October 28, 2026

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
Tribal Capacity Building Program
FY 2026 – 2027 FUNDING ROUND

TO: All Potential Applicants

FROM: Tribal Capacity Building Program Staff, California Strategic Growth Council

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY – A TOTAL OF $8.6 MILLION FOR THE TRIBAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM, ROUND 2**

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for Round 2 of the Tribal Capacity Building Program through this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The SGC anticipates $8.6 million will be available for competitive grant awards in this funding round. Awarded tribes may receive funding between $350,000 and $420,000 for the three-year grant term.

The Tribal Capacity Building Program is part of California Climate Investments and furthers the purpose of Assembly Bill 32 (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), Senate Bill (SB) 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008), and SB 32 (Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016) by investing in tribal projects related to climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Funds for Round 2 of the Tribal Capacity Building Program are Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program funds made available pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 39719 for fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26, including disencumbered funds, and are administered in accordance with Public Resources Code section 75210.3, subdivision (e)(1).

The Tribal Capacity Building Program will utilize the free application platform, Submittable, to administer the program's application. All applicants are required to submit their application through Submittable. **Tribal Capacity Building Program Applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. PT on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026, according to the terms of this NOFA.**

Information about the Tribal Capacity Building Program, including the Guidelines, application support, and other resources can be found on the program webpage. Questions may be directed to Tribal Capacity Building Program staff by email at CACE@sgc.ca.gov.

The Tribal Capacity Building Program is one of two grants currently being offered exclusively to tribal entities as a part of SGC's newest Tribal Housing and Capacity Building Initiative. tribal entities may also apply to the Tribal Housing Pre-Development Fund, a grant opportunity that funds activities related to

affordable housing development, including planning, infrastructure, construction, site preparation, and other pre-development activities. The goal of the fund is to increase preparedness to build housing and access other state-funded, affordable housing programs.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Tribal Capacity Building Program is a grant program that provides funding and technical assistance (TA) to California Native American Tribes, enhancing staff capacity to advance tribes' climate- and housing-related work. Administered by SGC, the goal of the program is to help tribes develop long-term capacity to secure funding and implement tribal-led climate- and housing-related projects.

The program funds staff salaries and activities that advance tribes' climate- and housing-related work. Activities may include planning, securing funding for, and implementing housing projects and related efforts to advance climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience. Tribes will work with a technical assistance provider and receive no-cost, flexible support that will respond to each tribe's needs. The capacity building and technical assistance services offered include, but are not limited to: trainings and workshops; grant application and management support; planning support; implementation assistance; staff and economic development; partnership building; peer learning.

The SGC intends to fund Tribal Capacity Building Program awards in a manner that reflects statewide geographic and tribal diversity, inclusive of rural and urban tribes, federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes, and a range of climate impacts. Applicants are encouraged to indicate how their application would further this goal.

Eligible Applicants

- **California Native American Tribes**: Tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Contact List per Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004 (Pub. Resources Code, § 21073) as of February 2026, including federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes. Non-federally recognized tribes must be registered with the California Secretary of State as a nonprofit, a for-profit corporation, or a limited liability company.
- **Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE)** (25 U.S.C. § 4103) listed in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's National Directory of Tribes and TDHEs.

The SGC will not require a waiver of sovereign immunity from tribes who are receiving funds on a reimbursement basis. However, requests for advance pay will necessitate federally recognized Tribal awardees to sign a limited waiver of sovereign immunity.

Current Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 1 grantees are eligible to apply for Round 2 and must indicate in their application how their proposed customized activities will differ from Round 1 customized activities. Deliverables should be distinct, and efforts should be made not to duplicate work or amend the second award to functionally extend the first.

Program Objectives

Proposed activities and narrative responses should provide additional details about the tribe's approach to achieve desired outcomes. The Tribal Capacity Building Program's key objectives are to:

- **Build Tribal Staff Capacity to Advance and Sustain Housing and Climate Action:** By investing in staff capacity and providing trainings and technical assistance to enhance Tribal coordination, knowledge, skills, expertise, and access to state resources, the program aims to help tribes build and sustain their climate- and housing-related efforts.
- **Secure Funding to Develop and Implement Tribal-led Housing and Climate Projects:** Grantees will work with the TA provider on activities to secure funding for the development and implementation of existing or new housing and climate mitigation, adaptation, or resilience projects.
- **Enhance Peer Learning Relationships Among Tribes:** Peer learning activities will provide a space for tribes to share promising practices and lessons learned and support tribal coordination on the development and implementation of climate- and housing-related projects and applications where relevant.

For additional information on eligible activities, eligible costs, eligible project area, and other program details, please see the Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 2 Guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Phase

All Tribal Capacity Building Program applicants must submit application materials to SGC via Submittable, a free application platform available to all applicants, by **5 p.m. PT on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026.** No late applications or application revisions will be accepted after the application submittal deadline. No hard copies, facsimiles, electronic transmissions via email, hand-delivered copies, or any other method of submitting complete applications will be accepted.

All applications will be reviewed by Tribal Capacity Building Program staff to ensure all required documentation is submitted and the application is complete. Applicants that may be missing application information will be notified by Tribal Capacity Building Program staff. If applicants are contacted because of missing information, the application will be deemed incomplete if the applicant does not provide the missing information within two (2) business days.

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by SGC staff, along with an interagency review panel of partnering state agencies. Eligible applications will be scored based on the threshold and scoring criteria on pages 12-16 of the Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 2 Guidelines. Following the initial application review, SGC staff will conduct interviews with top scoring applicants to clarify any questions reviewers raised related to their application. While interviews are not scored, they may result in scoring adjustments of up to five (5) points total based on the information shared. Based on the review of the applications and interviews, Tribal Capacity Building Program staff will finalize and prepare grant award recommendations to present to SGC Council members for consideration of final approval. The SGC staff

will contact applicants recommended for funding. Staff recommendations will be posted for 10 days prior to the SGC public meeting.

Application resources are currently available on the program webpage. The anticipated date of announcement for the selection of Tribal Capacity Building Program grant award recommendations is Oct. 28, 2026. The ultimate awarding of Tribal Capacity Building Program funds is subject to the approval of the Council. The Council decision is final.

Applications must meet all eligibility requirements upon submission. Applications having material inconsistencies will not be rated and ranked. Modification of the application by the applicant after submission is prohibited.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application is clear, complete, and accurate. After the application deadline, SGC staff may request clarifying information or inquire as to where the application-specific information is located provided that such information does not affect the competitive rating of the application. No information, whether written or oral, will be solicited or accepted if this information would result in a competitive advantage to an applicant or a competitive disadvantage to other applicants.

Application Scoring

Applications will be evaluated according to the application components and scoring criteria found on pages 12-16 of the Tribal Capacity Building Program Round 2 Guidelines. The top scoring applicants will be recommended to the Council for a Tribal Capacity Building Program grant award.

Basis of Appeals

1. Upon receipt of a notice that an application is determined ineligible, fails threshold review, or is not awarded based on final scores, Tribal Capacity Building Program applicants may appeal such decision(s) to SGC pursuant to this section.
2. No applicant shall have the right to appeal a decision by SGC relating to another applicant's eligibility, point score, award, denial of award, or any other matter related thereto.
3. The appeal process provided herein applies solely to the decision by SGC pursuant to this NOFA and does not apply to any decisions made with respect to any previously issued NOFAs or decisions not yet made pursuant to future program NOFAs.

Appeal Process and Deadlines

1. **Process:** To file an appeal, Tribal Capacity Building Program applicants must submit to SGC, by the filing deadline set forth below, a written appeal which states all relevant facts, arguments, and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Furthermore, the applicant must provide a detailed reference to the area(s) of the application that provide clarification and substantiation for the basis of the appeal. No new or additional information will be considered if this information would result in a competitive advantage to an applicant. Once the written appeal is submitted to SGC, no information or materials will be accepted or considered thereafter. Appeals must be submitted to SGC at CACE@sgc.ca.gov according to the deadline set forth in SGC review letters.

2. **Filing deadline:** Appeals must be received by SGC no later than five (5) business days from the date of SGC's threshold review or score letters, representing SGC's decision made in response to the application.

Appeal Decision

Any request to appeal to SGC's decision regarding a Tribal Capacity Building Program application shall be reviewed for compliance with the Tribal Capacity Building Program Guidelines and this NOFA. All decisions rendered shall be final, binding, and conclusive, and shall constitute the final action of SGC.

Application Withdrawal/Modification

Applicants may request to withdraw or replace an application before the application deadline by emailing CACE@sgc.ca.gov. No changes, revisions, or withdrawals will be accepted after the application deadline except as expressly allowed for missing information identified during the completeness review.

APPLICATION SUPPORT

Tribal Capacity Building Program staff will hold an optional **Application Workshop via Zoom on May 28, 2026**. Staff will guide prospective applicants through the different components of the Tribal Capacity Building Program application and answer questions about the application. The recording of the application workshop will be posted on the program webpage after the workshop date.

Tribal Capacity Building Program staff will host biweekly **Application Office Hours every other Thursday, starting June 4, 2026, with an additional final date on Aug. 6, 2026**. This is a space for prospective applicants to ask questions about program requirements and workshop application concepts.

Register for the workshop and/or office hours by clicking the links below:

- **Tribal Capacity Building Program: Application Workshop** | Register Online
  Thursday, May 28, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. PT
- **Tribal Capacity Building Program: Application Office Hours** | Register Online
  Thursday, June 4, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT
  Thursday, June 18, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT
  Thursday, July 2, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT
  Thursday, July 16, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT
  Thursday, July 30, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT
  Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, 1 – 2 p.m. PT

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Disclosure of Application Information

All submitted applications may be disclosed under a California Public Records Act request.

Right to Modify or Suspend

The SGC reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to suspend, amend, or modify the provisions of this NOFA at any time, including, without limitation, the amount of funds available hereunder. If such an action occurs, Tribal Capacity Building Program staff will notify all interested parties via email and will post the revisions to the Tribal Capacity Building Program webpage.

Conflict

In the event of any conflict between the terms of this NOFA and either applicable state or federal law or regulation, the terms of the applicable state or federal law or regulation shall control.

RESOURCES AND QUESTIONS

Information about the Tribal Capacity Building Program, including the Guidelines, application support, and other resources can be found on the program webpage. Questions may be directed to Tribal Capacity Building Program staff by email at CACE@sgc.ca.gov.