\$39.1 Million State Grant for Affordable Housing”](#) (Contra Costa News) Sept. 6, 2024: “The City of El Cerrito and Related California has landed \$39.1 million from the State of California's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program to develop affordable housing at the El Cerrito Plaza Transit-Oriented Development.”
- [“LA Secures Millions in Affordable Housing Grants”](#) (My News LA) Sept. 7, 2024: “Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass’ office announced Saturday that the city has secured state grant funding for hundreds of new affordable housing units and infrastructure improvements.”
- [“LA Secures Millions in Affordable Housing Grants”](#) (MSN) Sept. 8, 2024: “Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass’ office announced Saturday that the city has secured state grant



funding for hundreds of new affordable housing units and infrastructure improvements.”

- [“122-Unit Affordable Housing Development Approved for 4th Street”](#) (Santa Monica Mirror) Oct. 10, 2024: “EAH will now apply for additional financing through various state and federal programs, including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program and the Infill Infrastructure Grant.”
- [“Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara Wins Prestigious NAHRO National Awards”](#) (Santa Barbara Independent) Oct. 10, 2024: “The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is a professional membership organization that promotes affordable housing and sustainable communities through advocacy, research, and the exchange of knowledge.”
- [“SLO City Council to Discuss Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant”](#) (The San Luis Obispo Tribune) Oct. 10, 2024: “On Tuesday, The City Council will discuss accepting the Strategic Growth Council's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program Grant Award.”
- [“50 Poorest Neighborhoods in California: Economic Challenges and Urban Inequalities”](#) (Select) Oct. 14, 2024: “California’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program provides funding for housing and transportation projects in low-income neighborhoods. The program aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while improving quality of life for residents.”
- [“Affordable Housing Project for Queer Seniors Faces Setback Despite Rising Need”](#) (We The People) Oct. 14, 2024: “Mercy Housing California, a senior living facility for elderly LGBTQ+ people, had applied for nearly \$39 million from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program, a joint initiative by California’s Department of Housing and Community Development and the Strategic Growth Council.”

Transformative Climate Communities Program

- [“Report: Transformative Climate Communities Program Is Transforming People’s Lives.”](#) (Streetsblog Cal) July 29, 2024: “One of those programs is the Transformative Climate Communities program, created by A.B. 2722 in 2016, with the intent of helping local communities lead and plan projects that could reduce emissions and bring economic, environmental, and health benefits. It’s been called a national model and “one of the most innovative, comprehensive, and equitable experiments in community-scale climate action.”
- [“Coachella Prioritizes Climate Resiliency and Sustainability”](#) (Palm Springs Life) Oct. 7, 2024: “The California Strategic Growth Council will serve as lead under the Transformative Climate Communities Program. A \$10 million implementation grant will jumpstart the city’s goal of creating a climate resilient community.”
- [“In Reprise of Primary, Arámbula and Verduzco Vie to Represent the 31st Assembly District”](#) (LexisNexis) Oct. 14, 2024: “Through Transformative Climate Communities, I helped secure \$70 million in funding that - when braided with our State Center



Community College District measures - brought a new community college campus to southwest Fresno.”

- [“Proposition 4 Would Raise \\$10 Billion in Bonds for Climate Projects”](#) (KQED) Oct. 14, 2024: “That’s the Transformative Climate Communities Program. And that’s all about making sure communities themselves can come up with their own ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own communities.”

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation

- [“California Rangeland Trust Partners with Madera County Rancher”](#) (California Rangeland Trust) Oct. 14, 2024: “Financial support was provided by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) and the California Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC), in partnership with the Department of Conservation (DOC).”

