



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE | CCEC FORUM DAY 1

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

8:30 - 5:00pm	Forum Registration & Check-in • <i>Sierra Foyer</i>
11:00 - 12:15pm	WELCOME AND OPENING PLENARY - Grounded in People, Guided by Possibility: California's Path Forward in 2026 • <i>Sierra Ballroom CD</i>
12:15 - 1:15pm	Networking Lunch • <i>Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD</i>
1:15 - 2:30pm	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4) 1. Nature Based Solutions as an Energy Efficiency Strategy • <i>Club</i> 2. A Tale of the EBD-Northern Program Outreach: Working with Community, For Community • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i> 3. Recipes for Community Grounded Advisory Group Action • <i>Sierra Ballroom B</i> 4. From Pilot Grant to Practice: Rural Resilience in the Valleys • <i>Hiro</i>
2:30 - 3:00pm	Networking Break • <i>Sierra Foyer</i>
3:00 - 5:00pm	CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS (4) 1. From the Ground Up: Practicing Community-Led Climate Planning • <i>Hiro</i> 2. Designing Direct-to-Renter Energy Programs (with Cities and CCAs Already Doing It!) • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i> 3. Party People: How to Become Party to CPUC Proceedings • <i>Club</i> 4. Increasing Access to High Road Jobs in Decarbonization Through Contractor Supports • <i>Sierra Ballroom B</i>
5:00 - 6:00pm	NETWORKING RECEPTION & POSTER SESSION • <i>Sierra Ballroom Circle</i>



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE | CCEC FORUM DAY 2

Thursday, June 25, 2026

8:00 - 1:00pm	Forum Registration & Check-in • <i>Sierra Foyer</i>
8:00 - 9:00am	BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING SESSIONS (3) • <i>Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD</i> 1. Yes! Personal Resilience can be Cultivated-Tips & Challenges • <i>Club</i> 2. Breakfast Meet and Greet with California Strategic Growth Council Staff and Grantees • <i>Hiro</i> 3. Breakfast at Misti's: A Coffeeside Chat on Reach Code Approvals... • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i>
9:00 - 10:00am	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4) 1. Making Electrification Work in Manufactured Housing • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i> 2. Neighborhood Gas Infrastructure Removal: Local Government Leadership... • <i>Sierra Ballroom B</i> 3. Designing a Resilient Comeback: A New Model for Wildfire-Impacted Communities • <i>Hiro</i> 4. Talk Like a Human: How to Better Reach the People We Need If We Want Change • <i>Club</i>
10:00 - 10:30am	Networking Break • <i>Sierra Foyer</i>
10:30 - 11:45am	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4) 1. Community Partnerships in Rural Northern California • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i> 2. Implementing Equitable Capacity Management Strategies for All-Electric... • <i>Sierra Ballroom B</i> 3. Designing Energy Initiatives With, Not For, Communities • <i>Club</i> 4. PODEE Live: A Variety Show for the Energy Efficiency Community • <i>Hiro</i>
11:45 - 12:30pm	Networking Lunch • <i>Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD</i>
12:30 - 1:30pm	LUNCH PLENARY - Deep Dive: Climate & Energy Action in the LA Region • <i>Sierra Ballroom CD</i>
1:30 - 1:45pm	Networking Break • <i>Sierra Foyer</i>
1:45 - 2:45pm	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4) 1. Existing Building Reach Codes: Cost-Effective Improvements to Buildings • <i>Sierra Ballroom A</i> 2. Rural Energy Efficiency D&D: Learn to Design and Deliver Non-residential ... • <i>Sierra Ballroom B</i> 3. Powering Regional Leadership: Building Energy Resilience Through Workforce... • <i>Hiro</i> 4. Delivering Climate Solutions Together: Bundling Mobility, Energy, and Community Needs • <i>Club</i>
2:45 - 3:00pm	Networking Break • <i>Sierra Ballroom CD</i>
3:00 - 3:30pm	A Closing Reflection & Celebration • <i>Sierra Ballroom CD</i>



FULL FORUM PROGRAM | **CCEC FORUM DAY 1**

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

8:30am - **Forum Registration & Check-in**
5:00pm *Sierra Foyer*

11:00am - **FORUM WELCOME**
11:15am *Sierra Ballroom CD*

- **Angie Hacker** | Statewide Best Practices Coordinator, California Climate & Energy Collaborative (CCEC)
 - **Lujuana Medina** | Environmental Initiatives Division Manager, County of Los Angeles
 - **Kerry Fleisher** | Director of Distributed Energy Resources, Natural Gas, and Retail Rates, California Public Utilities Commission
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11:15am - **OPENING PLENARY - Grounded in People, Guided by Possibility:**
12:15pm **California's Path Forward in 2026**
Sierra Ballroom CD

What does it mean to lead on climate when everything around us is changing? The 17th Annual California Climate and Energy Forum opens with a conversation about where California stands and where we're headed. Aligned with this year's theme, Grounded in People, Guided by Possibility, this plenary brings together state agency leaders, local advocates, and national voices to take stock of a rapidly shifting landscape. With rising costs, intensifying climate impacts, and an evolving federal context, California's leadership has never mattered more. Hear from state agencies, journalists, and national partners about the priorities driving our state forward and what they mean for local governments ready to lead.

- **Karen Douglas** | California Public Utilities Commission, Commissioner
 - **Saharnaz Mirzazad** | ICLEI USA, CEO
 - **Nancy Skinner** | California Energy Commission, Commissioner
 - Moderator: **Angie Hacker** | California Climate and Energy Collaborative, Statewide Best Practices Coordinator
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12:15pm - ***Networking Lunch***
1:15pm *Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD*

1:15pm -
2:30pm

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4)

1. Nature Based Solutions as an Energy Efficiency Strategy - Club

California is a leader in the nation on energy efficiency standards and practices and is, in fact, the most energy efficient state per capita. While a leader on energy policy, this panel suggests we can do better. State bodies that administer utility ratepayer dollars for energy efficiency can and should incorporate nature-based solutions as a strategy to reduce energy use. While efficient mechanical equipment such as heat pumps and lighting upgrades help the state achieve its climate goals, this forum will illustrate that tapping nature as a natural cooling and carbon absorbing strategy will complement this work and increase energy savings. Planting trees and removing built surfaces can mitigate extreme heat, cooling streets and structures. These nature-based interventions result in lower use of air conditioning systems and are an important energy efficiency tool. Trees are also a multi-benefit solution increasing human health and wellness, increasing stormwater retention, increasing biodiversity, reducing erosion, and reducing the heat island effect—all critical, evidence-based outcomes that can complement energy efficiency portfolios and help us adapt to a changing climate.

- **Dr. Edith de Guzman** | UC Cooperative Extension / UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation, Specialist
- **Nurit Katz** | Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Vice President, Board of Water and Power Commissioners
- **Cassie Rauser** | TreePeople, The Fielding Family Chief Executive Officer
- Moderator: **Tessa Charnofsky** | SoCalREN, Special Services Assistant

2. A Tale of the EBD-Northern Program Outreach: Working with Community, For Community - Sierra Ballroom A

This session is hosted by the Equitable Building Decarbonization (EBD) Direct Install Program - Northern Region team and community partners. EBD is a low-income direct install building electrification program that is newly launched in select focus areas to improve public health and the environment in disadvantaged communities. EBD is reaching target households in priority communities by partnering with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that already do grassroots organizing in their community. CBOs are the main channel for enrolling target households into EBD with their established trust in the community, language services, and culturally relevant practices. The panelists will reflect on their approach to designing an equitable outreach process that supports and equips CBOs to onboard the program with the tools to reach target households. Key topics include CBO partnership building and recruitment, equitable program design to accommodate the needs of CBOs, developing technical training for CBO outreach, and program implementation best practices.

- **Andrew Brooks** | Association for Energy Affordability, Managing Director, AEA West
 - **Shina Robinson** | Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Resilience Projects Director
 - **Christine Selig** | PODER, Director of Healthy & Resilient Homes
 - Moderator: **Melinda Lopez** | The Ortiz Group, Program Manager & Equity Consultant
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3. Recipes for Community Grounded Advisory Group Action - *Sierra Ballroom B*

Commissions, committees, and work groups, where community members and leaders share their feedback, concerns, and lived experience. How can these bodies move beyond discussion to drive meaningful action? The session explores how to leverage advisory bodies as catalysts for local action and impactful decision making. The County of Santa Clara Public Health Department (PHD) Resident Advisory Committee (RAC) empowers its members of highly engaged community leaders, many from hard-to-reach communities, to work with their community on resilience. The session shares how PHD formed the RAC and developed a model of an action-oriented advisory body to conduct community work. The session shows how the RAC partners with organizations, like the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), on hyper-local community workshops to support resilience and health changes in climate vulnerable neighborhoods. Attendees receive recipe cards to whip up their own advisory committee or turn their current one into a community action group. Attendees will identify the ingredients and methods to employ advisory bodies for local action in their community. They will leave with a recipe - action plan- to start their own advisory body climate action project.

- **Soitza Del Real** | Veggielution, Community organizer
- **Elizabeth Harris** | County of Santa Clara / BayREN, Sustainability Analyst
- **Lupe Yepiz** | County of Santa Clara Public Health Department, Health Education Specialist
- Moderator: **Tonya Veitch** | County of Santa Clara, Climate and Community Resilience Manager

4. From Pilot Grant to Practice: Rural Resilience in the Valleys - *Hiro*

Against the stunning backdrops of the Cuyama and Pájaro Valleys, this session explores two powerful models of community resilience and self-determination. Cuyama in Santa Barbara County and Pájaro in Monterey County are rural geographies already grappling with the realities of the escalating climate crisis. Both communities secured Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) grants from the Strategic Growth Council, and leveraged these state awards to establish cross-sector partnerships and interweave additional sources of funding to succeed in their initiative goals. Featuring an expert panel, giving the spotlight to the community organizers on the frontlines fighting for their communities, we will move beyond the standard success story. We will delve into a candid discussion highlighting what worked, what failed, and how to navigate the complexities of community-led sustainable development with multiple partners. Attendees will also have an opportunity to share strategies exploring other innovative models for community resilience in breakout groups. Join us for more than the tale of these two TCCs; come be inspired, invigorated, and called to action to bring insights back to your own community towards true climate transformation.

- **Em Johnson** | Community Environmental Council, Director of Climate Programs
- **Maria Perez** | Regeneración - Pajaro Valley Climate Action, Community Outreach Manager
- **Tara Saylor** | Blue Sky Center, Resiliency Project Manager
- Moderator: **Julianna Joss** | County of Santa Barbara/3C-REN, Energy Program Manager

2:30pm -
3:00pm

Networking Break
Sierra Foyer

3:00pm -
5:00pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS (4)

1. From the Ground Up: Practicing Community-Led Climate Planning - Hiro

Local governments across California are expected to deliver meaningful climate outcomes while navigating limited staff capacity, volatile municipal budgets, and intensifying climate impacts. This workshop will give participants hands-on experience with bottom-up climate planning grounded in community knowledge, practical tools, and sustained implementation pathways.

The session will begin with three short presentations. ICLEI USA will share why it transitioned from ClearPath 1.0 to ClearPath 2.0, highlighting lessons about usability and translating data into action. California Forward will share insights from an incubator program evaluating Climate Resilience Districts as a mechanism for sustained funding for local climate mitigation and adaptation. Climate Resolve will highlight grassroots engagement approaches, including participatory science walks where residents mapped local hazards such as extreme heat and poor air quality. Participants will engage in a facilitated planning exercise to practice integrating community knowledge, data, and funding considerations into a bottom-up climate planning framework. Participants will leave with practical strategies and facilitation techniques adaptable to their own communities.

- **Catherine Baltazar** | Climate Resolve, Associate Director, Advocacy & Organizing
- **Taylor Carnevale** | California Forward, Project Manager
- **Jenny Nitzky** | ICLEI USA, Sustainability Senior Program Officer
- Moderator: **Hannah Kornfeld** | Ascent, Climate Practice Leader

2. Designing Direct-to-Renter Energy Programs (with Cities and CCAs Already Doing It!) - Sierra Ballroom A

This session will be led by cities and Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) who are designing and implementing programs that provide portable, 120V appliances directly to low-income renters. These Direct to Renter (DTR) programs provide a variety of benefits, including: affordable and efficient heating/cooling, energy resilience, indoor air quality improvements, and GHG reductions. Over the last year, cities and CCAs across California have developed their own DTR programs to meet unique community needs—and found creative ways to fund them. Through this workshop's small group format, participants will hear from agencies about customizing DTR programs, including eligibility requirements, appliance offerings, outreach and enrollment, ordering and delivery, data gathering and evaluation. Agencies will provide a behind the scenes view into the options they considered, financial considerations and tradeoffs, their decision-making process, and what they've learned so far. Participants will come away with their own draft program designs and associated budgets.

- **Shelby Bush** | Peninsula Clean Energy, Energy Efficiency Programs Manager
 - **Katie Martel** | City of Alhambra, Sustainability Analyst
 - **Ashley Mercado** | Day One, Director of Special Projects
 - **Elias Platte-Bermeo** | City of Santa Monica, Sustainability Analyst
 - **Pranesh Venugopal** | Orange County Power Authority, Energy Programs Manager
 - Moderator: **Felicia Federico** | The Energy Coalition, Director, Funding and Research
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3. Party People: How to Become Party to CPUC Proceedings - *Club*

When the California Public Utilities Commission makes decisions about energy efficiency, rates, or program funding, who's in the room? If you're not a party to the proceeding, your voice isn't part of the formal record. This hands-on workshop demystifies the CPUC process and walks you through becoming an active participant in regulatory decisions that affect your community. You'll hear from a CPUC representative about why the Commission wants diverse voices engaged and what's at stake in current proceedings. Then you'll get a step-by-step walkthrough of the filing process: finding service lists, preparing motion documents, navigating efile.cpuc.ca.gov, and filing to listservs. But here's the twist! You won't just learn about it, you'll do it. Bring your laptop or tablet, because by the end of this session, you'll file for party status in a real proceeding, or be ready for when you want to. You'll leave with templates, cheat sheets, and the confidence to engage in regulatory processes that shape how energy programs reach your community. Whether you work for a local government, CBO, or business, this session gives you the tools to move from observer to participant.

- **Aisha Cervantes-Cissna** | San Diego Regional Energy Network, Senior Policy Manager
- **Maria Kelly** | CPUC, Government Affairs Liaison
- Moderator: **Rochelle Butler** | San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization, Director of Operations

4. Increasing Access to High Road Jobs in Decarbonization Through Contractor Supports - *Sierra Ballroom B*

Publicly funded residential building decarbonization programs are increasingly incentivizing good job quality standards such as prevailing wage, - but without intentional design, these investments risk leaving behind the small, BIPOC, and women-led contractors best positioned to serve the communities these programs aim to benefit. This interactive workshop explores how embedding contractor supports into program design can unlock equitable participation, strengthen workforce outcomes, and ensure public decarbonization dollars build lasting economic opportunity. Drawing on a newly developed Contractor Supports Resource Guide, participants will hear directly from organizations working directly with workers and contractors to increase access to High Road jobs across the Bay Area and beyond. The heart of the session is a hands-on design activity: using a mock jurisdiction as an example, small groups will develop equity-centered contractor support strategies and walk away with concrete first steps and policy considerations, practical tools, and a framework for making High Road jobs in residential decarbonization genuinely accessible to all contractors.

- **Jordan Ackerman** | Construction Trades Workforce Initiative, Senior Policy and Public Affairs Manager
- **Shannon Hickman** | National Association of Minority Contractors - NorCal Chapter, Program Director
- **Len Turner** | Construction Resource Center, Program Executive
- Moderator: **Sneha Ayyagari** | Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, Director of Policy

5:00pm -
6:00pm

NETWORKING RECEPTION AND POSTER SESSION *Sierra Ballroom Circle*



FULL FORUM PROGRAM | **CCEC FORUM DAY 2**

Thursday, June 25, 2026

8:00am - **Forum Registration & Check-in**
1:00pm *Sierra Foyer*

8:00am - ***Breakfast and Networking Opportunities***
9:00am *Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD*

9:00am - **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4)**
10:00am

1. Making Electrification Work in Manufactured Housing - Sierra Ballroom A

This session presents results from a research project focused on decarbonizing existing manufactured homes, one of the most common forms of owner-occupied low-income housing units in many communities across California. Given limited publicly available research on the topic, the project team implemented a federally funded technology demonstration electrifying four manufactured homes using heat pump space and water heating, weatherization, electrical upgrades, and extensive resident collaboration to answer key questions about technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness. Energy monitoring and on-bill analysis found that while the upgrades were technically feasible and improved comfort, most participants experienced higher utility bill variability under current electricity and gas rate structures.

- **Rita Casaverde** | Diversity Coalition of San Luis Obispo, Executive Director
 - **Eric Veium** | SLO Climate Coalition, Board Chair
 - Moderator: **Chris Read** | City of San Luis Obispo, Sustainability Manager
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2. Neighborhood Gas Infrastructure Removal: Local Government Leadership Under SB 1221 - Sierra Ballroom B

California's SB 1221 opens the door to neighborhood-scale gas decommissioning as a pathway to cost-effective, equitable building decarbonization, but local governments are on the front lines of making these pilots work. This session will explore how cities, counties, and regional agencies are helping to identify pilot zones, coordinate with utilities, and lead community engagement efforts around the removal of gas infrastructure. Panelists will share early lessons on site selection criteria, resident readiness, affordability considerations, and regulatory coordination. Through real-world examples, the session will unpack what local governments need to successfully guide zonal decarbonization pilots, from data access and interagency alignment to trusted messengers and clear communication strategies. Participants will leave with a practical understanding of how SB 1221 pilots are being shaped on the ground and what role local governments can play in ensuring these projects deliver climate, cost, and community benefits.

- **Amaury Berteaud** | Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Director of Sustainability Programs
 - **Jane Elias** | BayREN, Director, Energy Programs
 - **Eric Fournier** | California Center for Sustainable Communities, UCLA, Associate Researcher
 - **Maria Kelly** | CPUC, Government Affairs Liaison
 - Moderator: **Steven Moss** | M. Cubed, Partner
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3. Designing a Resilient Comeback: A New Model for Wildfire-Impacted Communities - *Hiro*

This panel focuses on Southern California as a case study for advancing wildfire recovery through coordinated financing, philanthropy, and resilient rebuilding. The discussion will feature the role of philanthropy, with SoCal Grantmakers illustrating how regional funders can align capital, technical assistance, and community priorities to accelerate equitable recovery outcomes. Complementing the role of philanthropy, the panel will also highlight the RISE Homes and HomeLA programs, which integrate electrification, energy efficiency, and wildfire hardening to help households rebuild safer and more sustainably after disaster. Together, the panel demonstrates how place-based finance, philanthropic coordination, and household level rebuilding solutions can work in tandem to support resilient recovery in wildfire impacted communities and help rebuild for the future.

- **Lily Bui** | SoCal Grantmakers, Philanthropy CA, Director of Climate and Disaster Resilience
- **Anish Saraiya** | Board of Supervisors, Director of Altadena Recovery
- **Enayet Miah** | Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Manager of CI&I, Multifamily, and Field Support
- Moderator: **Patrice Hicks** | ICF, Program Manager

4. Talk Like a Human: How to Better Reach the People We Need If We Want Change - *Club*

Our collective work to make our planet cleaner and healthier will only be successful if large numbers of people join us. Yet the way we often talk about pollution, extreme weather, and related challenges is technical, wonky, and not understandable to average folks. Would your neighbor/student/local elected official know what you're talking about if you tell them you're working on a zonal decarbonization program? Would it be better understood if you talk about making their home safer and healthier by removing gas appliances? In this session we will explore the research and science on effective communication about energy, sustainability, and damage to the climate, and provide information on how we can communicate more effectively with diverse audiences. Two hands-on exercises will give participants an opportunity to practice these skills. Participants will leave with ideas on how they can tell better stories about their work and engage across their communities, beyond the usual participants.

- **Emily Groth** | Contra Costa County, Planner
- **Michael Shank** | New York University, Professor
- **Nicole Shimizu** | Contra Costa County, Planner
- Moderator: **Jody London** | Contra Costa County, Sustainability Coordinator

10:00am - **Networking Break**

10:30am *Sierra Foyer*

10:30am -
11:45am

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4)

1. Community Partnerships in Rural Northern California - Sierra Ballroom A

This panel highlights collaborative approaches to delivering energy efficiency and electrification services through the Northern Rural Energy Network (NREN). Featuring partners including Redwood Coast Energy Authority and Blue Lake Rancheria, Lake Area Planning Council, and Sierra Business Council with Sierra Energy Reimagined, the session explores strategies for building trust, engaging underserved communities, and implementing programs across diverse regions. A featured example includes a Tribal electrician pre-apprenticeship program, demonstrating how workforce development can be paired with energy efficiency education to create meaningful career pathways for Tribal members and other priority populations. Speakers will also share effective outreach approaches, emphasizing the importance of community-based, local engagement. Attendees will leave with practical insights on forming strong partnerships and adapting programs to meet their own regional needs.

- **Jennifer Brennan** | Northern Rural Energy Network, Energy Program Manager
- **Jan Maes** | Sierra Energy Reimagined, Executive Director
- **Heidi Moore-Guynup** | Blue Lake Rancheria, Director of Tribal and Government Affairs
- **Hilary Quinn** | Sierra Business Council & NREN, Senior Program Manager
- Moderator: **Stephen Kullmann** | Redwood Coast Energy Authority, Customer Programs Director

2. Implementing Equitable Capacity Management Strategies for All-Electric Multifamily Housing - Sierra Ballroom B

Prospect Silicon Valley (ProspectSV), Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), IDeAs Consulting, Redwood Energy, and EcoFlow Technology are demonstrating EcoFlow's smart electrical panels and modular plug-in batteries at two low-income multifamily housing developments in CA, with demand response testing at a third site in partnership with Sonoma Clean Power. These California Energy Commission funded projects require close coordination between electrical design, controls integration, and on-the-ground installation practices for electrical appliance upgrades. Participants will walk away with a clear understanding of how to expand capacity at older multifamily buildings and actionable insights to evaluate cost-effective retrofit pathways across three common installation scenarios: working within existing panel capacity limits, deploying advanced load management strategies, and providing resilience during grid outages. Hear from Ilse Villacorta (ProspectSV), Rongxin Yin (LBNL), and David Kaneda (IDeAs Consulting) as they share project goals, early findings, and replicable design strategies for electrifying multifamily buildings under constrained electrical conditions. Moderated by Ilse Villacorta.

- **David Kaneda** | IDeAs Consulting Inc, Principal and Thought Leader
 - **Rongxin Yin** | Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Technology Researcher III
 - Moderator: **Ilse Villacorta** | Prospect Silicon Valley, Sr. Project Manager
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3. Designing Energy Initiatives With, Not For, Communities - *Club*

This panel introduces an evolving model for community energy programs, developed in partnership with SoCalREN, which emphasizes trust, flexibility, and community agency. Panelists representing tribes, community-based organizations, and regional partners will showcase initiatives designed to close persistent energy gaps often missed by conventional, top-down methods. These self-directed efforts use a standardized yet highly adaptable framework to support a range of activities, from technical installations and workforce development to education and outreach. Attendees will receive practical guidance on developing, planning, and implementing community-led initiatives, including strategies for providing adaptive support tailored to varying capacity levels. The session will also cover methods for evaluating real-world outcomes and identifying models with strong potential for regional scalability and long-term impact.

- **Brian Adkins** | Bishop Paiute Tribe, Chief Operations Officer
- **Pam Bold** | High Sierra Energy Foundation, Executive Director
- **Audrey Bragg** | Los Angeles County, ISD, Senior Program Manager
- **Brianda Castro** | California Central Asthma Collaborative, Climate Action Solutions for Asthma Program Manager
- **Aileen Qin** | Gateway Cities Council of Governments, Project Manager
- Moderator: **Elaina Lee** | The Energy Coalition, Program Manager

4. PODEE Live: A Variety Show for the Energy Efficiency Community - *Hiro*

PODEE (the podcast for energy efficiency) goes live at CCEC. Join hosts Courtney Blore and Jordan Garbayo for a high-energy, variety-show-style recording featuring real conversations with conference attendees, interactive segments, and a few surprises. This isn't a sit-and-listen panel; it's a participatory experience where the audience becomes part of the show. We'll pull people from the crowd for lightning interviews, run interactive segments that get people talking and laughing, and capture the real stories of people doing this work. Think late-night talk show meets StoryCorps meets your favorite happy hour conversation. Guests will be selected from conference attendees, ensuring the content reflects what's actually on people's minds during the event. The session will be professionally recorded for audio and video release on PODEE's channels, extending CCEC's reach beyond the room. Whether you end up on stage or stay in your seat, you'll leave with energy, new connections, and the sense that this work (and this community) is worth celebrating.

- **Courtney Blore** | SJVCEO, Executive Director
- **Jordan Garbayo** | CCR REN, Energy Programs Manager

11:45am -	Lunch
12:30pm	<i>Sierra Foyer/Sierra Ballroom CD</i>

12:30pm -
1:30pm

LUNCH PLENARY - Deep Dive: Climate & Energy Action in the Los Angeles Region - *Sierra Ballroom CD*

Los Angeles is at once one of the world's great cities and one of California's most complex climate challenges, and opportunities. This session brings together local and regional leaders to share their visions, strategies, and hard-won lessons for accelerating clean energy, reducing emissions, and advancing equity across the LA region. From navigating policy and funding landscapes to building partnerships that reach every community, speakers will offer an honest look at what's working, what's not, and where the greatest opportunities lie for meaningful, lasting change.

- **Ted Bardacke** | Clean Power Alliance, CEO
 - **Lujana Medina** | County of Los Angeles, Environmental Initiatives Division Manager
 - **Randall Winston** | City of Los Angeles, Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure and Climate Resilience
 - **Christy Zamani** | Day One, Executive Director
 - Moderator: **Yasmine-Imani McMorris** | City of Culver City, Councilmember
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1:30pm -
1:45pm

Break
Sierra Foyer

1:45pm -
2:45pm

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4)

1. Existing Building Reach Codes: Cost-Effective Improvements to Buildings - *Sierra Ballroom A*

The cities of Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, and San Mateo share their experiences adopting existing building reach codes, which are local amendments to the Statewide building code. Existing building reach codes are high-impact policies grounded in local permit data that improve residences and businesses by codifying cost-effective, common-sense improvements. Each code focuses on specific building projects and saves money on energy costs. Panelists will share their unique policies, how they were developed, how AB130 influenced policy development, local stakeholder engagement, and responses to council concerns. We will learn each policy's impacts on permits, and GHG savings. Audience members are invited to share their experiences crafting effective local policies to fully leverage all the available expertise in the room. Join the discussion to start crafting an existing building reach code to improve your building stock, save money, and support carbon emissions goals across the state!

- **Andrea Chow** | City of San Mateo, Sustainability Analyst
 - **Chris Read** | City of San Luis Obispo, Sustainability Manager
 - **Tiffany Wise-West** | City of Santa Cruz, Sustainability + Resiliency Officer
 - Moderator: **Marianne Olson** | TRC, Lead Research Engineer
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2. Rural Energy Efficiency D&D: Learn to Design and Deliver Non-residential EE Programs Through Roleplay - Sierra Ballroom B

Seasoned EE program implementers who live, work and design programs in rural California will guide session participants through a gamified roleplaying exercise to uncover the hidden dynamics of designing and delivering energy efficiency programs in rural communities. Participants will be provided with a unique set of characters: Portfolio administrator, program implementers, non-residential ratepayers, as well as clear instructions and information on the skill sets, priorities, and information, their character has. Participants will then experience the lifecycle of program delivery through roleplaying. Should electrification, equity, geographic distribution, or cost effectiveness be maximized? What measures should be offered? How to get the necessary information from customers in order to qualify them? How to report outcomes? And many more variables. The roleplaying scenarios will be drawn from real life implementation experiences and help participants better understand the trade-offs program implementers and portfolio administrators have to make to deliver effective programs to rural communities.

- **Jess Blackwell** | High Sierra Energy Foundation, Program Manager
- **Jordan Garbayo** | CCR REN, Energy Programs Manager
- **Caleb Witzaney** | Willdan, Sr. Program Manager
- Moderator: **Amaury Berteaud** | Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Director of Sustainability Programs

3. Powering Regional Leadership: Building Energy Resilience Through Workforce Development in Southern California - Hiro

This breakout session will explore how regional partnerships are building the people-power needed for California's energy transition through workforce and community learning pathways. The session will touch on the impact of structured entry into regional energy careers through the I-REN Energy Fellowship while highlighting the value of fostering regional energy literacy across a variety of sectors through the San Diego Regional Energy Academy. Together, these approaches demonstrate that effective regional energy workforce development requires multiple entry points that build knowledge, skills, and leadership.

The session will feature flash talks detailing each program design, followed by story spotlights from participants and fellows. The session will then transition into a moderated leadership panel and close with live questions from the audience. Participants will leave with reflection questions meant to help identify practical strategies they can adapt to replicate impact in their regions.

- **Brenda Castruita** | San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative, Energy Program Manager
 - **Jillian Dela Cruz** | I-REN & Colton Joint Unified School District, I-REN Energy Fellow
 - **Lee Friedman** | San Diego Community Power, Associate Director - Strategic Initiatives
 - **Brenda Garcia Millan** | County of San Diego, Group Program Manager
 - **Tyler Masters** | Inland Regional Energy Network, Program Manager
 - **Calli O'Neal** | IREN/SBCOG, IREN Energy Fellow Lead
 - **Bill Sadler** | Executive Director, CivicSpark
 - Moderator: **Melanie Peck** | USGBC- CA, Chief Program Officer
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4. Delivering Climate Solutions Together: Bundling Mobility, Energy, and Community Needs - *Club*

Local governments are expected to deliver climate solutions that cut emissions, lower costs, and improve quality of life—despite fragmented funding, limited staff, and siloed programs. This session explores how regional agencies are moving from coordination to implementation by bundling mobility, energy, and community infrastructure across jurisdictions.

Led by a council of governments and city partners, the session highlights a real-world model integrating shared mobility, EV charging, solar, and energy resilience at the neighborhood scale. It shows how jurisdictions align funding, share administrative responsibilities, and coordinate timelines to deliver projects not feasible alone.

Speakers will cover governance, roles, procurement, and key lessons learned. Participants will gain a practical framework for building cross-jurisdictional partnerships, identifying bundling opportunities, and advancing equitable mobility and energy projects in their communities.

- **Ali Cooper**, EVGIDE, Co-Founder & COO, EVGIDE
- **Peng Hao**, UCR, Center for Environmental Research & Technology, Associate Research Engineer, Associate Adjunct Professor
- **Eric Bunge**, City of Hemet, Executive Analyst - Public Works
- Moderator: **Taylor York**, Western Riverside Council of Governments, Program Manager

2:45pm - **Break**
3:00pm *Sierra Ballroom CD*

3:00pm - **CLOSING - A Closing Reflection & Celebration**
3:30pm *Sierra Ballroom CD*

A powerful and personal close that honors the collective wisdom in the room. Attendees reflect on their top takeaways using a simple 3-2-1 framework, a handful of voices share with the full room, and we close by celebrating some extraordinary members of our community with lifetime achievement awards.
