

Regional Climate Collaboratives

Round 1 Annual Reports

California Strategic Growth Council

December 17, 2024

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative

Award Amount: \$799,999

Region: Los Angeles County

Communities of Focus: San Fernando, Simi, Santa Clarita, Antelope Valley, Pacoima

Partners:

- [Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Perez Pacheco Consulting, Inc.](#)
- [Climate Resolve](#)
- [Council for Watershed Health](#)
- [UCLA Native Nations Law and Policy Center](#)

The 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative is excited at the opportunity to strengthen tribes' capacity for climate resilience, by applying traditional ecological knowledge and history combined with new data and modern science, equipping them to compete for funding, and build essential resilient infrastructure. - Miguel Luna, Chief Administration Office, Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

About the Collaborative

The tribal-led 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative intends to build the capacity of tribes and tribal-led organizations in partnership with environmental experts in the Los Angeles County region. The Collaborative has identified a need that intentionally and strategically supports tribes' needs for self-sufficiency to successfully apply for grants and funding. The Collaborative will create a blueprint for tribes in California to expand their capacity to be "on par" with those of a large organization with experience in climate-related projects, and to become primary contenders for upcoming climate-resilience funding. The Collaborative aims to successfully apply and receive funding for a climate-resilience infrastructure project in the region, such as a Climate Resilience Hub.

Highlights in Year 1

In its first year, the 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative kicked off their process to develop a blueprint to help tribes build capacity to advance tribal-led climate plans and projects. The collaborative partners started by circulating a Technical Assistance (TA) Assessment Survey among partner tribes and organizations in the region to collect specific TA priorities and needs. This survey will inform the formulation of a Technical Assistance Toolkit to benefit the entire region. The toolkit will enhance the capacity of tribes and other groups in the region seeking TA as well as provide a dialogue for these groups to learn from each other. The Collaborative will leverage the toolkit to access funding for the region and improve the health of tribal citizens and residents in tribal territories as well as the environment that they steward.

This year, the managing partner, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (FTBMI), released their Tribal Climate Resiliency Plan that serves "as a blueprint to address climate in tribal territory." Through its work with the collaborative, FTBMI aims to use this plan to pursue funding opportunities to address climate impacts in the region such as extreme heat, wildfire mitigation, drought, flooding and energy resilience. This plan maps out vulnerable communities impacted by these climate challenges within the tribe's Land Boundary to help deploy climate resilience strategies and opportunities.

The Collaborative is helping implement the plan by applying to a number of funding opportunities to advance their climate resilience work and capacity building. For example, 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative partners secured a variety of federal and state funding opportunities, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture Urban Forestry Grant and the UCLA Climate Ambassadors program. The \$5 million investment from the USDA Forestry Grant Program will support FTBMI leverage their traditional ecological knowledge and relationships with their communities to establish urban forests and develop workforce training programs.

They were also awarded a \$500,000 California Strategic Growth Council Community Resilience Centers Planning Grant for their Pasekinga (Place of Shade) Resilience Center Network project in partnership with the City of San Fernando. As part of this grant, FTBMI and Climate Resolve will conduct data analysis and engage with the tribal community to strategize for a tribal-informed network of climate resiliency centers to act as emergency cooling shelters during extreme heat events. FTBMI and Climate Resolve have also been awarded an Adaptation Planning Grant in partnership with the City of San Fernando to create a Climate Action Plan focused on equity, extreme heat, and air pollution.

Additionally, the collaborative has continued to build relationships with federal, state, tribal, and local government leaders as well as other Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Grantees. During this past year, the 2030 Collaborative connected with the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Collaborative (part of the Gateway Cities RCC) to explore possible opportunities to work together across the region.

Key Milestones:

- Secured a \$500,000 SGC Community Resilience Centers Planning Grant for their Pasekinga (Place of Shade) Resilience Center Network project.
- Secured a \$5 million grant in partnership from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Urban and Community Forestry Program to leverage traditional ecological knowledge to establish “urban forests”.
- Created an outreach database to engage with relevant external tribal partners and organizations that can be eligible to receive TA. This database was used to send surveys to these partners and organizations on technical assistance needs.
- Partnered with the City of San Fernando and secured a \$600,000 Governor’s Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Adaptation Planning Grant to create a Climate Action and Resilience Plan for the City of San Fernando.

What’s Next

In the coming year, the Collaborative partners are looking forward to creating their Tribal Technical Assistance Gap Analysis with the results of their Technical Assistance Assessment Survey and engagement with tribes and other partners. The Collaborative also plans to engage external community-based organizations and government agencies in this analysis to include relevant and additional technical assistance that is available to tribes in the region. The Collaborative will also support the implementation of FTBMI’s Tribal Climate Resiliency Plan and pursue funding opportunities to address the climate challenges carry out the adaptation and mitigation strategies outlined in the plan.

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: Gateway Cities Regional Climate Collaborative (GCRCC)

Award Amount: \$1,750,000

Region: Los Angeles County

Communities of Focus: Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Lynwood, Maywood, South Gate, Vernon, Florence/Firestone, and Walnut Park

Partners:

- [Gateway Cities Council of Governments](#)
- [SELA Collaborative](#)
- [TreePeople](#)
- [GRID Alternatives](#)
- [Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office](#)

The GCRCC strengthens and formalizes cross-sectoral relationships that collectively leverage skills, knowledge, practices and networks to ensure community-driven action to combat climate change. The GCRCC uplifts the voices and climate needs of the communities in Southeast Los Angeles through engagement that invites residents, community, and elected leaders to participate in and lead the process. - Gateway Cities Regional Climate Collaborative Governance Document

About the Collaborative

The [Gateway Cities Regional Climate Collaborative \(GCRCC\)](#) strengthens and formalizes the relationships between five community partners that have worked together in the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) region for more than five years to leverage skills, knowledge, and networks to ensure community-driven action to combat climate change in SELA communities. Residents in the SELA region are primarily low-income communities of color who experience extreme heat, limited park space, low tree canopy coverage, and high levels of pollutants due to the movement of goods from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The GCRCC aims to address these issues by increasing access to new and existing resources through a process that prioritizes community engagement, engaging in data collection to identify regional climate needs, and developing publicly available reports that benefit under-resourced communities to expand the capacity of the SELA region.

Highlights in Year 1

GCRCC is committed to addressing a variety of climate issues that affect SELA, including extreme heat, a major challenge for the region. According to data from the Los Angeles Chief Sustainability Office, extreme heat is the most significant threat to communities in the area due to factors such as low percentage of tree coverage (12.3% compared to the 17% Los Angeles County-wide average) and a high percentage of impervious surfaces that exacerbate the urban heat island effect (76.3% compared to the 60.1% Los Angeles County-wide average).

This year, the collaborative completed an extreme heat-related data review and compiled existing data from collaborative partners. This data review will be critical to inform GCRCC's regional community survey about extreme heat that will be shared with stakeholders in the Communities of Focus and a regional Climate Needs Analysis for the SELA region. The analysis will include social and environmental determinants such as housing, employment, education, gender, and age, as well as feedback from the

community about extreme heat and climate solutions and perceptions. Such data is important to identify knowledge gaps and where resources need to be invested for better outcomes. This data collection is also a first step in developing a GCRCC roadmap to support local cities in developing climate plans, identifying climate mitigation projects, building regional capacity, and securing federal funding the region for projects related to extreme heat and climate vulnerability.

Members of the collaborative also applied for various state and federal grants to advance community-led projects in this under-invested region. For example, they secured a \$14 million CAL FIRE Green Schoolyards Grant which will help schools in the SELA region convert pavement to green spaces and create drought tolerant natural areas on school grounds. They also applied for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grant which, if awarded, would fund tree planting, solar upgrades, green schoolyards, and water quality testing.

A key focus of the collaborative this year was to build stronger relationships between the partners and establish a meaningful collaborative governance structure. This work is critical to building trust and strong working relationships between partners that can endure far past the Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) grant cycle. To this end, the collaborative organized more than 60 internal meetings, including an all-partner governance retreat to establish a strong foundation for their partnership.

In February of 2024, GCRCC hosted a day-long site visit which featured an overview of the collaborative's work and a walking tour of the project area that was attended by state and federal legislative staff in the region. This site visit allowed stakeholders to get a deeper understanding of climate impacts, provide input on collaborative plans, and build relationships.

Key Milestones:

- Collaboratively developed a collective vision, purpose, and values, as well as a comprehensive branding and communications plan.
- Secured more than \$10.5 million in grants from the Southern California Regional Energy Network, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, U.S Forest Service IRA Urban and Community Forestry, and more.
- Applied for 16 state and federal grants including California Energy Commission's Building Energy Decarbonization Grant, Governor's Office of Planning and Research's ICARP Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program Grants, and Los Angeles County's Productivity and Investment Fund.
- Hosted a Climate Change 101 and Heat workshop with high school and college students hosted by Charles Drew University researchers. These students will also be supporting with GCRCC's Regional Community Survey which will inform the Collaborative's Regional Climate Needs Analysis.

What's Next

Throughout the next two years, GCRCC will continue to host regular partner meetings, advance their communication strategy, and identify new ways to increase access to resources and expand capacity to address extreme heat and other climate vulnerabilities in the region. In the coming year, GCRCC will develop their GCRCC Roadmap which will include a Community Climate Solutions inventory that lists priority plans and projects that the collaborative is seeking to implement during the grant term. The

GCRCC will also provide training to community-based organization staff, city staff, and other stakeholders to increase their knowledge of available resources and increase their capacity to compete for grants.

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: Marin Climate Justice Collaborative

Award Amount: \$996,390.00

Region: Marin County

Communities of Focus: San Rafael Canal District & Marin City

Partners:

- [Canal Alliance](#)
- [Marin City Climate Resilience and Health Justice](#)
- [Multicultural Center of Marin](#)
- [Play Marin](#)
- [Marin City Community Services District](#)
- [San Rafael City School District](#)
- [Marin Audubon Society](#)
- [Community Action Marin](#)
- [Greenbelt Alliance](#)
- [Marin County](#)
- [City of San Rafael](#)

In our first year, we have made significant strides in building organizational and resident capacity in each community of focus. We have also been able to foster new trust and relationship as advocates for Marin's two largest historically underserved communities. - Marin Climate Justice Collaborative

About the Collaborative

The Marin Climate Justice Collaborative (MCJC) works to build capacity and climate resilience to ensure a safe and equitable future for low-income residents and communities of color in Marin County. The communities in the Canal District of San Rafael and unincorporated Marin City have a shared history of underinvestment. They are building on a strong foundation of years of partnership to address socioeconomic and climate impacts such as displacement, a level rise, and flooding, and equitable planning and decision-making. MCJC works to transform the local decision-making dynamic by educating, empowering, and activating residents to drive placemaking and planning projects that build climate resilience, to leverage this power for more effective and generous collaboration. MCJC looks forward to achieving climate justice for Marin County's most vulnerable communities.

Highlights in Year 1

The MCJC partners are deeply rooted in the priorities of their focus communities, which include building cross-sector partnerships and supporting participatory planning and placemaking efforts within the Canal District and Marin City. In their first year, the partners have dug into opportunities to bring community-led projects to fruition that will address the key climate and socioeconomic challenges that residents in those communities face on a daily basis. The collaborative partners are identifying and developing grant opportunities that align with those priorities as well as building solid relationships among themselves and the City of San Rafael and County of Marin to create social infrastructure.

Additionally, the Canal District partners have launched a Consejo de Residentes (Resident Council) called "[Nuestro Canal, Nuestro Futuro](#)" to engage residents in the Canal neighborhood in developing a

Neighborhood Vision Plan and engaging in climate resiliency efforts for the community. A Neighborhood Vision Plan will allow Canal residents to define their own assets, needs, and priorities. This plan will be a guide that they can use to direct investments from government, philanthropy, and private businesses. With the collaborative structure, this participatory planning effort can not only build community leadership in place, but also have an avenue for reaching jurisdiction planning leaders and funders.

The Collaborative is also engaging extensively with youth and students in climate adaption and resilience activities. The Marin City Climate Resilience and Health Justice Organization is working with students through an initiative called the Marin City Climate Resilience Environmental Leadership Academy Scholars to develop leadership skills, environmental knowledge, community engagement strategies among many to drive change in Marin City.

The Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) initiative presented the partners with a catalyzing opportunity to tap into a variety of initiatives and leverage their collective capacity to secure diverse funding streams. Thus far, the Collaborative has applied to federal, state, and private funding opportunities to catalyze climate action projects in both communities. For example, the Collaborative applied to a number of U.S. EPA grants such as the Community Change Program and the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program. Additionally, the lead Marin City partner, the Marin City Climate Resilience and Health Justice organization led by Ms. Terrie Green, secured \$300,000 through a partnership with the Marin Community Foundation through the Marin Climate Justice Catalyst Fund to leverage their work on the RCC program.

Key Milestones:

- Hosted four technical assistance trainings focused on plan development, community engagement, and capacity building.
- Held 23 outreach and engagement events pertaining to raising awareness of environmental issues in Marin City and recruitment of residents for the Consejo.
- Secured a \$180,000 Partners in Place grant to support the Collaborative and participate in leadership development, advocacy training and outreach
- Engaged in local community events throughout the year to raise awareness of the Marin Climate Justice Collaborative and its efforts driving climate action, such as the King Tide Day and the San Rafael Head Start Carnival to name a few.
- Received a U.S. EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program to develop community-led projects to tackle local climate issues.

What's Next

The Marin Climate Justice Collaborative is eager to continue leading participatory planning and placemaking efforts within the Canal District and Marin City. In the coming year, the Canal District partners will work closely with members of the Consejo to build the residents' capacity to engage in decision-making to define the future of their own communities. The partners are also excited to document and share the process of building out the Consejo and the Neighborhood Vision Plan for the Canal District. The Marin City partners look forward to continuing to build community understanding of climate resilience and pursuing funding opportunities for critically needed infrastructure projects to ensure access to clean drinking water, build sea level rise resilience, and create more spaces for outdoor recreation through urban greening.

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: San Joaquin Regional Climate Collaborative

Award Amount: \$1,750,000

Region: San Joaquin County

Communities of Focus: North Stockton, Lodi and Tracy

Partners:

- [San Joaquin Council of Governments](#)
- [Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton](#)
- [GRID Alternatives North Valley](#)
- [Public Health Advocates](#)
- [Stockton Service Corps](#)
- [University of the Pacific Center for Business and Policy Research](#)

The San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) has always said that solution-oriented approaches to our region's climate resiliency and adaption must be home-grown. The infusion of \$1.75 million launched the San Joaquin Climate Collaborative, a partnership between SJCOG and community-based organizations. Our mission, pure and simple, was to engage stakeholders and community partners in Lodi, Stockton, and Tracy which led to the development of a comprehensive plan. We are excited for the coming year and taking this strategic planning to the next level. - Diane Nguyen, SJCOG Executive Director

About the Collaborative

The San Joaquin Regional Climate Collaborative (SJRCC) envisions a region where communities live in healthy places filled with equity and economic opportunity and are ready to meet the challenges posed by climate change. The San Joaquin County region faces extreme heat, air pollution impacting public health, and high flood risk. Additionally, the region lacks key infrastructure and investments that impact quality of life such as mobility options, housing, economic development, grocery stores, etc. The Collaborative brings residents, community stakeholders, researchers, and local government together to create community-led solutions that meet the needs of San Joaquin County communities. These partners have a strong history of working together, having previously worked on the Transformative Climate Communities program in south Stockton that created Sustainable Neighborhood Plans that led to implementation funding. The SJRCC partners hope to replicate this effort in additional under resourced communities of San Joaquin County; Tracy, Lodi, and North Stockton while increasing community capacity to advance climate solutions.

Highlights in Year 1

In its first year, the San Joaquin Regional Climate Collaborative has focused on building a trusting and solid foundation amongst the Collaborative partners and community residents. Developing this trusting relationship was critical to ensuring the success of the collaborative's community engagement efforts in Lodi, Stockton, and Tracy that will kick off the development of individual sustainable neighborhood plans for those communities. These plans will identify each community's project priorities, and they will work with jurisdictions to prepare project concepts for funding opportunities. The Collaborative partners have launched a series of community engagement workshops (virtual and in-person) focused on introducing the RCC and sharing information around climate impacts in the region.

The Collaborative partners worked with the Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Implementation Technical Assistance providers to develop a comprehensive Community Engagement Plan that outlines key values and strategies to engage residents and community stakeholders who live/work in the communities of focus and are most impacted by climate and socio-economic challenges. The creation of this plan has outlined the process for the Collaborative to launch the Community Advisory Board of community residents that will oversee the implementation of the RCC's goals and objectives. The RCC Program provides capacity building support to the Collaborative's partners to build skills around the research design process, engagement strategies, and trust building which will strategically set the stage for funding opportunities in the future.

One of the main focuses of the Collaborative has been to increase access to mobility and active transportation and connect those opportunities to affordable housing. Sustainable transportation and affordable housing are key priorities of the Collaborative to address climate justice issues in the region. The Collaborative received a \$150,000 grant award from the Federal Transit Administration and University of Minnesota to engage with communities and conduct a need assessment around a mobility hub and connectivity plan in order to connect it with their ongoing affordable housing efforts. This investment adds to the partner's efforts in planning for and bringing in sustainable transportation projects, such as a e-bike and EV car share projects in the County.

Key Milestones:

- Presented at eight external community events including the Tracy and Stockton Earth Days to promote and build awareness of the RCC.
- Engaged with the UC Irvine Sustainability Office in two Community Participant Action Research Trainings to prepare the Collaborative to facilitate a research design process.
- Secured a \$150,000 Mobility, Access, and Transportation Insecurity (MATI) grant award by the Federal Transit Agency to address transportation and mobility needs in the San Joaquin region.
- Facilitated two Community Engagement Workshops where the attendees engaged in a community revisioning activity about climate priorities.

What's Next

The Collaborative plans to implement their Community Engagement Plan by launching their Community Advisory Board and ramping up their community engagement efforts in the communities of focus in the coming year. Additionally, they aim to host educational workshops for communities focused on climate vulnerability, clean energy, and workforce development.

The Collaborative is looking forward to compiling all of the input they receive through their community engagement efforts to develop Sustainable Neighborhood Plans for the three communities that will align with specific funding priorities.

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: Siskiyou Climate Collaborative

Award Amount: \$1,500,000

Region: Siskiyou County

Communities of Focus: Happy Camp/Klamath River, Dunsmuir, McCloud, Yreka, Weed, Mt. Shasta, Etna, Fort Jones, Dorris/Tulelake, Grenada/Montague/Shasta Valley

Partners:

- [Siskiyou Economic Development Council \(SEDC\)](#)
- [Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District\(SVRCD\)](#)
- [UC Cooperative Extension, Siskiyou \(UCANR/UCCE\)](#)
- Nathan Johnston, Facilitator
- [Siskiyou County SMART Workforce Development \(SMART\)](#)
- [Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources](#)
- [Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance \(SORA\)](#)

The Siskiyou Climate Collaborative is working to develop a county wide Climate Resiliency Pplan, while initiating and supporting funding applications and building a technical assistance network to see Siskiyou County's rural cities and unincorporated communities accelerate climate pilot projects, apply for funding, and guide a more resilient future for Siskiyou County. - Kory Hayden, Program Manager, Community Initiatives, Siskiyou Economic Development Council

About the Collaborative

The Siskiyou Climate Collaborative (SCC) brings much needed social infrastructure for coalition and leadership-building in a rural region of California that has historically received little state investment. SCC leverages local knowledge and diverse partnerships to develop, prioritize, and implement sustainable climate adaptation and capacity-building strategies that support climate resiliency plans and projects throughout Siskiyou County. These projects focus on supporting rural, tribal, and under-resourced communities in the region who are facing increasingly devastating impacts of wildfires, drought, and other extreme climate events. Utilizing an equity-centered community process, SCC plans to produce an actionable Climate Resiliency Plan that will bring crucial funds to the region's communities of focus. Additional priorities for the Collaborative include relationship-building, advocacy, community investment and funding, stakeholder engagement, and capacity-building to support, and fund, initiatives that uplift rural voices and center resiliency.

Highlights in Year 1

In its first year of Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) funding, SCC had many significant milestones for the region and opportunities for partnership and collaboration. In August 2023, SCC hosted a stakeholder kickoff for the collaborative, inviting leaders, businesses, and the community to share experiences, concerns, and early wins in climate and resiliency work in the County. Conversations focused on fuels reduction, anti-displacement strategies, and energy projects to reduce wildfire impacts in Siskiyou's small cities and unincorporated communities; learnings from this inaugural meeting will help shape the direction of the collaborative and its regional funding priorities for the next few years. Ongoing internal and community meetings provide invaluable spaces to continue to solidify priorities, strengthen collaboration across the partnership, and identify technical assistance opportunities for the

region. Additionally, the Collaborative's work to develop the Siskiyou County Climate Resiliency plan is an integral step to uplift regenerative industries in Siskiyou County and showcase how agriculture, outdoor recreation, and wood utilization can help California reach carbon sequestration goals, and how rural communities are a vital contributor to the climate narrative.

The RCC program presented SCC with a catalyzing opportunity to tap into a variety of initiatives and leverage their collective capacity to secure a diversity of funding streams centered on rural resiliency. For example, in March 2023, SCC celebrated the groundbreaking of one of California's Jobs First Regional Initiative awards, which awarded the Siskiyou Economic Development Council (SEDC) with \$2.14 million to reintroduce the local, shuttered Carnegie landmark as a central hub for industry and community resiliency in Siskiyou County. In 2023, SEDC was also awarded a California Department of Food & Agriculture Healthy Soils grant of \$5 million, the single largest state or federal award received by the SEDC to date. As a climate strategy to support regenerative soils, this project will direct \$4 million to healthy soils projects in Siskiyou. In July 2024, SCC celebrated 20 years of work with US EPA Brownfields and the cleanup of the historic Roseburg Mill site and received one of 50 Technical Assistance for Design awards nationwide. This award will provide critical funds to help SCC to prepare an eligible project and apply for the U.S. EPA Community Change Grant.

These funding and partnership opportunities are strengthened by the collective power of SCC which continues to uplift programs operating at the intersection of economic development, climate resiliency, and rural priorities. This invaluable network's ability to harness its local assets to attract state and federal investment will have multiplying effects for decades to come.

Key Milestones:

- Held eight internal partner meetings to share updates, approve community engagement resources, establish subcommittees, and conduct a collaborative-wide Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threat (SWOT) analysis.
- Held eight external meetings with more than 200 local leaders and partners, including the California Air Resources Board, the Carnegie Resiliency Hub, the City of Dunsmuir, and the Yreka Downtown Changemakers for Climate.
- Applied for 38 local, state, and federal grants, including the Community Economic Mobilization Initiative, Department of Energy Solutions for Viable Energy Infrastructure, California Department of Food & Agriculture Healthy Soils Block Grant, National Institute of Food & Agriculture Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Grant, and the Ford Family Foundation Large Good Neighbors Grant.
- Received more than \$13 million in grant awards focused on capacity building, project readiness, project implementation, and resiliency hubs.
- Provided technical assistance to the City of Dunsmuir on the submission of a competitive application to the Office of Planning & Research's Climate Adaptation Grant.

What's Next

In the coming year, SCC will continue to host collaborative partner meetings, expand external communications, track climate priorities for the region, and prepare projects for potential funding. During this period, SCC will also continue to develop its Climate Resiliency Plan, draft a strategy-to-plan adoption pathway, launch a technical assistance network, host reoccurring CBO Climate Summits, and identify pilot successes throughout the region. Part of this work will also include a focus on next steps

for the “Landing,” a 127-acre former Roseburg Mill site, in the city of Mt. Shasta. After 40 years of cleanup, the site is now clean and ready for its future use!

RCC Year 1 Annual Report: Tribal Energy and Climate Collaborative (TECC)

Award Amount: \$1,749,910

Region: Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Imperial Counties

Partners:

- [Pala Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association](#)
- [Prosper Sustainably, LLC](#)
- [Barona Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Campo Band of Kumeyaay Indians](#)
- [Chemehuevi Indian Tribe](#)
- [Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians](#)
- [Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel](#)
- [Inaja-Cosmit Band of Indians](#)
- [Jamul Indian Village](#)
- [La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians](#)
- [La Posta Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians](#)
- [Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation](#)
- [Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Morongo Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians](#)
- [Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians](#)
- [San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians](#)
- [Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians](#)
- [Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians](#)
- [Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians](#)
- [Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians](#)

Pala Band of Mission Indians, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (or SCTCA), Prosper Sustainably, and SCTCA's 24 other Member Tribes had been periodically collaborating on various 'one-off' climate change and clean energy projects for several years. The Strategic Growth Council's Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) grant has allowed this partnership to formalize by establishing Tribal Energy & Climate Collaborative (or TECC) with a meaningful amount of startup funding that is now being used to consistently and strategically work toward addressing the climate, energy, and related economic and workforce development needs and priorities of SCTCA's 25 Tribes. - Josh Simmons, TECC Co-Director

About the Collaborative

Tribes in California have, historically, been at the frontline of the climate crisis yet lack the resources and capacity to adequately respond to this threat. The Tribal Energy Climate Collaborative (TECC) is an unprecedented first step at bridging this gap by building a collective voice centered on tribal needs that advance climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience goals of the 24 diverse member tribes of

the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA). TECC evaluates the climate priorities of each tribe, matches this with available funding and other assistance, and provides comprehensive support to acquire funds, resulting in a continuous stream of successfully completed tribal climate change plans and projects that are rooted in resiliency. Throughout this work, TECC supports tribal priorities in ways that also address other important community needs, such as tribal sovereignty, culture, health, and economy. Other priorities of the collaborative include policy & regulatory engagement, equity & inclusivity, training & capacity building, partnerships, and technical/grant writing assistance. Ultimately, this collaborative is focused on enabling tribes to forge their own path in developing a more climate resilient future for their respective communities.

Highlights in Year 1

In the first year of their work together, TECC focused on setting a strong foundation for the collaborative by engaging all of their partners in setting the vision and direction for TECC. Although the member tribes have a deep history of working together through the Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association, it was important to ensure that all tribes played a meaningful role in developing the governance structure and setting the priorities and strategic plan for the collaborative. In July 2023, TECC officially kicked off the regional climate collaborative with the inaugural meeting of the TECC Board, which is composed of leaders and representatives of each TECC member tribe. The first meeting of the Board focused on governance, tribal priorities, and requirements of the RCC program. Ongoing monthly board meetings serve as a continued space to convene and discuss energy, climate, and related economic development opportunities for member tribes. In March 2024, TECC Co-Directors met to review and refine a draft TECC Strategic Plan and establish an agenda for the upcoming Strategic Planning Summit. The day-long Summit took place in April 2024 and included more than 90 attendees representing SCTCA tribal members, external partners, and diverse climate and energy organizations. Participants were given an opportunity to provide input into TECC's mission, vision, and program areas; this feedback will be incorporated into the final update of the Strategic Plan and serve as a roadmap for TECC’s priorities in the coming years.

In addition to its strategic vision, TECC also focused on building partnerships with climate stakeholders and leveraging its collective capacity to identify and apply for funding that aligned with tribal priorities. In July and August 2023, TECC provided grant writing templates and assistance that led to more than 16 TECC tribes applying for U.S. Department of Energy Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Section 40101(d) Formula Grants for Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid. To date, this effort has already secured more than \$3.2 million, with millions in additional awards pending. In October 2023, three TECC tribes were awarded CPUC Equity, Engagement, and Education grants totaling \$600,000. This funding supports a tribe’s capacity to engage in CPUC clean energy-related processes, programs, and regulatory proceedings. In June 2024, TECC engaged in the California Jobs First Southern Border Region through the San Diego County Tribal Sector and secured \$125,000 for climate tech manufacturing feasibility studies.

Key Milestones:

- Conducted 50 internal board and program management meetings and dozens of external meetings with current and prospective partners to advance TECC goals and strategies.
- Partnered with UC San Diego to conduct a 2-day Tribal Microgrids and Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) Workshop in September 2023.

- Pursued 500 Daikin electric heat pumps for tribal community members through Energy Solutions under CPUC’s TECH Clean California program.
- Began partnering with Grid Alternatives to support tribes in securing CEC Communities in Charge Level 2 EV Charger rebates
- Assisted several tribes in applying for CEC California Clean Energy Planning (CCEPP) funding.
- Evaluated and shared information regarding more than a dozen other climate funding opportunities for TECC, including DOE Tribal Home Electrification Rebate Program, Office of Planning & Research Adaptation Planning Grant, U.S. EPA Climate Justice Community Change Grant Program, and California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment Tribal Research Grant Program Round 2.

What’s Next

In the coming year, TECC will continue to evolve its governance, partnerships, and overall strategic plan to coordinate, fund, and advance SCTCA Tribes’ climate-related priorities and projects. A significant component of this work will center on building the collective capacity of Tribes to identify climate change needs, align these needs with available funding opportunities, and successfully pursue and secure tens of millions or more in grants and other funding to address these needs. TECC has already identified numerous upcoming grant opportunities to focus on within the next six months, including California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment Tribal Research Grant Program Round 2 and other state and federal opportunities. TECC will continue to provide technical and grant writing assistance and other resources (e.g. templates, toolkits, etc.) to Member Tribes to engage with these efforts, in addition to tailored technical assistance that will both center tribal priorities and decision-making and promote climate resiliency.