

**Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities  
2015-16 Technical Assistance Pilot Program  
FACT SHEET**

The Budget Act of 2015 (Chapter 321, Statutes of 2015) appropriated \$500,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for a pilot technical assistance program for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), to maximize the greenhouse gas reductions of projects located in disadvantaged communities.

SGC has identified third-party technical assistance providers to assist eligible participants with direct application development and support for the upcoming 2015-2016 AHSC funding round.

**Who is eligible to receive technical assistance?**

Technical assistance is available for applicants with projects located in disadvantaged communities that applied for AHSC funding during the 2014-2015 funding cycle and were unsuccessful in securing an award. While SGC recognizes that this population of recipients does not encompass all of the technical assistance needs in the State, SGC hopes that this pilot program will be a strong starting point, paving the path for potential expansion of technical assistance efforts in the future.

SGC staff is working with eligible applicants and technical assistance providers to ensure applicant needs are identified and addressed.

**Who is providing technical assistance for this Program?**

SGC conducted a competitive Request for Proposal process to select technical assistance providers. Eligible providers could include: agencies such as councils of governments, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, regional air districts, regional conservancies; public community colleges and universities; and for- or non-profit organizations with history of working with disadvantaged and/or low-income communities. An interagency review team selected three technical assistance providers for Round 2 of AHSC, as depicted in the table below.

<b>Providers</b>	<b>Region(s)</b>
Estolano LeSar Perez Advisors	Bay Area, Sacramento, San Diego
Southern California Association of Governments	Southern California
San Joaquin Council of Governments	San Joaquin Valley

In addition to the Technical Assistance Pilot, the AHSC program staff are conducting informational workshops and consultations with providing to support any interested applicant. These meetings, calls, and consultations are often held in conjunction with other regional organizations, stakeholder groups, and other organizations supporting the AHSC program.

### What services are to be provided in the Technical Assistance Pilot?

While the specific needs of each technical assistance recipient will vary, technical assistance providers are prepared to provide thorough support for both Concept and Full application phases of the AHSC round, including but not limited to:

- Greenhouse gas emissions reduction quantification and strategies,
- Assistance with narrative writing,
- Data analysis and mapping,
- Project planning and management, and
- Development of key partnerships to enhance collaboration

### Why is technical assistance important to the State?

Climate change and pollution often most heavily impacts disadvantaged communities. SB 535 (De Leon, Statutes of 2012) requires that 25% of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds go to projects benefitting disadvantaged communities, with at least 10% of funds going to projects located within disadvantaged communities. In addition, these disadvantaged communities often do not have the resources, capacity, or partnerships necessary to compete in an application process. Thus, technical assistance efforts aim to help disadvantaged communities produce competitive applications that will allow them to be successful in securing funding. With a greater number of successful projects in disadvantaged communities, the State can better reach its climate goals and address the great need for affordable housing and transportation options in these disadvantaged communities.

2015-2016 AHSC Technical Assistance & Application Timeline		
Milestone	Estimated Applicant Turnaround	Estimated Date
Release of Request for Funding Proposals (RFP)		December 1, 2015
Due Date for RFP		December 21, 2015
Selection of Third Party TA Providers for Services		December 31, 2015
Contract Term with Technical Assistance Providers Begins		Late January 2016
Release of 2015-16 Notice of Funding Availability and Concept Application	6 weeks	Late January 2016
2015-16 AHSC Concept Applications Due		March 2016
Notification of Invitation to Submit Full Application	8 weeks	April 2016
2015-16 AHSC Full Application Due		June 2016
Award Recommendations posted for SGC Approval		September 2016