



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 – December 15, 2022

Organizational and Staffing Updates

- SGC welcomed several new program staff:
 - TCC: Jessica Ison, Program Associate
 - SALC: Cassidy McSurdy and Cain Silvey, Grant Managers
 - CRC: Dora Monterroza, CRC Program Analyst; and Jess McCool and Jessica Cervantes, CRC Program Associates
 - CACE: Blanca Escobedo and Nancy Cheng, Program Analysts

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 is proud to present the Final AHSC Round 7 Guidelines to the Council for adoption. The Final Guidelines have been informed by more than 300 stakeholders over more than a dozen external stakeholder sessions, including four Public Workshops across the state and over 40 Public Comment letters during Draft and Final Draft.
- The updated Guidelines are designed to streamline the application process, clarify policies, and reward innovative projects that help build equitable, healthy housing and communities.
- Some of the most significant changes to the Guidelines for Round 7 include:
 - Projects may now request up to \$50 million per project. This includes \$35 million for Housing and \$15 million for Transportation components.
 - Expanded access for Tribal Entities, including allowing non-federally recognized Tribes to apply as applicants, and increased administrative flexibility under new state authority under AB 1010.
 - Projects that improve existing local bus service will be eligible for additional points.
 - Expanded access for Affordable Homeownership projects.
 - Simplified Narrative component, with additional emphasis on Climate Adaptation and Health.
- HCD will release the Round 7 Application and NOFA (expected to be \$750 million) in January 2023 for a 90-day application window.
- Awards are expected to be presented to Council for adoption in August 2023, with staff seeking to inform applicants of their award status in time to plan for the Spring deadlines of the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee.

Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC)

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

- Staff kicked off the post-award consultation phase for the Round 4 TCC awardees. The Council approved \$96.2 million in awards to 10 communities in October 2022. The DOC staff team is

leading the consultation phase in partnership with SGC, and the phase includes partner-wide and peer learning opportunities with TCC grantees.

- Staff released the TCC Round 5 Draft Program Guidelines on November 21, 2022 for a 30-day public comment period.
 - The Draft Guidelines include updates to Project Area eligibility criteria, advance payment options, leverage funding requirements, and requirements impacting applicants from tribal communities and unincorporated communities. A new pilot grant type to support project development is also proposed.
 - Staff will hold in-person and virtual workshops in December.
 - Staff plans to release the Round 5 Final Program Guidelines and Notice of Funding Availability in early 2023.
- Staff presented on SGC and TCC’s equity approaches in place-based work at the Partnership for Public Service workshop titled “Putting Communities First – Community Collaboration: Identifying the Customer Experience and Regional Challenges” on October 21, 2022. TCC Senior Program Analyst Jerry Rivero spoke to federal agency participants on how SGC’s equity-centered program approaches and the TCC Collaborative Stakeholder Structure support capacity building and community-driven project development and implementation.
- Round 4 Implementation Awardee *South Los Angeles Eco-Lab* (\$35 million award, led by Community Partners) held a press conference on November 21, 2022. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti hosted the press conference to showcase the recently awarded TCC proposal. SGC Executive Director Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Public Council Member Frank Cardenas, TCC Program Analyst Anna Jane Jones, and other SGC staff attended the event.

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)

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

- SALC staff completed review of 29 applications for acquisition funding, 26 applications for capacity grants, and three applications for planning grants from local governments. Of the \$105 million available (including \$84,113,000 million from the Fiscal year 2021-2022 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund auction proceeds and \$20,894,061.71 carried over from prior rounds) staff recommend funding 25 easement projects, 20 capacity grants, and three planning grants for a total of \$74,220,117. The recommended easement projects are in 17 counties as far north as Siskiyou County and as far south as Santa Barbara County and comprise approximately 54,030 acres. When completed, this suite of easements will avoid an estimated 619,227 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. The recommended capacity grants span 33 counties as far north as Del Norte and Siskiyou County, and as far south as San Diego and Imperial County. The recommended planning grant applications include projects by one county, one LAFCO, and one tribe.
- SALC staff closed four easement projects between October 21 and November 30. These projects have resulted in the permanent conservation of approximately 1,270 acres of agricultural land across four counties.

Climate Change Research Program (CCR)

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

- The closeout of Round 1 project resulted in \$370,000 of returned grant funding. Currently, the program has contracted with the Center for Regional Change to initiate new capacity building programs that facilitate cross sector research collaboration and help research institutions to develop policies, systems, processes, and relationships to facilitate effective community

partnerships in their research. Additional portion of the retuned funds will be used to further facilitate and leverage research partnerships and provide technical support for UC/CSU and other state funded climate research initiatives.

- Staff has compiled data about the CCR Round 1 research projects and is developing a synthesis document based on project reports, developed metrics, and partner interviews.
- Staff continues to support the California 5th Climate Change Assessment team on developing engagement and communication plans.
 - Engagement staff are working with the leadership of the UC and CSU systems to discuss the climate research priorities at each institution and consider how we can leverage each other's work to advance the state's climate goals.
 - The Fifth Assessment implementation team hosted three events in November: two Tribal Grant workshops (Nov 9 and Nov 15), and a [Research Process Webinar](#) (Nov 16) to review all research funding opportunities across agencies.
 - The Fifth Assessment team anticipates posting the final list of research topics in mid-late December.

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.
- The remaining three tribal planning projects completed their efforts on 11/30/2022. Two Tribes met with staff from state departments and the legislature to present information about their planning projects, the outcomes of these efforts, and next steps for implementing these plans.

Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program

Staff: Coral Abbott, Lisa Hu, Dora Monterroza, Jess McCool, and Jessica Cervantes

- Staff released the Round 1 Draft Guidelines on December 7, 2022. Given the holidays, the draft will open for at least 30 days of public comment, during which time staff will hold public workshops to hear stakeholder feedback on the draft. Staff intend to incorporate feedback from stakeholders and inter-agency subject matter experts and bring the final draft to the Council for adoption in Spring 2023.
- Program staff continue to meet directly with cross-sector stakeholders across federal and Tribal, state, regional, and local levels.
- Staff have presented at various forums, developed communications materials, and worked with the communications team to update the website to increase awareness of the program.
- Staff continue to coordinate closely with OPR staff on ICARP's Adaptation Planning Grants, Regional Resilience Grant, 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



- 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.
- One of the grantees, 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.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

Community Assistance for Climate Equity (CACE)

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

- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Program Full Applications:** Staff received 45 Full Applications to the Round 1 of the Regional Climate Collaboratives Program and convened an interagency Review Panel including 33 reviewers from 11 agencies and departments to review applications. The 12 top-scoring applications were invited to participate in finalist interviews and the six top-scoring applicants after interviews are recommended for award at the December 15 Council meeting. The 6 applicants being recommended for award are: Gateway Cities Regional Climate Collaborative, Siskiyou Climate Collaborative, Southern California Tribal Regional Climate Collaborative, San Joaquin Regional Climate Collaborative, 2030 Resilient Networks Collaborative, and Marin Climate Justice Collaborative.
- **Regional Climate Collaboratives Technical Assistance:** Staff released a Request for Proposals in September 2022 seeking a TA team to provide implementation technical assistance to Round 1 RCC Grantees. Staff plans to select a contractor team to provide this support to grantees in December 2022.

Collaborative Policy Initiatives

Health and Equity Program (HEP)

Staff: Kirin Kumar, Jazmine Garcia Delgado, 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 almost 30 agencies, departments, and commissions to integrate health and racial equity considerations into programs and policies that advance State priorities.

- **HiAP Task Force Quarterly Meeting.** HEP, in collaboration with CDPH and PHI, held a virtual interagency HiAP Task Force Convening on Wednesday, December 14th. The goal of this meeting to introduce draft workgroup action plans and hear updates on workgroups and roundtables. Additionally, Task Force members had an opportunity to reflect on their contributions to the Task Force to date and plan for the coming year. During the convening, members also heard an update from the Office of Data and Innovation and how they intend to approach Governor Newsom's Executive Order on Equity.
- **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 developed draft action plans and have begun to work on short-term



actions. During the October meeting, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications provided an update to the Grant Program, Contract, and Funding Equity workgroup and received input on the ways in which different agencies and departments engage with Community-Based Organizations. In November, guests from California Resilience Partnership (Resilient Cities Catalyst, CivicWell, and Farallon Strategies) provided a briefing to the workgroup on the on the recently published report, [Climate Crossroads: California’s Readiness to Act on Climate Resilience](#), and recommendations for how improved climate funding can maximize the State’s historic climate resilience investments and foster long-term community resilience and equity.

- **Informant Interview with Chicago Department of Public Health.** On November 9, HEP and PHI State of Equity joined in an informant interview with the City of Chicago Department of Public Health to discuss mechanisms to design, organize for, and fund implementation efforts that advance health in all policies.
- **HiAP Task Force Featured in Association of State and Territorial Health Offices (ASTHO) Report.** On October 26, ASTHO published a new report, [The Value of Health in All Policies](#). The report highlights California’s HiAP Task Force among other initiatives across the nation that implement a HiAP approach. Highlighted in the report is a summary of recent HiAP Task Force successes, including a [multiphase external engagement initiative](#), a reconvening of the Task Force in 2022, and the formation of internal workgroups to address structural barriers to health and racial equity as informed by external audiences.
- **Presentation for CDPH Health Equity & COVID-19 Work Group.** On November 15th, HEP joined the California Department of Health’s Health Equity & COVID-19 Work Group to provide a brief presentation on the Health in All Policies Task Force and current efforts, including alignment of the Task Force with the forthcoming State Health Equity Plan.

Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP)

- **Staff: HEP and SGC Program and Administrative Managers Updated 2019-2022 SGC Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP).** Following the Council discussion on SGC’s REAP progress for 2019 to 2022 on October 27, the REAP was [updated and published](#) on the HEP webpage with the updated status of each action plan commitment. Ahead of the forthcoming 2023-2025 REAP update, the completed 2019-2022 plan includes the following progress tracking legend: Complete (an item has been carried out and is fully complete), In Progress (an item has started but remains to be fully implemented in 2023-2025, under development, or subject to Council approval), and Ongoing (an item began implementation and was completed in 2019-2022, but represents a process that will remain part of SGC’s ongoing programmatic or operational processes to advance racial equity).
- **HEP Continues to Lead SGC REAP Development and Implementation.** HEP continues to lead cross-programmatic efforts to assist SGC in developing racial equity-driven commitments for the 2023-2025 REAP. In collaboration with SGC Programs, Operations, and Leadership, the HEP team is expecting to finalize the 2023-2025 REAP ahead of the new year, and to finalize specific, measurable, and time-bound actions to accompany the draft goals presented to the Council in October. HEP has directly assisted programs in this process by facilitating conversations and providing a template for creating actions, measurables, and mechanisms for implementation that directly align with program operations, cycles, and milestones. The REAP is a statement of intent and accountability measure that ensures SGC will continue to implement strategies that prioritize racial equity.



- **SGC Internal REAP Working Groups.** HEP has continued to facilitate internal working groups to collaboratively pursue or enhance REAP goals related to tribal community engagement and coordination, technical assistance and contract equity, and workforce equity. Using similar methods from cross-programmatic development, the internal Tribal Coordination Working Group has developed specific, measurable, and time-bound actions for integration into the 2023-2025 REAP.
- **Workforce Equity Survey.** With input from the Workforce Equity Working Group, the HEP team developed and administered SGC's first staff-led Workforce Equity Survey. The Workforce Equity Survey was disseminated the week of July 18th through August 5th with a completion rate of approximately 63%. The HEP team supported the analysis of results and development of a summary report and preliminary recommendations that was shared with all staff. Staff were briefed on the survey results and preliminary recommendations during the November 28th, SGC Staff Meeting. The HEP team will continue to work with the Workforce Equity Working Group to develop a workforce equity strategy.
- **Asian Pacific State Employees Association's 2022 Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Symposium.** On November 2nd, HEP joined PHI and OPR in a panel presentation to discuss SGC's Racial Equity Action Plan and efforts to institutionalize racial equity within the organization and across State government. The panel focused on racial equity efforts within State government, including action plan development and CCORE.
- **2022 Facing Race Conference:** Facing Race, a national conference hosted by Race Forward took place from November 17 –19. SGC staff Bo Chung, Lisa Hu, and Gerard Rivero were selected to present virtually on November 19th. The presentation "Grounded in Community: Implementing Racial Equity within California Climate and Infrastructure Programs" described the processes and outcomes of incorporating racial equity into policies and programs. The presentation included the creation of the new Community Resilience Centers Program, the expansion of TCC eligibility to disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs) and tribal entities, and the deep community engagement with local partners for community station area planning in partnership with the High Speed Rail Authority. Over 75 attendees were present, and the session generated interest from fellow practitioners nationally as well as from within the state of California.

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.

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 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.

- **Whole of Government Pre-conference at Facing Race in Phoenix, Arizona, co-hosted by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE); State of Equity; and the Federal Initiative for**



Racial Equity (FIRE). Together with our partners, on November 17, 2022 State of Equity and CCORE staff welcomed state, local, regional, and federal public sector employees, as well as elected officials, to spend a day connecting with one another, exchanging information, and exploring opportunities to advance racial equity in government.

- **American Public Health Association Annual Meeting Session – Advancing Racial Equity in State Government.** Dalila Madison Almquist, Co-Lead States Strategy, State of Equity at Public Health Institute organized and moderated this panel in Boston, MA on November 7th. The panel included Nubia Peña, Senior Advisor – Equity & Opportunity, Office of Gov. Spencer J. Cox (Utah); Rashaad Abdur-Rahman, Founder/CEO, Racial Healing Project; Rohan Radhakrishna, Deputy Director of the Office of Health Equity, California Department of Public Health. The panel featured successes, challenges, and lessons learned from incorporating racial equity into state-level government policies, practices, and culture across the country.
- **CCORE Learning Cohort [LI](#) Updates.** On November 2nd organizational teams participated in a session on *Community Engagement for Racial Equity: CA Field Updates* which focused on the intersections of paternalism in government as it relates to white supremacy culture and how to transform community engagement toward community ownership of processes and programs. The session featured the Department of Water Resources and California State Water Resource Control Boards to share their experiences developing Racial Equity Action Plans and engaging community. The November 16th session was a deep dive into the Racial Equity Tool step 3 on community engagement and early December the teams convened individually with CCORE staff for more intensive support as they apply the Racial Equity Tool.
- **CCORE Transformative Leadership Cohort** The CCORE Transformative Leadership Cohort (TLC) has been introduced to State of California employees and is currently accepting applications. Application review started November 18th and the cohort is tentatively slated for an early January start.
 - TLC is a pilot project that 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 is designed with the intention of centering the experiences of workers and learners of color. Over the course of 11 months, learners from a diverse array of organizations state/community will come together in a cohort 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.
 - TLC is for people who bring a deep commitment to and prior experience centering BIPOC voices and experiences. Participants will include both State of California government employees at all levels of leadership and California community members who partner with state government.
 - TLC is excited about bringing community and government together in this space to co-learn and co-create.
- **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).

Natural and Working Lands

Staff: Emily Tibbott

- Following from EO N-82-20, staff supports CNRA's Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Climate Smart Strategy, including assessment of progress after the first year of implementation. Staff also contributed to the NWL elements of the 2022 State Scoping Plan, recently released in final form.

Regional Planning Initiatives

Staff: Marc Caswell, Justin DeWaele

- 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 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 final guidelines for the \$30 million competitive high impact/transformational (HIT) tranche of funding were released on November 9th, and the Interagency Team hosted a public webinar on the HIT allocation on November 18th. The REAP 2.0 Interagency Team has approved most Advance Applications (AA) from MPOs, and continues to provide TA on applications. Full applications are expected to start coming in soon. The deadline for all full REAP 2.0 applications is December 31, 2022. OPR has hired a REAP 2.0 Program Analyst, Brianne Masukawa, who started in 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 held its first hybrid meeting in Sacramento on Friday, October 28th. The Group used that meeting to have an in-depth policy discussion centered on VMT Reduction, where the group discussed ways to improve collaboration and communication towards this goal.

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 from November 1, 2022 to December 15, 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 through an on-line form, which will capture applicant information such as California residency status, demographic representation, and relevant personal and professional experience.

- SGC staff will screen applications as they are received to determine eligibility and direct outreach efforts to ensure breadth of demographic, geographic, and professional representation on the Task Force.

Media Clips

California Strategic Growth Council

- [\[City of Oakland\] City of Oakland and BIPOC Developers Awarded \\$50+ Million to Build Nearly 100 Deeply Affordable Housing Units](#): The State of California awarded the City of Oakland and its developer partners approximately \$50 million to support the development of affordable rental housing units. The awards came from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (CA HCD) and *California Strategic Growth Council* (SGC) through the California Housing Accelerator and the Local Housing Trust Fund programs.
- [\[South Pasadenan\] City Council | Firing Contractor after State Rejects Third Housing Element Draft](#): The City of South Pasadena is ineligible for a raft of state, regional and federal funding programs, including the Caltrans SB 1 Sustainable Communities grant, *Strategic Growth Council* Funds, HCD's Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PHLA) and others.
- [\[California Planning & Development Report\] CP&DR News Briefs October 25, 2022: Fresno Warehouses; Santa Monica Builders Remedy; Elk Grove Housing Suit; and More](#): The Governor's Office of Planning Research has appointed Saharnaz Mirzazad as the new Chief Deputy Director for Climate and Planning. Previously, she was the Deputy Director of Community Investment and Planning at the *California Strategic Growth Council*.
- [\[CA Forward\] Day Two Of The 2022 Summit Closes with Re-Commitments to the CA Dream](#): The 2022 California Steward Leader Award at the California Economic Summit was presented to Kate Gordon, Senior Advisor to Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm at U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and formerly the director of the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and chair of the *California Strategic Growth Council* (SGC).
- [\[The Richmond Standard\] Groundwork Richmond to hold 'Tacos, Trees, & Tequila' fundraiser](#): Groundwork Richmond recently received \$35 million for a collaborative project, Richmond Rising, along with its partners from the City of Richmond, Urban Tilth, Rich City Rides, GRID Alternatives and the Trust for Public Land. The grant from the state's *Strategic Growth Council* includes a wide variety of projects aiming to improve lives in the Coronado, Santa Fe and Iron Triangle neighborhoods.

Climate Change Research Program

- [\[Public Policy Institute of California\] Solar Energy and Groundwater in the San Joaquin Valley](#): A report about how the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires groundwater users to bring their basins into balance over the next two decades. Supported with funding from the California Strategic Growth Council's *Climate Change Research Program* with funds from California Climate Investments.



- [\[UC Merced\] Research Reveals an Easy Way Dairy Farmers Can Dramatically Reduce their Climate Impact](#): Adding even a small amount of biochar — a charcoal-like material produced by burning organic matter — to a dairy’s manure-composting process reduces methane emissions by 84%, a recent study by UC Merced researchers shows.

Climate Resilience Centers Program

- [\[Microgrid Knowledge\] California state budget goes all in to fund energy resilience; expected to lower microgrid costs](#): The 2022-23 state budget includes \$85 million for *community resilience centers*. The Strategic Growth Council wants to fund neighborhood-level centers that provide shelter and other resources during climate and other emergencies.
- [\[Legislative Analyst’s Office\] Understanding the Challenges Posed by Wildfire Smoke in California](#): The state provided a total of \$185 million to the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 budgets to establish *community resilience centers*, with another \$85 million planned for 2023-24. These centers may help serve as centralized locations where people can go to avoid smoke events, as well as other types of events such as heat waves.

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities

- [\[Daily Democrat\] Solano Land Trust and Dixon Ridge Farms conserve 913 acres of valuable farmland](#): The Solano Land Trust announced the Dixon Ridge Farms Conservation agreement funded by a state program called the Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation program. The Program is a component of the Strategic Growth Council’s *Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program*.
- [\[City and County of San Francisco\] San Francisco Breaks Ground on 157 New Affordable Homes and Childcare Center at Potrero HOPE SF](#): City and community leaders joined representatives from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to celebrate the groundbreaking of Potrero Block B, a 157-unit, 100% affordable housing development for low-income families. The \$189.6 million project is made possible through the State *Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program*.

Transformative Climate Communities

- [\[City of Los Angeles\] Mayor Garcetti Celebrates \\$60 Million for Climate Projects in South Los Angeles](#): Mayor Eric Garcetti announced a \$35 million *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)* grant from the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) for the South LA Eco-Lab, a collection of environmental and economic development projects in South Los Angeles.
- [\[Office of Governor Gavin Newsom\] California Awards \\$96 Million for Climate Projects in 10 Frontline Communities](#): The California Strategic Growth Council voted unanimously to approve \$96 million in grant funding through the *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)* program. TCC is an important component of the Governor’s multi-year \$54 billion California Climate Commitment to advance economic opportunity and environmental justice in communities across the state.
- [\[LegalPlanet\] How Cities Can Optimize Federal and State Funding Opportunities for Local Climate Action](#): Many of the state climate programs, such as the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) or *Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)* programs, are aimed at helping local governments achieve housing, active transportation, and climate action plan goals. Programs like *TCC* provide a guide for some of the equity recommendations in our report, such as establishing participatory budgeting for a portion of total climate investments.

