



Regional Climate Collaboratives Program (SB 1072)



SGC is currently developing the Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program as envisioned by [Senate Bill 1072](#) (Leyva, 2018). SGC will receive \$20 million over the next two years to implement the program, which will assist under-resourced communities in accessing State funding for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency projects. The \$20 million will be split across multiple funding rounds. RCC will support under-resourced communities to create a new collaborative or support existing efforts of multi-sector partners to accelerate and sustain climate action. RCC recognizes that under-resourced communities disproportionately bear the brunt of environmental harm and often lack the funding, staff capacity, and technical expertise to apply for and secure competitive state grant funding.

RCC will lift up the expertise of California's diverse communities and equip those trusted, and well-connected entities to expand their efforts, grow partnerships, and advance collective impact strategies with a focus on centering community voice.

VISION: BUILDING CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY-LED CHANGE

The Regional Climate Collaboratives Program works towards a future in which more California communities have the capacity to develop and realize their vision for resilience. As the state pursues multiple strategies to achieve its climate mitigation and adaptation goals while advancing social equity, it is increasingly necessary to coordinate and align technical assistance and capacity building resources to ensure that every community has the same opportunity to meet those goals. RCC funding would equip collaboratives to strengthen local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, and expertise to advance long-term climate strategies, including accessing funding to implement projects. RCCs would center resident voice decision making through engaging under-represented populations in planning processes.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINED ACTION

In implementing RCC, the State is ensuring that more community voices are at the table developing and informing context-sensitive solutions. This work involves lifting up the expertise that already exists in California's diverse communities and equipping those trusted, and well-connected entities to grow key partnerships, provide technical assistance and capacity building services, and lead collective impact initiatives with a focus on accessing resources to implement key projects. The following examples represent how investment in partnerships has led to increased network capacity to enact new, high-profile initiatives that further community priorities:

» **Fresno DRIVE Initiative:** The City of Fresno's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) grantees leveraged the collaborative stakeholder structure built through the TCC grant to develop the regional-scale Fresno D.R.I.V.E. Initiative (Developing the Region's Inclusive and Vibrant Economy). This ten-year community investment plan was drafted with input from a 300-person steering committee representing over 150 organizations in the Greater Fresno Region, and was made possible by the relationships and capacity built through the TCC process.

» **Ontario HEAL Zone:** In 2010, Kaiser Permanente awarded the City of Ontario a Healthy Eating and Active Living Zone grant, which enabled the City to develop and grow relationships with trusted community partners including a resident advisory group, community centers, schools, and churches by funding these entities to implement community engagement and programming activities. When TCC funding became available in 2017, the existing collaborative of partners were able to quickly engage community members and stakeholders, leading to the development of a robust TCC initiative that centered community vision.

» **West Oakland AB 617 Project:** The West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) began in the early 2000s as a community-based participatory research project that was a partnership between impacted residents and the Pacific Institute. WOEIP leveraged this early research to form additional partnerships and secure funding from corporations and local governments to train residents in air quality data collection. When West Oakland was selected as an AB 617 community, WOEIP, the air district, and a steering committee were able to build on their existing work and partnerships to develop a comprehensive action plan that identifies actionable pollution reduction measures in the community.

AN ONGOING NEED

While these stories are inspiring, many more under-resourced communities in California require further investment in capacity building to achieve similar outcomes. RCC is an opportunity to fund a catalytic capacity building approach that convenes key partners, increases awareness around needs and opportunities, and coalesces ground-up efforts to access critical funding for transformative projects. .

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