



PHOTO CREDIT: ANGELA JONES AT CERRA

Eastside Climate Collaborative

Transformative Climate Communities



RIVERSIDE TODAY

Eastside is a large multicultural community in Riverside, the most populous city in California's Inland Empire, which quickly transformed from orchards to working-class communities after World War II. Educational institutions and government are the main economic drivers today, but Eastside still struggles with aging infrastructure, educational attainment, and job training – the current service job base in regional fulfillment warehousing increasingly does not cover rising rents and living costs.

Eastside also faces projected climate vulnerabilities in extreme heat, drought, and air pollution. Through the TCC process, stakeholders identified a community vision that addresses many of these challenges. This \$9 million

The Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC) funds community-led development and infrastructure projects that achieve major environmental, health and economic benefits in California's most disadvantaged communities. TCC empowers the communities most impacted by pollution to choose their own goals, strategies and projects to enact transformational change – all with data driven milestones and measurable outcomes. California Strategic Growth Council awards TCC grants and partners with California Department of Conservation to implement them. TCC is part of California Climate Investments – cap-and-trade dollars at work.



TCC implementation grant, combined with a \$14.8 million Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) investment, will support a resident-led vision for a prosperous, green, and climate-resilient Eastside.

EASTSIDE CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE

The Eastside Climate Collaborative (ECC) project builds on the resident-led vision developed through Riverside's 2018 TCC Planning Grant: to improve active and multi-modal transportation options, promote public health by reducing vehicle miles traveled, develop an urban tree canopy to mitigate extreme heat, and reduce resident utility bills and energy and water demand. An AHSC investment in 64 units of affordable housing and mobility in the project area will further augment ECC's vision.

An array of transformative initiatives will ensure existing residents benefit from the TCC investment. ECC will support local hiring through regional collaboration agreements and develop training pathways in construction and sustainable agriculture. A community engagement workgroup will ensure meaningful participation in project planning and implementation. ECC also includes resident education, small business development services, and community-led initiatives to preserve and create housing in Eastside.

“Caring for our neighborhood also means caring for our environment. This grant gives us an opportunity to care for what we cannot see, lowering emissions and air pollution, with changes we will be able to see community-led development and infrastructure projects.”

—JUAN NAVARRO, COMMUNITY RESIDENT AND ARTIST

TCC RIVERSIDE COMPONENTS

- » **Renewable Energy:** 100 rooftop solar installations for low-income residents
- » **Water Efficiency:** 100 no-cost replacement of turf lawns with 100,000 sq. ft. of ‘water-wise’ landscaping
- » **Urban Greening:** 2,000 new shade and fruit trees
- » **Community Engagement:** Climate change, public health, and civic engagement guided by community outreach workers, promotoras, and a Resident Leadership Academy
- » **Workforce Development:** 248 resident training opportunities in industry recognized career pathways in solar, construction, and sustainable agriculture
- » **Displacement Avoidance:** Quarterly townhall meetings, business start-up workshops, and a new community redress assistance program

AHSC RIVERSIDE COMPONENTS

- » **Affordable Housing:** 64 units of affordable housing
- » **Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements:** Over 5 miles of improved sidewalks for pedestrian access and nearly 1 mile of protected bike lanes
- » **Transit & Shared Mobility:** 2 additional bus bays at the Vine Street Mobility Hub improving transit connectivity and 6,600 CommuterLink monthly bus passes for residents

BY THE NUMBERS

- » **Project area:** 2.59 square miles
- » **Partners:** Nine partners, Community Settlement Association of Riverside, County of Riverside Economic Development Agency, Grid Alternatives, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Tree People, Riverside Community Health Foundation, Riverside Transit Authority, Wakeland Housing & Development Corporation, University of California, Riverside CE-CERT.
- » **Emissions reductions:** TCC projects: 17,833 tonnes of CO₂e, AHSC projects: 11,473 tonnes of CO₂e
- » **TCC grant:** \$9 million
- » **AHSC award:** \$14.8 million
- » **Leveraged funds:** \$47.1 million