CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

To: California Strategic Growth Council Members

From: Lynn von Koch-Liebert, SGC Executive Director

Re: Executive Director Report to the Council – October 27, 2022

Organizational and Staffing Updates

- Montrai Spikes California Council on Science and Technology Policy Fellow assigned to the Climate Change Research Program (CCR) has completed his fellowship and was recently hired to serve as SGC's Research Advisor.
- Emely Anico joined the CCR team as Strategic Engagement Specialist.
- Blanca Escobedo joined the Community Assistance for Climate Equity Team as Program Analyst.

Investment Program Updates

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC)

Staff: Marc Caswell, Shep Wilbun, Jessica Lopez, Justin DeWaele and California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) Staff Team

- The AHSC team has just completed Four Public Workshops sharing the changes proposed for Round 7 & Beyond. On October 20th, the team held a Statewide Virtual Workshop, followed by three in-person workshops across the state: 10/24 in Davis, 10/25 in Fresno, and 10/26 in San Diego.
- AHSC Round 7 Draft Guidelines were made available for Public Comment on Friday, September 30, and Public Comment closes at 5:00 PM on Monday, October 31. Staff will then review and respond to relevant Public Comment with a Final Draft Guidelines to be released in early December, and presented to Council for adoption at the December 15, 2022 Council Meeting.
- HCD will release the Round 7 Application and NOFA (expected to be $750 million) in January 2023 for a 90-day application window. Awards will be presented to Council for adoption in August 2023.
- While some projects that were funded during previous rounds face challenges related to increasing costs, many continue to break ground and open for residents on an ongoing basis. Last week, AHSC staff attended a groundbreaking for Round 4 AHSC-funded project "Mission Heritage Plaza" in Downtown Riverside. The project will construct 72 affordable homes, along with office space for the Fair Housing Council and the first-of-its-kind Civil Rights Institute of Inland Southern California.

Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC)

Staff: Sophie Young, Jerry Rivero, Jennifer Kim, Sarah Newsham, Bo Chung, Anna Jane Jones, Rebecca Avilés, and California Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- **Round 4 Award Recommendations:** TCC staff and Interagency Review Panels completed the application review process in September. At the October Council Meeting, staff is recommending for award three (3) Implementation Grants and seven (7) Planning Grants. The award recommendations under the Round 4 NOFA of $106.2 million left surplus funds, which staff recommends be applied towards a pilot predevelopment grant type in Round 5.
- **Round 5 Guidelines Development:** Staff has begun work on updating the TCC Round 5 Draft Program Guidelines. Staff will hold in-person and virtual public workshops in October and

November. Workshops will include one targeted on continuing work on the Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Investment Framework, and one targeted on Tribal Communities access – two initiatives started in Round 4.

- **New Capacity Building Technical Assistance:** TCC's technical assistance providers will provide capacity building services for the first time to potential applicants – in addition to TCC's existing direct application, implementation, and evaluation technical assistance programs – to bridge the gap between NOFA rounds to support the groundwork needed for community planning and project development. As in Round 4, TCC's technical assistance program includes a set-aside for targeted support to disadvantaged unincorporated communities and tribal communities.
- **Fresno City College Ram Champion Award:** SGC received a 2022 Ram Champion Award from Fresno City College (FCC) on September 30 for being one of their most valued partners that has gone above and beyond to help the college achieve their goals. FCC recognized SGC for their catalytic role in building a new city college campus in the historically disinvested West Fresno community. SGC is investing $16.5 million in urban greening and active transportation improvements on the campus, and FCC is leveraging an additional $70 million to build the campus, which will be the first higher education institution in the community.
- **Fresno-European Union Clean Energy Car Exchange:** Transform Fresno (Round 1 Implementation Grant, $66.5 M) partners hosted the "[Ecomotive Car Tour](#)" as part of the 2022 Climate MOU signed between OPR and the EU Climate KIC (Knowledge Innovation Community). Led by an EU student engineering group that created the first CO_2-neutral car, the "Luca" car concept is made from recovered materials and is traveling from Coast to Coast starting in the Bay Area early September and finishing in New York early October. The event included a presentation to the Fresno City College Automotive Technology Center's Professional Working Group and a question-and-answer session with local students at the TCC-funded Fresno City College West Fresno City College Campus.
- **Federal Outreach on the TCC Program Model:** SGC staff met with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on their new "Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants" program under the federal *Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.* The $3 billion block grant program is modeled after SGC's TCC Program. Staff shared resources and lessons learned from the TCC Program.
- **Summer Internship Program**: TCC welcomed two graduate student interns, Vannesa Reyes Salazar and Guadalupe Gutierrez, to the team this summer. In early and mid- September, both interns completed their internship and returned to their graduate studies. Vannesa and Guadalupe provided critical research support to the program and developed recommendations for improvements of Round 5 TCC Program Guidelines, with a focus on transportation and workforce development. The TCC team is working to integrate these research findings and recommendations into program improvements.

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)

Staff: Shanna Atherton-Bauer (DOC) and Department of Conservation Staff

- The SALC team welcomed two staff members in October.
- Round 8 SALC Acquisition and Planning applications were due September 9, 2022. The program received 30 acquisition applications totaling approximately 72,700 acres and $109.4 million in request and 3 planning applications totaling $1.45 million in request. Staff are completing project reviews and will bring award recommendations to the Council at its December meeting.
- The Lazy LS agricultural conservation easement closed August 31, 2022. The project conserved 388 acres of grazing land between Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo in San Luis Obispo County,

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

preventing the conversion of coastal rangelands from future development and conversion to intensive land uses, protecting water resources in the Chorro Creek watershed and Morro Bay Estuary, and furthering the mission of the California Army National Guard by preventing the encroachment of residential development near Camp San Luis Obispo.

Climate Change Research Program (CCR)

Staff: Elizabeth Grassi, Montrai Spikes, Emely Anico, and Natalie Obaldia

- The team welcomed two staff members in October (see Organizational and Staffing Updates).
- The closeout of Round 1 project resulted in $370,000 of returned funds. Staff is working on reallocating these funds to examine capacity building support that will facilitate and leverage research partnerships, and provide technical support for UC/CSU and other state funded climate research initiatives.
- Staff is compiling data and information about the CCR Round 1 project and will develop a synthesis document based on project reports, developed metrics, and partner interviews.
- As a result of recently passed legislation, the six Round 3 research projects received twelve-month no cost extensions to their grant agreements, allowing them additional time to properly complete engagement and research objectives.
- Staff continues to participate in initial sessions with the California 5th Climate Change Assessment team to implement steps on structures, processes, and networks that will support this initiative.
  - In partnership with the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST), the Fifth Assessment Team co-hosted six Assessment Roundtables to discuss California-specific information and knowledge gaps that will help inform the scope of climate change research
  - Engagement staff are working with the leadership of the UC and CSU systems to schedule meetings for the discussion of climate research priorities at each institution, and to consider how we can leverage each other's work to advance the state's climate goals.

Tribal Government Challenge Program (TGC)

Staff: Elizabeth Grassi, Coral Abbott, Ena Lupine, and the California Energy Commission (CEC) Staff Team

- The Statewide Gap Analysis of California Tribal Lands released its draft report to the state committee last month.
- SGC and CEC staff will disseminate the findings and recommendations of the report to our partners across state government, and the contractor is conducting initial discussions with tribes and tribal liaisons from state agencies and departments.
- Staff was able to provide two-month extensions of three tribal projects. Five Tribes completed their planning grant projects on September 30th. Part of this process is offering Tribes the opportunity to meet with state staff and present information about their planning projects, the outcomes of these efforts, and next steps for implementing these plans. To date three projects have scheduled meetings to present project outcomes and next steps for implementing planning efforts.

Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program

Staff: Coral Abbott and Lisa Hu

- The CRC program was allocated an additional $170 million over two rounds through the recently signed Climate and Opportunity budget, bringing total program funds to $270 million. Staff are

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

working to incorporate considerations from this additional funding and related legislation into the initial draft of the Round 1 Guidelines.

- Following the webinar and 5 listening sessions held this summer, SGC staff have been working to sort through and synthesize input from stakeholders, research key policy topics, and coordinate with the interagency working group to develop the initial draft of the Round 1 Guidelines. Staff anticipate releasing the initial draft of the Guidelines in Fall 2022.
- Program staff continue to meet directly with cross-sector stakeholders as requested, across federal and Tribal, state, regional, and local levels.
- The CRC team extended offers for two additional positions to support stakeholder engagement and program development, and are beginning hiring for a third additional position due to the increase in program funds.
- Staff have presented on the program at various forums, developed communications materials, and worked with the communications team to launch the website to increase awareness of the program.
- SGC program staff continue to coordinate with California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) program staff on CDFA's Community Resilience Centers program. SGC program staff also continue to coordinate closely with OPR ICARP program staff on ICARP's Adaptation Planning Grants, Regional Resilience, and Extreme Heat Grant programs, to share best practices, public input, and align funding.

Proposition 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Planning Grant Program (WRRG)

Staff: Michael Maguire (OPR), Elizabeth Grassi, Department of Conservation (DOC) Staff Team

- Michael Maguire at OPR has taken over grant management for these four planning grant projects.
- OPR staff produced a case study for the California Adaptation Clearinghouse that synthesizes the Prop 84 projects and how they can inform future integrated wildfire resilience planning efforts.
- Prop 84 grants close on October 31, 2022. Grantees can bill through October 31st for the grants and have 30 days after the grant close date to submit final invoices, reports, and deliverables which are due by November 30, 2022. One of the grants, Sonoma County, was granted a time extension and the close date for this grant is February 28, 2023. The grantee will then have an additional 30 days to submit final invoices, reports, and deliverables.
- Staff, in collaboration with the Department of Conservation, is designing a closeout process to support grantees and offer opportunities for grantees to share the results of these planning projects with state staff working on wildfire policy.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Ena Lupine, Sarah Risher, and Blanca Escobedo

- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Program Full Applications:** Staff received 45 Full Applications to the Round 1 of the Regional Climate Collaboratives Program. Staff convened an interagency Review Panel, which is currently reviewing applications. Staff will bring award recommendations to the Council in December.

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Technical Assistance:** In September, staff released a Request for Proposals, seeking a TA team to provide implementation technical assistance to Round 1 RCC Grantees. The deadline to submit a proposal for this RFP opportunity is Monday, November 21 at 5:00 p.m.
- **Partners Advancing Climate Equity Pilot Program:** The PACE Final Report, Recommendations Report, and Curriculum are now available on the SGC website and YouTube channel. These additional resources aim to share and expand upon PACE Learnings and propagate further capacity building throughout California.

Collaborative Policy Initiatives

Health and Equity Program (HEP)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Jazmine Garcia Delgadillo, Michael Jimenez, Kimberli Davila, and Alexandra Gallo (Loan to FEMA)

Health in All Policies (HiAP)

Staff: SGC partners with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Public Health Institute (PHI) to staff the Health in All Policies Task Force. The Task Force brings together over 25 agencies, departments, and commissions to integrate health and racial equity considerations into programs and policies that advance State priorities.

- **HiAP Task Force Workgroups Convene Monthly.** The Grant Program, Contract, and Funding Equity and Equity in Data and Access to Information workgroups have continued to meet monthly. Workgroups have prioritized strategies and subtasks for action plan development, as well as short-term actions to pursue in the coming months. During the September meeting, the Equity in Data and Access to Information workgroup also had an opportunity to hear an update from California Health and Human Services, Center for Data Insights and Innovation on the development of the Equity Dashboard. Meanwhile, the Grant Program, Contract, and Funding Equity workgroup had an opportunity to hear from Kirin Kumar on current State equity initiatives during the September meeting and an update from staff of the Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications on efforts they are currently leading.
- **Safe & Equitable Communities Roundtable Convening.** Following the launch of the Safe & Equitable Communities Roundtable during the August 17 HiAP Task Force Convening, PHI and Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ) held the first Roundtable Convening on October 12. During this meeting, participants listened to a presentation from Everyday Peace Indicators (a project of the CA 100 Platform) about their work with California communities to identify metrics and measurables on community safety. They also engaged in an interactive exercise to identify priorities and direction for the Safe & Equitable Communities Roundtable, explore how violence prevention strategies intersect across various work areas, and identify potential activities to pursue.
- **Technical Assistance on Embedding a HiAP Approach**. On Tuesday, September 20, the HEP Team and PHI met with a representative from Yolo County to discuss HiAP resources for training county and city staff on HiAP and embedding a HiAP approach.

Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP)

Staff: HEP and SGC Program and Administrative Managers

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

- **SGC REAP Implementation.** HEP continues to facilitate implementation of SGC's REAP, including tracking progress and completion of commitments that involve all SGC Programs, Operations, Leadership, and Council initiatives. SGC's REAP is a three-year strategic plan (2019-2022), statement of intent, and accountability measure that ensures SGC will continue to implement strategies that prioritize racial equity. Throughout September and October, HEP led a cross-programmatic process to assist SGC programs in completing their tracking of the 2019-2022 SGC REAP commitments and brainstorming new or updated racial equity-driven commitments for implementation in 2023. This process was intended to help teams prepare updates for a staff report and Council discussion on advancing racial equity on October 27, 2022, and involved a tracking spreadsheet of all SGC REAP actions, individualized templates for program updates, and conversations for analysis and reflection.
- **SGC Internal REAP Working Groups:** HEP has continued to facilitate internal working groups to collaboratively pursue or enhance REAP goals related to tribal coordination, technical assistance and contract equity, and workforce equity. The Tribal Coordination Working Group (which meets monthly and comprises of staff from each SGC program) has finalized a dynamic list of resources related to engaging with Tribal communities, and includes publications related to Tribal engagement, traditional ecological knowledge, communications and land acknowledgments, and summaries of feedback that SGC has received from Tribal-representing partners. The Technical Assistance (TA) and Contract Equity Working Group has developed an internal Request for Proposals Outreach Checklist to help staff conduct the robust outreach needed to diversify the organizations serving as TA providers, and a voluntary demographic survey. The working group is currently exploring how to administer the voluntary demographic survey to all contractors.
- **Technical Assistance on REAP Development.** On September 13, the HEP team met with the Department of Rehabilitation to discuss SGC's approach and lessons learned from developing and implementing the SGC REAP.
- **Presentation on SGC's Racial Equity Initiatives at California Air Resources Board (CARB) Convening.** On October 18, HEP joined a virtual discussion hosted by CARB focused on advancing racial equity in State government. HEP shared how SGC has implemented the REAP to inform decision making, processes and operations, and planning that are driven by racial equity.

Racial Equity Resource Hub
Staff: HEP and the Communications Team

- **Updates to the Racial Equity Resource Hub.** The HEP team continues to collect a variety of resources from state entities and partner organizations and has worked with SGC Communications and External Affairs to host these new resources in their respective categories within the Racial Equity Resource Hub. SGC's Council members continue to contribute to the Resource Hub through ongoing blog posts and video announcements, with a forthcoming blogpost from the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency. On Friday, September 16, the HEP team met with the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network to begin to identify potential resources from local entities to further expand the scope of the Resource Hub beyond State government.

Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity (CCORE)
Staff: SGC partners with the Public Health Institute's (PHI) State of Equity program to host a racial equity capacity-building program for California State government institutions and employees. CCORE brings

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

together approximately 40 agencies, departments, boards, and offices to build a people-power movement inside of California State government to advance racial equity by deploying organizing principles inside and outside of the system.

- **CCORE Learning Cohort Updates.** On September 21st, PHI hosted the 2022-2023 CCORE Learning Cohort participants, together with their training partners at O&G Racial Equity Collaborative, for a session focused on applying the racial equity tool. The session opened with participants sharing their personal narrative around what motivates their work towards advancing racial equity, and reflections on the leadership style that would be most effective for departments to advance racial equity. Next, participants learned about the racial equity tool methodology, with a focus on steps 1 & 2 related to organizational vision and desired state-of-being for all and data analysis for who is most negatively impacted. The week of October 10th included individualized team intensive sessions where participating teams met directly with the training team for support and deeper training around the racial equity tool application.
- **CCORE Learning Cohort 2022-2023 background.** The participants for the CCORE Learning Cohort include seven teams, each with up to 12 people from the following California state entities: California Conservation Corps, Department of Finance, Department of Health Care Access and Information, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Social Services, and California Health and Human Services Agency (including Departments of Public Health, Aging, Developmental Services, Healthcare Services, Rehabilitation, and State Hospitals, the Office of the Surgeon General, Center for Insights and Innovation, and the Medical Emergency Services Agency).
- **CCORE Transformative Leadership Cohort** is being piloted as a new experience that encourages us all to move beyond racial equity through an 11-month season set to launch in December 2022 and run through October 2023. The CCORE Transformative Leadership Cohort (TLC) enhances our existing work and takes it to a new level of impact by supporting California's growing cadre of state-level racial equity leaders. This cohort centers the experiences of workers and learners of color. Over the course of 11 months, learners from a diverse array of organizations (state government & community organizations) will come together for a comprehensive learning and peer-exchange experience that supports their individual growth as well as their capacity to advance racial equity in their own lives and institutions. Info sessions were hosted on October 5th and 7th and to learn more and register email CCORE@phi.org.

Natural and Working Lands
Staff: Emily Tibbott

- As part of an inter-agency policy team, staff has assisted in the implementation of EO N-82-20, including input to the CNRA-led Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Climate Smart Strategy and the Pathways to 30X30 report, final versions of which have now been released.   Staff supports CNRA in implementation of the NWL Climate Smart Strategy as appropriate, as well as the development of a new registry of NWL projects that support climate action (as stipulated by SB 27).

Regional Planning Initiatives
Staff: Marc Caswell, Justin DeWaele

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

- The final California Comeback Plan included a $600M investment in augmenting the existing Regional Early Action Planning Grant (REAP) 2.0 funds. The proposed new program focuses on implementing regional plans in ways that reduce vehicle miles travelled (VMT), accelerate infill housing development in furtherance of the 6th Cycle RHNA goals, increase housing supply at all affordability levels, and affirmatively further fair housing. The REAP 1.0 program (initiated in 2019) was focused on helping regions meet their RHNA targets, which increased significantly from the 5th cycle to the 6th cycle for most areas of the state. The REAP 2.0 program is managed by a joint team across HCD, SGC, OPR and CARB. The final program guidelines for the $510 million MPO allocation and the $30 million competitive rural and Tribal allocation were released on July 26, 2022. The draft guidelines for the $30 million competitive high impact/transformative tranche of funding were released in mid-September, and the public comment period for them closed on September 29th. The REAP 2.0 Interagency Team continues to review Advance Applications (AA) from MPOs, and provide TA on applications. So far, five AAs have been approved. The deadline for all full REAP 2.0 applications is December 31, 2022. Since January 2022, OPR and SGC have each added one Program Associate to the REAP 2.0 Team. OPR has hired a REAP 2.0 Program Analyst, who will begin sometime in October or November.
- SGC Staff, in conjunction with OPR, continue to manage the State/MPO Working Group that consists of the planning directors of the 18 MPOs and members of key state agencies (SGC, OPR, HCD, BCSH, CalSTA, CTC, Caltrans, CARB). The Working Group will hold its first hybrid meeting in Sacramento on Friday, October 28th. The Group will have an in-depth policy discussion centered on VMT Reduction

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force
Staff: Sean Kennedy, Emily Tibbott

- Announced in the California Budget Act of 2022 (AB-179), the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force (Task Force) will develop recommendations on how to equitably increase access to agricultural land for food production and traditional tribal agricultural uses. The Task Force will meet at least quarterly over a three-year period and develop a full report of recommendations at the end of the three years. On or before January 1, 2026, the task force shall submit a report to the Legislature and Governor, in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code, that includes a set of policy recommendations on how to address the agricultural land equity crisis.
- SGC Staff, in conjunction with OPR, have developed the nominations and review process for the Task Force. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis from November 1, 2022, to November 31, 2022. The Call for Applications will be announced via an SGC press release and established public outreach channels, with accompanying announcements via the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Natural Resources Agency. Applications will be accepted via an online form, which will capture applicant information such as California residency status, demographic representation, and relevant personal and professional experience.
- SGC staff will conduct an initial screening of each application to determine eligibility and to ensure breadth of demographic, geographic, and professional representation on the Task Force. Nominations will be screened on an ongoing basis to inform targeted outreach to address any identified gaps in the areas of geographic, demographic, and socio-economic representation.

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

Legislative Updates

Staff: Will Robinson, Kelsie Menefee

- **AB 156 (Committee on Budget)** **State government.** Allows SGC to authorize advance payments for the Transformative Climate Communities Program.
- **AB 179 (Ting)** **Budget Act of 2022. (Land Equity Task Force)** Established the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force at SGC to develop recommendations on how to equitably increase access to agricultural land for food production and traditional tribal agricultural uses. The task force shall consist of up to 13 regionally diverse members, as specified. Members shall be appointed by SGC, in consultation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture Farm Equity Advisor and the California Truth and Healing Council, and ensure that its recommendations further the objectives of the Farmer Equity Act of 2017. The bill also requires that on or before January 1, 2026, the task force shall submit a report to the Legislature and Governor, including a set of policy recommendations on how to address the agricultural land equity crisis.
- **AB 209 (Committee on Budget)** **Energy and climate change.** Amongst numerous other provisions, this bill requires that the California Energy Commission coordinate with SGC (amongst other entities) in its establishment and administration of a statewide program to incentivize low carbon building technologies.
- **AB 211 (Committee on Budget)** **Public resources trailer bill.** Codifies the Community Resilience Center (CRC) Program administered by SGC to provide funding for the construction of new, or the retrofitting of existing facilities, that will serve as community resilience centers. SGC shall award competitive grants, as specified, to eligible entities through an application process. The CRC Program is required to develop guidelines and selection criteria for the award of grants adopted by the Council, and on or before January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter. The bill additionally establishes reporting requirements for the CRC program and authorizes it to use advance payments for grants awarded, as specified, until July 1, 2025.
- **AB 1384 (Gabriel)** **Resiliency Through Adaptation, Economic Vitality, and Equity Act of 2022.** Requires that in identifying the vulnerabilities defined in this bill, each lead agency or group of agencies, including SGC (Council), shall at a minimum be informed by the most recent peer-reviewed climate science research relevant to California, including but not limited to, the California Climate Change Assessment and the climate science research programs administered by the Council and various other state entities, as specified.
- **AB 2011 (Wicks)** **Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022.** Establishes the "Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022" which amongst other provisions, would authorize proponents to submit applications for housing developments that meets specified standards, including areas located within a zone where office, retail, or parking are a principally permitted use, and would make the development a use by right and subject to one of 2 streamlined, ministerial review processes.
- **AB 2645 (Rodriguez)** **Local emergency plans: integration of access and functional needs: community resilience centers.** Requires counties to integrate access and functional needs into their emergency plans upon the next mandatory update. This bill states that when integrating evacuation plans that counties must account for existing community resilience center programs, including, but not limited to, the Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program developed by SGC.

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

- **SB 6 (Caballero)** **Local planning: housing: commercial zones.** Establishes the "Middle Class Housing Act of 2022" which, amongst other provisions, deems a housing development project as an allowable use on a parcel currently zoned for office, retail, or parking as principally permitted uses, if specified conditions are met. This bill becomes operative on July 1, 2023, and sunsets on January 1, 2033.
- **SB 54 (Allen)** **Solid waste: reporting, packaging, and plastic food service ware.** Upon appropriation by the Legislature, of which funds have not yet been appropriated, 60 percent of the moneys in the California Plastic Pollution Mitigation Fund, established by this bill, shall be expended by SGC, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the Natural Resources Agency, and the Department of Justice to monitor and reduce the historical and current environmental justice and public health impacts of plastics, including to mitigate the historical and current impact of plastics on disadvantaged or low-income communities or rural areas.
- **SB 155 (Committee on Budget)** **Public resources trailer bill.** Specifies funding requirements for the Community Resilience Center (CRC) Program requiring that grants made to community resilience centers shall be awarded for comprehensive upgrades to model integrated delivery of services. This bill also requires that guideline development and awards shall go through a public process allowing for transparency and stakeholder feedback.
- **SB 189 (Committee on Budget)** **State Government.** Amongst numerous other provisions, this bill established the Office of Community Partnership and Strategic Communications at OPR and directs it to leverage the unique structure, expertise, relationships, and powers of both OPR and SGC in the achievement of its goals.
- **SB 948 (Becker)** **Housing finance programs: development reserves.** Creates the Pooled Transition Reserve Fund within the State Treasury to set aside accrued funds to the benefit of a particular affordable rental housing development addressing the impacts on tenants from a loss or exhaustion of a rental or operating subsidy. This bill shall apply to units of a multifamily housing project financed by programs administered by the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program for which permanent loan closing has not occurred prior to January 1, 2023.

Media Clips

California Strategic Growth Council

- [The Guardian] 'A living, breathing building': the rise of resilience centers amid extreme heat in the US: Last year, California allocated $100m toward grant programs to fund resilience center projects. Coral Abbott, community resilience centers program manager at the *California Strategic Growth Council*, which will distribute the funding, said that the grants will support pilot projects in rural, urban and suburban areas. "They will be able to serve as models that can be replicated by other communities in the future," said Abbott.
- [UC Merced Newsroom] Campus Hosts Governor's Strategic Growth Council: UC Merced hosted the first offsite meeting for the Governor's *Strategic Growth Council (SGC)* in September. SGC members include UC Merced Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz, California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross, and other state leaders.
- [California Globe] General Outline of a California Bill: The Office of Legislative Counsel outlined the basic structure of a bill in California, using SB 1078 as an example. SB 1078 mentions the Ocean Protection Council, which includes the *California Strategic Growth Council*.

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
GROWTH COUNCIL

Regional Climate Collaboratives

- [Lake-County Record Bee] Board considers partnership agreement for climate safe project: At this week's meeting of the Lake County Board of Supervisors, District 5 Supervisor Jessica Pyska represented the Lake County Risk Reduction Authority and presented the grant funding and draft partnership with the California Strategic Growth Council *Regional Climate Collaboratives Program*.
- [Lake County News] Supervisors to consider engineering contract, subdivision extension: The Lake County Board of Supervisors considered a resolution authorizing application for grant funding under the *Regional Climate Collaboratives Program*, as administered by the Strategic Growth Council.
- [Ramona Sentinel] Ramona water district pursues grant funding for climate-related or other projects: The Ramona Municipal Water District is seeking up to $750,000 from the *Regional Climate Collaboration Program Grant*, made available through the California Strategic Growth Council, to help pay for a staff grant writer position and launch climate-related programs.

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities

- [Building Design & Construction] California strip mall goes multifamily residential: Using funds from California's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, Community Development Partners transformed the Tiny Tim Plaza in Santa Ana into La Placita Cinco, an affordable housing community with 50 family units.

Community Resilience Centers Program

- [NRDC] $1.4B for Climate-Resilient CA Homes, Schools, Communities: Governor Newsom's statewide climate investments include $270 million for the Community Resilience Centers program in development with the Strategic Growth Council, which will upgrade or build vital gathering places (community centers, libraries, schools, etc.) with efficient electric technology, energy efficiency, renewables, and storage.

Transformative Climate Communities

- [Global Newswire] Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors Initiative Launches New Website: Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors launched its new website, bnsnoakland.org. Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors is supported by California Strategic Growth Council's *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program* with $28.2 million from California Climate Investments.
- [ABC10] Trees planted to improve south Stockton parks found uprooted, damaged: In June of 2020, the city of Stockton was awarded a $10.8 million *Transformative Climate Communities* grant to help the southside community, which deals with the region's poorest air quality and warmest temperatures. Part of the funding went to community groups to plant more than 1,750 trees in south Stockton, remove old stumps, and beautify parks in 2021. Many of the trees, however, have been removed or damaged.
- [Bakersfield.com] Grant applications focus on revitalizing southeast Bakersfield and the city's urban core: The city of Bakersfield applied for the current round of Transformative Climate Communities funding. "The TCC grant program is an important piece of the city's larger revitalization efforts," City Manager Christian Clegg said. "The city is committed to revitalization of our urban core and historic neighborhoods."

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC
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