ACTION

Agenda Item #9

Oct. 28, 2026

Subject:	**Resolution Celebrating and Concluding Council Priorities 1, 2, and 3**
Reporting Period:	August 2026 – October 2026
Staff Lead:	Sean Kennedy, Deputy Director of Energy Investments

Recommended Action

Approve the Draft Resolution celebrating and formally concluding California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Priorities 1 (Racial Equity Resource Hub), 2 (Capacity Building as a Key Equity Strategy), and 3 (Housing, Climate, and Equity), acknowledging the accomplishments achieved under each priority and directing the continued institutionalization of lessons learned and tools developed.

Summary

This Staff Report provides background, accomplishments, and rationale supporting the Draft Resolution concluding SGC Priorities 1, 2, and 3. The Resolution recognizes the substantial interagency progress made in racial equity leadership; statewide capacity-building infrastructure; and coordinated housing, climate and equity work. These three priorities represent multi-year commitments made by SGC to build a more equitable, resilient, and sustainable California.

Background

Racial Equity Resolution Efforts

In August 2020, the Council adopted a Racial Equity Resolution (Resolution 20-01), making a formal and public commitment to advance racial equity across SGC's programs, policies, and operations. That commitment set the foundation for much of the work celebrated in this report. The resolution led to SGC's Racial Equity Vision and Action Plan, the first racial equity plan of its kind among state entities and a model for agencies across California. To keep this work visible, the resolution asked staff to return to the Council twice each year with updates on the Racial Equity Action Plan. Those updates gave the Council and the public a steady view of progress and helped turn early commitments into everyday practice.

SGC Council Priorities

As a unique convening body within state government, SGC introduced “Council Priorities” in early 2022 to focus Council members and their agencies on a select set of high-impact, cross-government strategies with the potential to drive meaningful statewide change. These priorities were designed to elevate approaches that could be scaled and replicated to advance equity, strengthen community capacity, and better align housing, climate, and economic objectives across the state. They also responded to pressing system-level gaps and emerging

policy challenges while remaining grounded in SGC's statutory mandate to support sustainable, equitable community development.

By year's end, the Council adopted three formal resolutions to advance racial equity, capacity building, and multi-benefit housing, climate, and equity policies and investments. Together, these priorities reflected the Council's commitment to focusing agencies on strategies that meaningfully advance equity, build community capacity, and integrate housing and climate policy in ways that deliver durable, statewide public benefits.

Council Priority 1: Racial Equity Resource Hub

Council Priority 1 reflects the Council's commitment to advancing the state's "California for All" agenda and building statewide racial equity leadership infrastructure. Major accomplishments include:

- Establishment of the online Racial Equity Resource Hub as a statewide clearinghouse of agency initiatives
- Coordination of the interagency Racial Equity Work Group
- Development of SGC's first Racial Equity Vision and Action Plan
- Support for the Capital Collaborative on Race and Equity program
- Publication of California Department of Food and Agriculture's Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP), leading to expanded director-level training, strengthened Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) committees, and completion of all short-term REAP goals.

Together, these accomplishments reflect substantial progress toward building a more coordinated, accessible, and durable statewide infrastructure for advancing racial equity. Through Priority 1, SGC and its partner agencies established lasting tools, collaborative structures, and shared norms that strengthen the state's ability to embed equity in both policy and practice. The work completed under this priority now provides a strong foundation that future Council initiatives can continue to refine and build upon.

Council Priority 2: Capacity Building as a Key Equity Strategy

Priority 2 sought to address long-standing barriers faced by communities most impacted by climate risk, housing instability, and environmental burdens. The Council formally adopted Technical Assistance Guidelines for State Agencies and launched multiple new capacity-building initiatives. Accomplishments include the launch and development of the following:

- SGC Tribal Capacity Building Program
- Advance Pay Pilot Program and associated trainings
- Interagency Advance Pay Convening Series and Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE) Interagency Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Workgroup
- Health in All Policies Grants and Contracts Evaluation Tool
- Imperial Valley Civic Ecosystem Initiative
- Full-cycle technical assistance across all California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) programs and the adoption of a block grant model that enables trusted local

partners to deliver funding more quickly to farmers, tribes, nonprofits, and other eligible entities.
- California Department of Public Health's Tribal Health Equity Advisory Group, the Black Health Equity Advisory Group, the Office of Health Equity's Tribal Affairs Section and the Local Health Jurisdictions Climate Change and Health Community of Practice.

Collectively, the actions under Priority 2 demonstrate SGC's growing statewide capacity-building infrastructure and its deepened commitment to supporting communities that have historically faced barriers to accessing state resources. These initiatives have elevated capacity building from a program-specific tool to a cross-agency strategy, enabling more equitable participation in planning, housing, climate, and resilience efforts. Significant progress has been made to improve access, strengthen tribal partnerships, and reduce structural barriers. The insights gathered from broad outreach efforts, including the Regional Catalyst Convenings led by SGC and the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI), further equip the Council with valuable perspectives to help shape future statewide priorities.

Council Priority 3: Housing, Climate, and Equity
Priority 3 established an interagency framework for aligning state housing, climate, and equity goals. From 2023–2026, SGC member agencies and partners made significant progress on Priority 3 through accelerated climate-aligned housing production, expansion of multimodal, low-carbon mobility options, strengthened tribal partnerships and land stewardship, integrated health-housing interventions, enhanced climate resilience planning and emergency response, and deepened interagency coordination through shared tools, models, and networks. Key accomplishments include:

- Inventory of 49 state programs aligned to housing–climate–equity objectives
- Development and launch of the $25 million Tribal Housing and Capacity Building Initiative
- Three successful rounds of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program, providing more than $2.3 billion to 66 projects across the state
- Launch of State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC) meetings
- Award of $10 million through the Factory-Built Housing Regional Pilot Program (FBH)
- Convening of the California State Transportation Agency-led California Sustainable Communities Task Force to develop cross-sector policy recommendations that align transportation, land use, housing, and climate goals.

The accomplishments under Priority 3 demonstrate meaningful progress toward more integrated, coordinated housing, climate, and equity action across state government. By developing shared frameworks, improving interagency communication channels, and launching new initiatives such as the Tribal Housing and Capacity Building Initiative and the Factory Built Housing Regional Pilot Program, SGC and its partners have strengthened the statewide infrastructure needed to support long-term resilience.

Integration of Priorities 1, 2, and 3
Priorities 1 and 2 laid foundational groundwork for Priority 3: technical assistance investments, tribal partnerships, and equity-centered tools enabled broader engagement in housing and climate planning efforts. Together, these priorities establish a more durable statewide infrastructure for equity-informed policy development.

Next Steps

The Draft Resolution proposes formally concluding Council Priorities 1, 2, and 3 in recognition of the significant progress made across all three priority areas. Over the past several years, SGC and its partner agencies have implemented major components of each priority, developed new statewide tools and capacity-building structures, and strengthened interagency coordination in ways that will continue to benefit communities across California.

In addition to the accomplishments outlined in the Draft Resolution, SGC and LCI have gathered extensive input through the Regional Catalyst Convenings held throughout 2026. This input reflects the priorities and perspectives of communities, local governments, Tribal Nations, and regional partners across the state, and will serve as valuable guidance as SGC prepares future strategic priorities.

Concluding Council Priorities 1–3 ensures that the tools, practices, and lessons learned during their implementation can now be integrated into ongoing program operations, rather than maintained within standalone priority structures. This approach allows SGC to remain responsive to emerging statewide needs and to begin developing the next generation of strategic priorities grounded in the substantial progress and statewide engagement achieved to date.

Council Recommendation

Should the Council agree with staff's recommendation, the following motion language is suggested:

"I move that the Council adopt California Strategic Growth Council Resolution 26-04 Celebrating and Concluding Council Priorities 1, 2, and 3."

Attachments

Attachment A: SGC RESOLUTION 26-04