

Attachment A

Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Summary of Public Engagement

Summary of engagement

TCC Round 6 Draft Guidelines public comment period took place from Sept. 29, 2025 – Jan. 2, 2026. The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) coordinated the public engagement processes of the TCC Program and the Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program to increase efficiency and decrease engagement fatigue among prospective applicants.

During the public comment period, SGC sought feedback on the Draft Guidelines from previous applicants, prospective applicants, grantees, and other members of the public. SGC hosted large group input sessions open to the public; small, tailored focus group discussions on specific components of the Draft Guidelines; and presentations to relevant groups.

Staff conducted outreach via email, social media, state and external networks, presentations, and individual outreach. Staff invited members of the public to share their feedback via an online form, email, or attendance at an input session or focus group.

The specific opportunities for engagement included:

Four Community Input Sessions

- Two sessions for all communities
 - First session: 127 registrants, 108 attendees
 - Second session: 151 registrants, 121 attendees
- One session for Tribal communities (39 registrants, 17 attendees)
- One session for rural communities and disadvantaged unincorporated communities (87 registrants, 77 attendees)

Five Focus Group Sessions

- One session on the application process (eight attendees)
- One session on topics relevant to Tribal applicants (seven attendees)
- One session on topics relevant to rural communities and disadvantaged unincorporated communities (12 attendees)
- One session focused on the TCC Program (seven attendees)
- One session focused on the CRC Program (seven attendees)

Summary of public comments

TCC and CRC received public comment submissions via an online input form and emailed letters, as well as numerous comments shared in focus groups and individual meetings. TCC received 29 form submissions and six emailed letters, and CRC received 41 form submissions and 12 emailed letters. 19 additional form submissions applied to both the TCC and CRC programs. The table below summarizes some common feedback received. For a detailed log of the comments received and TCC staff’s responses, please see Attachment B.

Topic	Summary of feedback	SGC action
Implementation Grant application process	Commenters generally supported the new Implementation Grant application process, with some requesting additional time for the Pre-Development Phase.	Maintained the new application process, with further clarifications and small changes. Maintained the timeline due to the need to complete the grant term before the funding liquidation date. Clarified that Pre-Development Requirements should be met by the ninth month of the grant term.
Management Capacity	Requested clarity regarding applicant management capacity, so that applicants demonstrate experience equivalent to the scope they are responsible for.	Updated language to reflect this intent.
Leverage Funding	Commenters from rural and unincorporated communities requested to increase percentage of allowable leverage funding from standalone projects; and lower percentage overall required.	Lowered required percentage of leverage funding for unincorporated communities to 25%. Retained the cap on standalone leverage funding given lower 25% requirement.
Grant Funds for Climate Adaptation and Resilience	Request to remove language barring TCC funds from being used for climate adaptation.	Clarified that climate adaptation and resilience measures are eligible and should be incorporated into all Projects.
Site Control	Allow applicants to demonstrate site control within one year of award instead of at application.	No change made since site control is critical for project feasibility. Definition of “site control” has been expanded and clarified to make this requirement more feasible.
Tribally led and Tribal-serving nonprofits	Raised concerns about the definition of Tribally led or Tribal-serving nonprofits excluding some applicants and being confusing.	Removed the term “Tribal-serving nonprofit” and updated definitions for remaining terms.
Funding Goals	Recommend adding a funding goal for an Implementation Grant for a disadvantaged unincorporated community.	Updated each Funding Goal (for Tribes and for disadvantaged unincorporated communities) to include one award of each grant type. Clarified that Funding Goals are

		not a cap on the total number of awards that can go to these communities.
Project Area size	Rural grantees requested an increase in the maximum Project Area size for Implementation Grants from 10 square miles to 15 square miles. Some applicants requested allowances for non-continuous Project Areas.	Increased rural Project Area size to 15 continuous square miles. TCC will consider project areas above 15 square miles on a case-by-case basis.
Displacement Avoidance Plan	Requested lower upfront commitments to a Displacement Avoidance Plan (DAP) due to potential conflicts with local policymaking processes.	Clarified what is expected and required for a DAP and how it can fit into local policymaking processes.
Collaborative Governance Structure	Raised concerns about how preparing a fully formed Collaborative Governance Structure could burden applicants.	Clarified that Round 6 application requirements are for a shortened Collaborative Governance worksheet, which will be expanded into a Collaborative Governance Agreement once awarded. Templates and completed examples will be available with application materials.
Technical Assistance	Recommended providing Application Technical Assistance (TA) for all Tribal and disadvantaged unincorporated communities and expanding TA to support management capacity.	Round 6 prioritizes Tribal and disadvantaged unincorporated communities for TA. TA availability for other applicants will depend on TA provider capacity.