

Attachment A: California Strategic Growth Council's Resolution on Advancing Capacity Building as a Key Equity Strategy

WHEREAS, the Newsom Administration is committed to a California for All agenda and believes the State plays a critical role and holds unique responsibility to reduce barriers and create equitable opportunities for all Californians;

WHEREAS, in California, the communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, affordability and housing insecurity, public health emergencies, and other disasters are often the least equipped to respond or prepare. State-provided technical assistance has been essential in ensuring that under-resourced communities and California Native American tribes can access the tools, resources, and funding necessary to support equitable community-driven transformation.

WHEREAS, despite this fact, there are still many communities that lack the readiness to pursue grant funding to tackle these often complicated and integrated challenges.

WHEREAS, further support for capacity building is necessary for communities to navigate policy, planning, and funding systems; establish partnership networks and relationships across community organizations and with California Native American tribes; create effective plans and policy guidance; build staff capacity; and more effectively inform State agency decision-making processes.

WHEREAS, capacity building is defined as the process of strengthening local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, expertise, and access to resources in California Native American tribal and under-resourced communities with the goal of helping to develop or increase the ability of that community to independently compete for grants and implement projects in the future.

WHEREAS, the impact of technical assistance, and increasingly capacity building, is well documented. [Evaluation of previous technical assistance](#) has shown that applicants who received technical assistance outcompeted those who did not, and these results were more pronounced in under-resourced communities. However, structural barriers such as language access, reporting requirements, and onerous contracting and grant guidelines continue to limit access to State resources within communities.

WHEREAS, billions of dollars in State and Federal funding are being made available to communities to deliver on critical policy challenges, including the Governor's historic \$37B Climate and Opportunity budget, necessitating an increased focus on capacity building to ensure equitable outcomes.

WHEREAS, SB 1072 (Leyva, 2018) establishes a further legislative directive to expand capacity building as a key equity strategy in California.

WHEREAS, in 2020, SGC developed and adopted the [Technical Assistance Guidelines for State Agencies](#) as directed by SB 1072. The TA Guidelines compile capacity building and technical assistance best practices from a variety of State agencies and serve as a resource for State agency staff providing TA and capacity building resources.

WHEREAS, the Council, comprised of Cabinet members representing seven State agencies and three members of the public, have called for [deeper commitments and actions regarding](#)

[equity](#) and supporting California Native American tribes and communities to access critical state resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Council and each member agency commit to integrating capacity building and technical assistance strategies into their Agencies' programs, policies, and practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council and each member agency commit to identifying and implementing concrete and measurable actions to advance capacity building, particularly for California Native American tribes and under-resourced communities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council and each member agency commit to working with State Boards, Departments, and Offices to align and advance capacity building efforts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council commits to use a minimum of one public Council Meeting annually as a forum to share capacity building best practices; lift up success stories; and actively engage California Native American tribes, communities, and other stakeholders to gather public input on these items.

Passed and adopted this _____.