

Local Energy Resources Network



Meeting 45
October 14, 2025



Welcome!

Purpose

Interactive 1-hour meetings designed to be a regular space where local governments - and those who work with them - can help each other learn about (and possibly inform) available opportunities to advance their energy and climate goals.

TODAY'S AGENDA

- Opportunity Roundtable
- Opportunity Spotlights
 - Transformative Climate Communities
 - CARB EV Events
 - SGIP deadline input
- Featured discussion:
 - Energy & Climate Outcomes of Legislative Session
- Bonus Breakout



Opportunity Roundtable

[View all Opportunities](#)

Policy Drives Investment



Agencies Scope/ Design Assistance Programs & Gather Input



Applicants Apply to Funding Solicitation

State

- FY 2025-2026 State Budget (highlights); [SB/AB 102 budget bills \(Prop 4, Cap & Invest Reauthorization\)](#)
- [AB 825](#)
- [EO N-33-25](#)
- [CCEC Legislative Tracker](#)

Federal

- FY 2025-2026 Federal Budget (HR. 1) - [tax credits guidance for solar/win](#)
- Federal [Shutdown - \\$7.56B in DOE clean energy projects canceled; possible \\$15B in additional cuts - In CA 93 project cancellations worth \\$3.5 billion](#)

Funding

- [CEC/CPUC/EDD: EPA Solar for All - award terminated](#)
- CEC: [Advanced Grid Technology Acceleration Projects - Ext to October 17](#)
- CEC: [CA EV Infrastructure Project 2.0 \(CALeVIP 2.0\) - Fast Charge CA Project - Ext to Oct 29 \(App Asst\)](#)
- CalTrans: [FY 2026-27 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants - November 21](#)
- [CEC EPIC: Distributed Resources for Innovative Vehicle Energization Strategies - November 21](#)
- SCE: [Microgrid incentive Program - Application Window 2 - November 28](#)
- CEC: [Communities in Charge - Wave 4 - January 9, 2026](#)
- CARB: [Planning & Capacity Building Project Grants- Applications open soon](#)
- LCI: [Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program - Applications pending](#)

Other Assistance

- CEC: [HEEHRA Phase I Program - TECH CC stackable SF/MF rebates \(up to \\$8,000\)](#)
- CPUC: [Self-Generation Incentive Program \(SGIP\) Energy Storage Incentives for Low-Income Homes - Rolling](#)
- CARB: [Zero Emission Showcase + Ride and Drive - Oakland, November 5](#)
- CalREN: [Equitable Electrification Forum - November 19, 10AM-12PM](#)

Input Opportunities

- [SGC: Transformative Climate Communities and Community Resilience Center Program Guideline Input - thru Dec](#)
- CA Transp. Commission: [Interagency Equity Advisory Committee - Apply to serve by October 19](#)
- [CARB Cap-and-Invest Program Public Workshop - October 29, 2025 \(remote\); written comments due November 12](#)
- [CEC Equitable Building Decarbonization docket: 22-DECARB-03 - ongoing](#)
- CEC [IPER Workshops - Nov 13 and December 11 \(remote\)](#)
- CEC [Building Energy Action Plan - First Draft in Review by Governor - public workshop to follow \(TBD\)](#)



Opportunity Spotlights

- Strategic Growth Council's **Transformative Climate Communities and Community Resilience Centers** Program Guidelines Input (Sarah Newsham)
- CARB's **Zero Emission Showcase + Ride and Drive Event** (Andrew Reyes)
- **Self-Generation Incentive Program non-res storage deadline input** via Tribal Energy and Climate Collaborative (Josh Simmons)

Draft Guidelines Public Comment Period

Community Resilience Centers Round 2

Transformative Climate Communities Round 6



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Climate Bond Programs' Overview

Transformative Climate Communities

The TCC Program funds community-led development and infrastructure projects that achieve major environmental, health, and economic benefits in California's most disadvantaged communities.

Community Resilience Centers

The CRC Program funds the planning, development, construction, and upgrades of neighborhood-level community resilience centers, along with services and programs to improve local resilience holistically.

Extreme Heat and Climate Resilience

The EHCR Program funds social and physical infrastructure projects that mitigate the impacts of extreme heat on the most heat vulnerable Californians



Programs' Overview - Funding

Both programs funded by the California Climate Bond

TCC

Proposed
Total Funding Available
\$100 M

CRC

Proposed
Total Funding Available
\$55 M



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Programs' Overview – Grant Types

TCC

Planning - *Up to \$300,000* **P**

- Community engagement; preparing climate adaptation plans; community needs assessment; feasibility studies, etc.

Project Development - *Up to \$5 million* **D**

- Project design; permitting; community engagement; pilot projects; access to basic environmental infrastructure, etc.

Implementation - *approx \$25-30 million* **I**

- Multiple, coordinated projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve community benefits

CRC

Planning - *Up to \$500,000* **P**

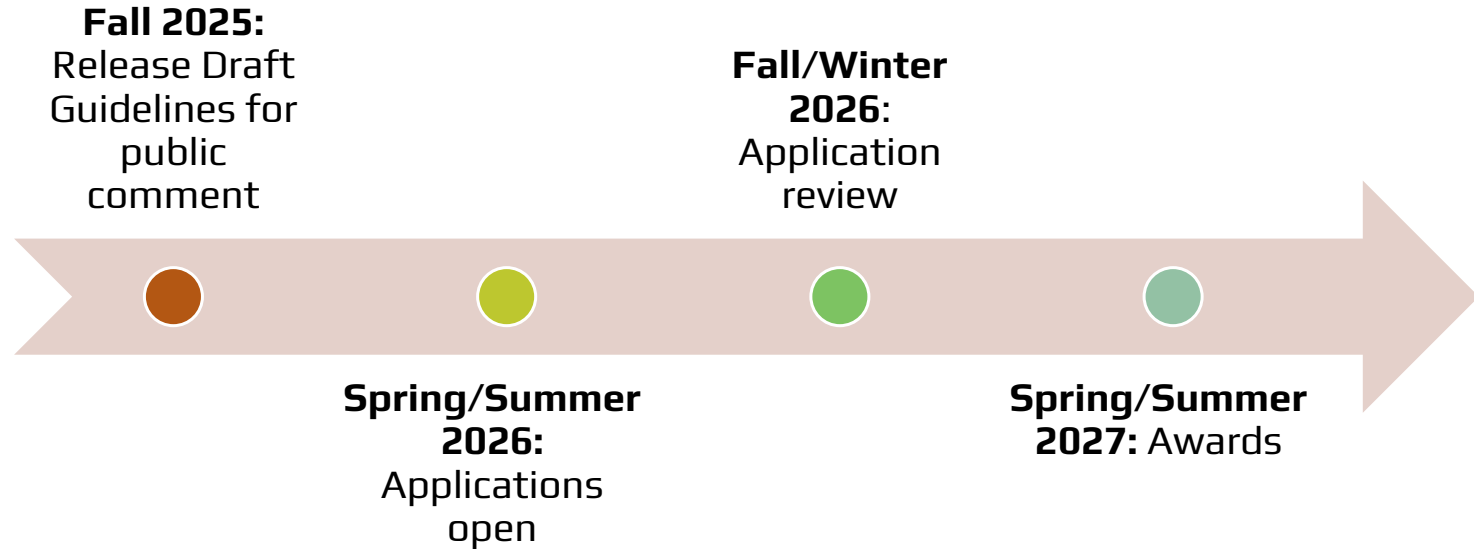
- Planning activities that prepare communities to implement a CRC (e.g., Partnership development; community needs assessments; permitting; etc.)

Implementation - *Up to \$10 million* **I**

- New construction or retrofits; services and programs that build overall community resilience.



Timeline



Applicant Eligibility

- Tribes
- Nonprofit organizations
- Public agencies
- Local agencies
- Special districts
- Joint powers authorities
- Public utilities
- Local publicly owned utilities
- Mutual water companies

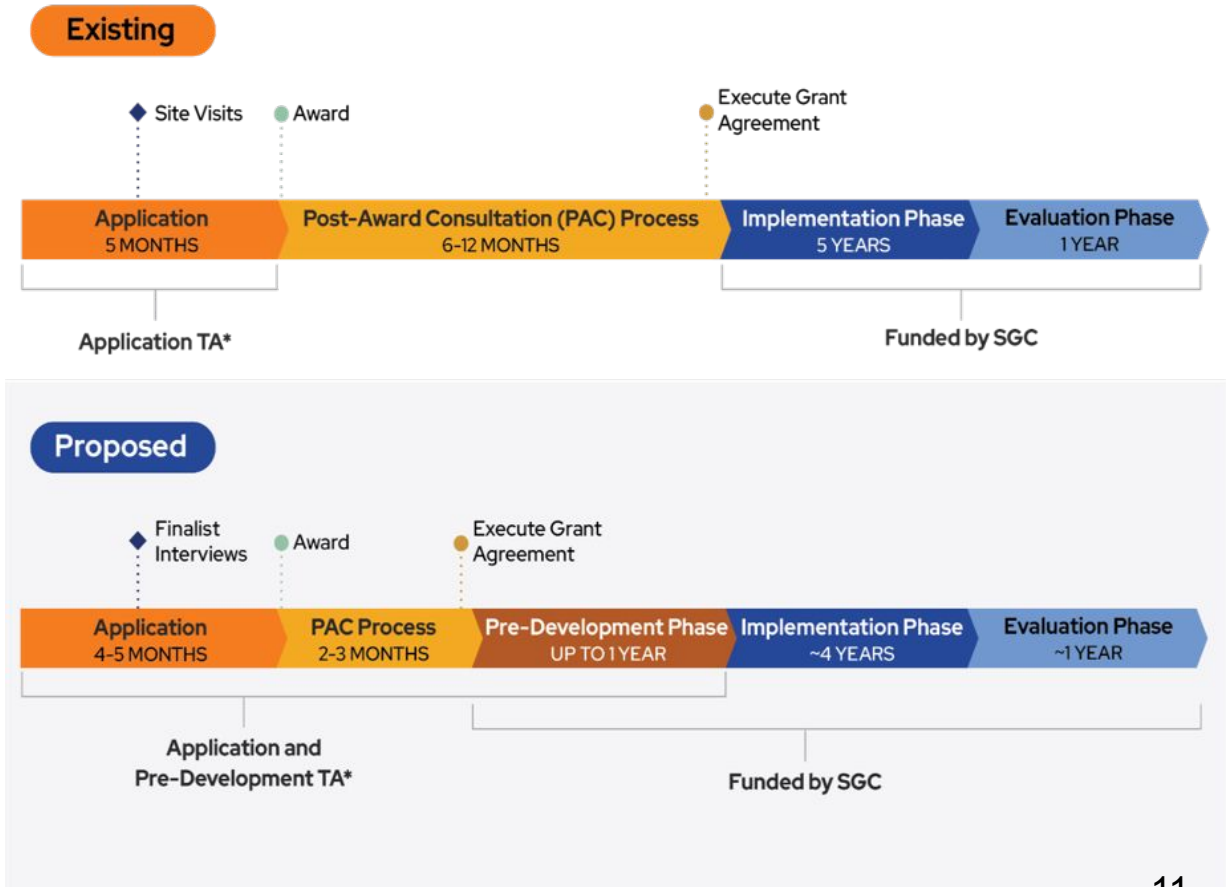


Proposed change

Introduces a **funded Pre-Development Phase** for Implementation Grants to reduce applicant burden and fund development of detailed work plans and budgets.



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Public Comment Form — CRC and
TCC Guidelines Open for Public
Comment



Interest Form - CRC and TCC
Guidelines Focus Groups



All links are available on the TCC and CRC websites and will
be emailed after!

Questions to: tcc@sgc.ca.gov or crc@sgc.ca.gov

Attend input sessions:

- **Virtual Input Session for All Communities Statewide**
 - Tuesday, Oct. 14, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
 - Thursday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- **Virtual Input Session for California Tribes**
 - Wednesday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Virtual Input Session for California Rural Communities**
 - Friday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



Questions

Sarah.Newsham@sgc.ca.gov

TCC@sgc.ca.gov

CRC@SGC.ca.gov



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Opportunity Spotlight - CARB EV Events

ZERO EMISSIONS
SHOWCASE + RIDE & DRIVE

November 5, 2025 ⚡ 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Oakland Coliseum | Oakland, CA

[ZEROMISSIONTRUCKS.ORG](https://zeromissiontrucks.org)

7000 S Coliseum Wy, Oakland, CA 94621
@CalFleetAdvisor
events@calstart.org

ZERO Emissions Showcase + Ride & Drive

November 5, 2025 - 9AM - 3-PM
Oakland Coliseum, Oakland, CA

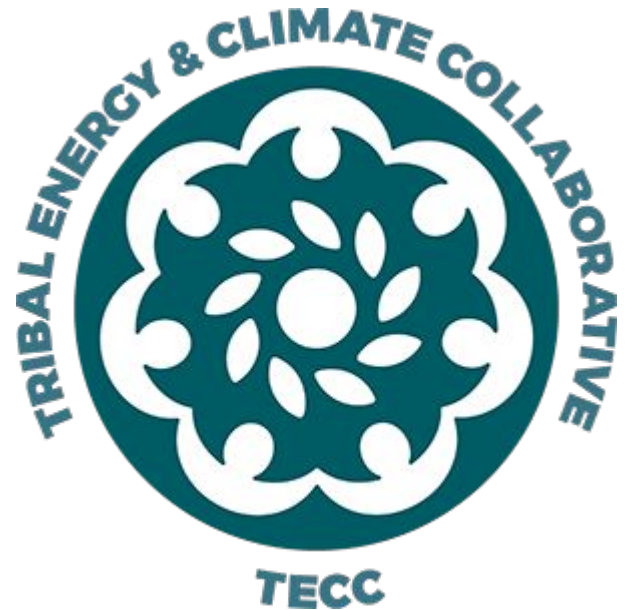
At The Event You Can:

- Ask questions and get answers from CARB and CEC experts.
- Find out how to get funding for vehicles, infrastructure, and off-road equipment.
- Talk to experts about how to switch your fleet to zero-emissions equipment.



Opportunity Spotlight - SGIP Input via TECC

- [CPUC Self generation Incentive Program \(SGIP\) Energy Storage Incentives for Non-Residential DAC and Tribal Projects](#)
- TECC is working with LGSEC and other affected groups to provide input in proceedings ([R.20-05-012 Proposed Decision](#)) to extend deadlines for at-risk projects
 - The PD requires projects with solar on NEM or NEM2 to move to NEM3/NBT
- If you have a project that may be affected, please contact Josh Simmons, TECC Co-Director at jsimmons@prospersustainably.com





Featured Speaker

*Please add
questions in the chat*



Geoff Neill
Senior Legislative Advocate
Nielsen Merksamer, LLP

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CCEC, LERN, Grow 2025 Legislative Year in Review

Geoff Neill
Nielsen Merksamer, LLP

October
2025

All Came Together

- Prop. 4 allocation
- GGRF reauthorization
- The “Energy Puzzle”
- Bill Outcomes
- New Pro Tem

Proposition 4

- \$10 billion resources bond approved in 2024.
 - \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood , and water resilience programs
 - \$1.5 billion for wildfire & forest resilience programs
 - \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs
 - \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection & nature-based climate solution programs
 - \$850 million for clean air programs
 - \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs
 - \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs
 - \$300 million for sustainable farms, ranches, and working lands
- \$3.28 billion appropriated in the budget
- A few notable allocations:
 - \$225.7 million for Power Plant Site Certification and Transmission Line Corridor Designation Program
 - \$292.5 million for all kinds of parks projects (equitable access, climate resilience, etc.)
 - \$46 million for the Distributed Electricity Backup Assets Program (microgrids, distributed energy)
 - \$62 million for coastal resilience projects
 - \$46 million for urban greening grants
 - \$28 million for groundwater recharge/banking/etc.
 - \$20 million for local extreme heat grants
 - \$278.7 through CAL FIRE
 - \$169.4 through CDFA

Cap-and-Invest / GGRF

- Cap-and-Trade now Cap-and-Invest
- “Clean” reauthorization
- AB 1207 (Irwin) outlines revenue collection
- AB 840 (Limón) outlines spending
- GGRF allocation mostly the same, but downside risk of low auction revenues is continuously appropriated programs, including Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities, transit programs, community air protection programs, and the SAFER drinking water program.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

- First Bucket (~\$283 million):
 - SRA fee backfill (~\$80m)
 - CAETFA General Fund backfill (\$200 million)
 - Legislative Counsel Climate Bureau (\$3 million)
- Second Bucket (\$2 billion):
 - High-Speed Rail (\$1 billion)
 - Annual legislative appropriations (\$1 billion)
 - Intent for \$250m in 2026-27: transit passes, Topanga Canyon, UC Climate Research Center, scoping plan
 - 2025-26 budget designates up to \$1.25 billion to backfill CAL FIRE costs in 2026-27 and up to \$500 million in the two following fiscal years if the state budget is projected to be in deficit
- Third Bucket (up to \$1.98 billion)
 - Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (\$800 m)
 - Transit and Intercity Rail Capital (\$400 m)
 - Community air protection programs (\$250 m)
 - Low Carbon Transit Operations (\$200 m)
 - CAL FIRE (\$200 m)
 - SAFER drinking water (\$130 m)
- Insufficient auction revenue: proportion reduction of third bucket.
- Excess revenue: appropriated by Legislature

The “Energy Puzzle”

- AB 825 – Pathways/Western Transmission
 - Authorizes the CAISO and electrical corporations to participate in voluntary regional energy markets.
- SB 237 – Petroleum Production & Market Stabilization
 - Increases safety standards for offshore oil and gas pipelines and clarifies Coastal Act permitting for it.
 - Authorizes the Governor to suspend summer gas blend requirements.
 - Requires evaluation of potential regional fuel blends.
 - Deems existing CEQA analyses sufficient for certain Kern County oil permits
- SB 254 – Affordability & Wildfire Fund
 - Extends the electric investor-owned utility (IOU) Wildfire Fund and associated ratepayer charge by 10 years
 - Establishes the California Transmission Accelerator within GO-Biz
 - Bars IOUs from including \$6 billion in wildfire mitigation investments in rate base for profit
 - Authorizes securitization of excess wildfire liability costs
 - Revises “clean” energy project” permitting, regulatory agency responsibilities, and reporting and auditing requirements
- SB 352 – Community Air Protection Program
 - Codifies the Bureau of Environmental Justice within the Department of Justice
 - Requires Air Resources Board (ARB) monitoring sites to remain active for at least five years
 - Directs ARB to update its air monitoring plan
- Plus AB 1207 (cap-and-invest) and SB 840 (GGRF)

Bill Outcomes

- AB 39 (Zbur) - Requires cities/counties over 75,000 to plan for equitable ZEV fueling by 2030
- AB 996 (Pellerin) – Allows early consultation with Coastal Commission for sea-level rise plans
- AB 1280 (Garcia) – Authorizes I-Bank and CEC to finance thermal energy storage projects
- AB 1285 – Directs State Fire Marshall to develop fire regs for lithium-ion battery storage facilities
- SB 283 (Laird) – Address fire safety standards for energy storage systems
- SB 787 (McNerney) – VETOED – Requires CEC to designate a person to collect data on workforce and clean energy supply chains and encourage in-state supply chains for clean energy

New Senate President pro Tempore

Senator Monique
Limón

- Senator Limón will transition into the role of President Pro Tem on November 17.
- Senator Limón is the child of Mexican immigrants and a former Santa Barbara Unified School Board member.
- She will be the first Latina to serve as Senate President Pro Tem and will likely hold that position until her term expires at the end of 2028, or close to it.
- The Senate Pro Tem is the most powerful position in the Senate, in charge of setting the body's legislative agenda and meeting with the Assembly Speaker and Governor to negotiate decisions like the state budget. They are also responsible for their caucus' election strategy.
- She is mostly known as a champion of environmental causes, but will rely on moderate Democrats to maintain her position.

Thank you.

NIELSEN MERKSAMER

NIELSEN MERKSAMER PARRINELLO GROSS & LEONI LLP

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Discussion

*Please add questions
in the chat*

Q&A and Discussion

BPC Workshop

Topic: Discussion

- [State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination \(SLECC\)](#)
 - Next statewide meeting for local and state representatives **Thursday, October 16**

AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- Roundtable Updates
- Discussion Topic: *Amplifying your priorities + SLECC Workplan*
- Takeaways and next steps

Local Energy Resources Network



What's Next?

- Bonus Breakouts up next!
- Next meeting **November 18th**
(rescheduled due to Veteran's Day)
- Share [invitation](#) with others

See you next time!



Optional: Bonus Breakouts

Thanks for joining us!

This is a space for informal discussion among the LERN network. Feel free to:

- Offer an announcement, success story, or opportunity
- Share a need for information, collaborators, or advice
- Raise a suggested topic or speaker for future LERNS

If you need an in-depth discussion, you can pitch a specific bonus breakout topic and invite others to join you (today or we can plan ahead for next month)



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