Local Energy Resources Network

Meeting 57

October 13, 2026

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
  - **Andrew Reyes, CARB -** CalFleet Advisor
  - **Jillian Blanchard, L4GG -** Solar for All
  - **Catherine Foster, LCI -** Extreme Heat Action Plan
- Featured discussions:
  - **Julianna Joss, 3C-REN on "Pilot Grant to Practice: Rural Resilience in the Valleys"**
- CCEC Updates
- Bonus Breakout

Opportunity Roundtable

View all Opportunities

Policy Drives Investment → **Agencies Scope/ Design Assistance Programs & Gather Input** → **Applicants Apply to Funding Solicitation**

State

- FY 2026-2027 State Budget
- The Climate Center: CA Climate Policy Recap for 2026 webinar - Oct 21

CCEC Legislative Tracker

Federal

- FY 2025-2026 Federal Budget (HR. 1) - tax credits guidance for solar/win
- H.R. 3699 "Energy Choice Act"
- OMB's Proposed Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance - National Council of Nonprofits Comments
- Solar For All Court Cases

International

Funding

- LCI: Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program R2 - pre-app Aug 11, 2026, app October 13, 2026
- CEC: Charger Service Skills Accelerator - October 30, 2026
- CAL FIRE: FY 26-27 Forest Health Research CCI Grants - November 18, 2026
- DOE: Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project - November 18, 2026
- -CEC: CAs National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program – Solic. 6 Community Charging - November 20, 2026
- CEC: Innovations in Open Data & Modeling for a Climate- and Wildfire-Resilient Electricity System - November 20, 2026
- State Coastal Conservancy: Grants Pre-Applications and Technical Assistance - rolling

On the horizon

- CEC: Food Production Investment Program - anticipated release in October 2026
- DWR: Watershed Resilience Grant Program - anticipated release in 2027

Other Assistance

- LCI: General Plan Guidelines Update (including guidance on AB 39) - Open House Draft open for review next summer
- CalOES: Free technical assistance - Rolling
- CARB: CalFleet technical assistance
- L4GG: Data Center Model Policy Guide

Input Opportunities

- CCCEC: REACH sessions at Central Coast Sustainability Summit at UCSB - October 14, 2026
- CEC: Non-Energy Impacts (NEI) Informational Proceeding - open docket
- CEC: EPIC 5 Investment Plan - Hybrid Public Workshop 10/20-10/22
- CEC: Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Update Workshop on Load Modifier Inputs & Assumptions - Nov 12, 2026
- CCEC: Next SLECC Meeting - December 3, 2026

Spotlight: Drive Forward Expo & CalFleet Advisor Program



Andrew Reyes
Air Resources Engineer
California Air Resources Board



Adil Mahmood
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
California Air Resources Board

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD
CATALYST MOBILITY
CAL FLEET ADVISOR
CALIFORNIA HVIP
CALIFORNIA CORE

DRIVE FORWARD EXPO

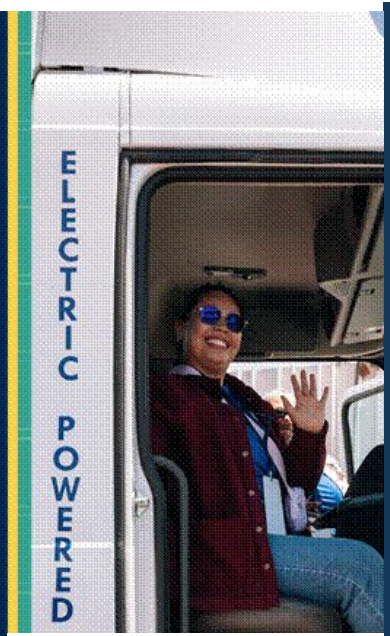
See, Drive, and Discover Zero-Emission Vehicles

November 18, 2026 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Big Fresno Fair | Fresno, CA

DRIVEFORWARDEXPO.ORG

1121 S Chance Ave, Fresno, CA 93702
@CARBTruckStop
@CalFleetAdvisor
events@calstart.org



What to Expect

Test drive zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty commercial trucks and off-road equipment

Connect with manufacturers and industry experts

Past Ride and Drive events have featured over 70 Class 2b-8 trucks, buses, vans, and off-road equipment

Receive information on incentive opportunities and the Cal Fleet Advisor technical assistance program

CARB staff will be available to answer questions on programs including:

Advanced Clean Fleets applicable to State and Local Government Fleets
Clean Truck Check
Off-Road Diesel
and more!

Free admission and parking available for attendees

Cal Fleet Advisor

- Cal Fleet Advisor provides no cost technical assistance to fleets and independent owner operators wanting to learn more about switching to ZEVs.



CAL FLEET ADVISOR

Spotlight: Solar for All - Court Ruling Update



Jillian Blanchard

Senior Vice President, Climate Change & Env. Justice

Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG)

WHY WE ARE HERE

- **Momentous Rulings Require Results**
- **We want you to know your rights, what you're entitled to, and what you can do about it**
- **Your voice - particularly on the issues of cost, affordability, and on the ground benefits from Solar for All - has never been more important**
  - Cannot rely on the courts alone to solve these problems
- **Congress intended for (and promised) this money to go towards low income solar and they need to be reminded of this commitment and what it means for folks on the ground**
- **The SFA Program is critical to addressing affordability and the cost of living:**
  - Designed to cut household electric bills by at least 20% for > 900,000 households when at least 28 million American households face a high or severe energy burden.
  - Has bipartisan support

***Rhode Island AFL-CIO v. EPA* (R.I. District Court)**

- Suit brought on behalf of 8 Solar for All (SFA) subrecipients and program beneficiaries in the Rhode Island District Court
- Plaintiffs represent projects across the country, including Rhode Island, Georgia, Florida, Texas, Pennsylvania, and Indiana - all of which were heavily relying on the continued funding from the prime grantee associated with their grant
- EPA sent termination notices for all 60 SFA recipients on August 7, 2025, which directly harmed the plaintiffs in this case
    - EPA incorrectly relied on the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and the rescission/repeal of SFA in that bill
- On September 18, the court granted the Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment and vacated (or undid) the termination, deeming it "contrary to law and in excess of [EPA's] statutory authority"
    - The passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not disturb the SFA funds that had already been obligated - EPA's actions are therefore contrary to Congressional intent
    - The district court is the appropriate forum because plaintiffs are not basing their claims on the terms of a grant agreement

***Harris County v. EPA* (D.C. District Court)**

- Suit brought on behalf of Harris County, Texas, a prime SFA grantee
- Harris County was a recipient of one of the largest SFA grants, designed to provide solar to low-income and underserved communities in the state
- Like other SFA grantees, Harris County received a termination notice on August 7, 2025 that rescinded funding based on a faulty interpretation of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act - leading to significant harm
- On September 22, the court granted summary judgment on the plaintiff's Administrative Procedure Act claims, finding that the decision "to terminate the SFA grant program was arbitrary and capricious, contrary to law, and in excess of statutory authority under the APA [Administrative Procedure Act]."
- Similar to Rhode Island, the court found it appropriate to vacate the unlawful program termination.

Actions You Can Take

- **For Grantees:** If you are represented, contact your counsel. For all other grantees, please contact L4GG to work through your administrative options to further build your administrative record:
  - SFA@L4GG.org
- **For General Public:**
  - **News Media:**
    - Work with our Public Relations team to have your voice heard
    - Send an email to Zealan Hoover at zealan@impactstrategy.us with details regarding how you have been harmed by SFA termination and/or how you would benefit from its implementation (energy affordability, resilience, etc.)
  - **Email and Call Your Members of Congress**
    - Identify your local representative here
    - Find a template letter here
    - Submit following the instructions on their website
  - **Call or Meet Your Elected Representatives**
    - Identify your local representative here
    - Schedule a meeting (virtual or in person)
    - Call via the Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

Spotlight: Extreme Heat Action Plan



Catherine Foster

Senior Planner

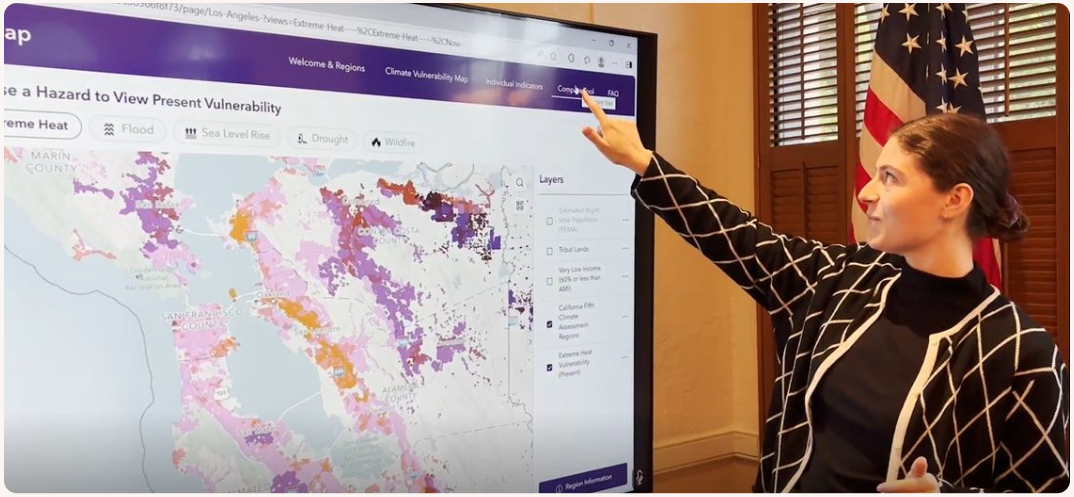
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI)

California's 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan



CA Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

California Natural Resources Agency


Welcome & Regions
Climate Vulnerability Map
Individual Indicators
Compare Tool
FAQ
e a Hazard to View Present Vulnerability
eme Heat
Flood
Sea Level Rise
Drought
Wildfire
Layers
MARIN COUNTY
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY


UCLA
Labor Occupational Safety & Health Program
Capacitación para promotoras
Prevención de enfermedades por el calor





LCI -

Process

Engagement

- **Interagency Updates**
- **Community Workshops**




Photo courtesy of Annelise Pierce

Governor's Office of
Land Use and
Climate Innovation

Featured Discussion:
Pilot Grant to Practice: Rural Resilience in the Valleys



Julianna Joss

Energy Program Manager

3C-REN, County of Santa Barbara

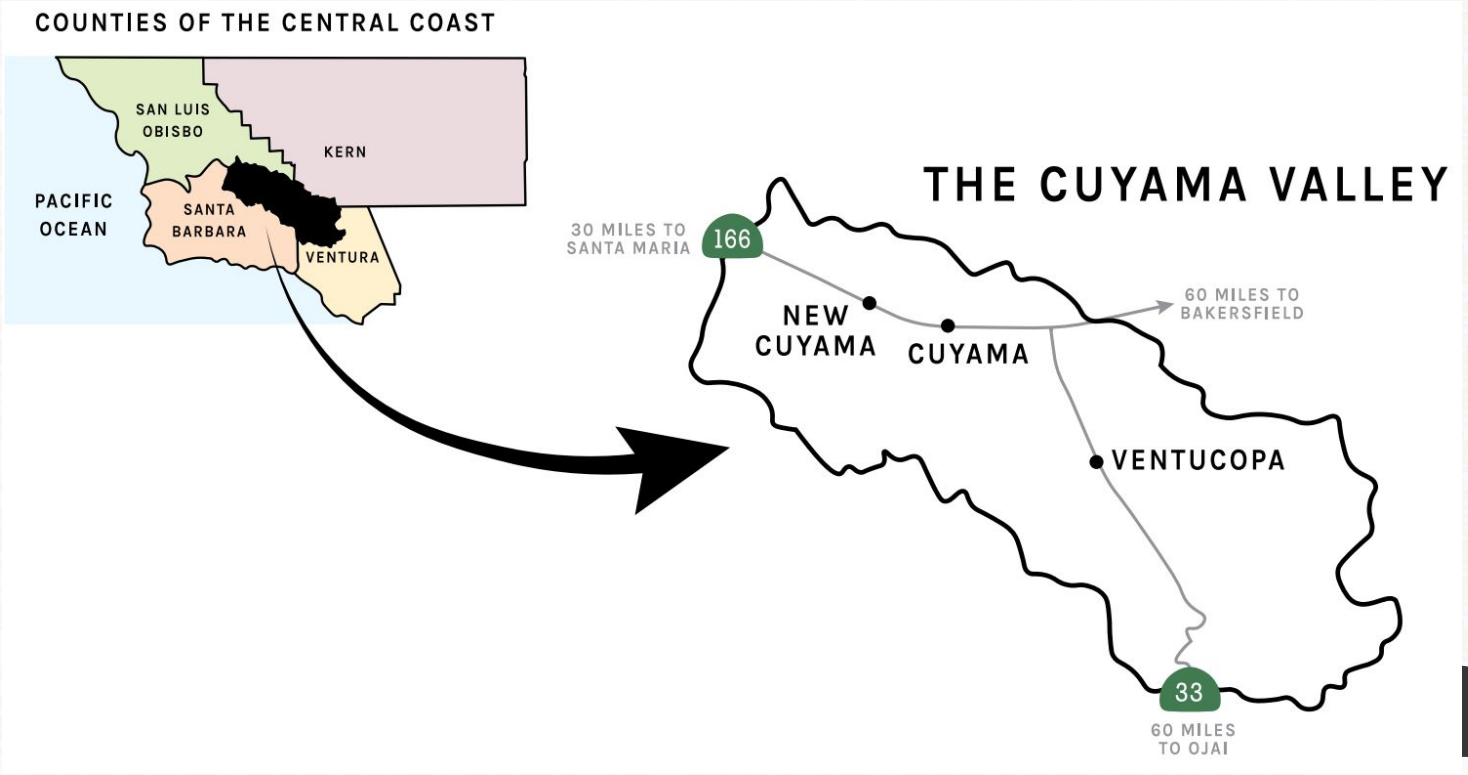
RESILIENT CUYAMA VALLEY INITIATIVE

Rural Resilience in Cuyama Valley

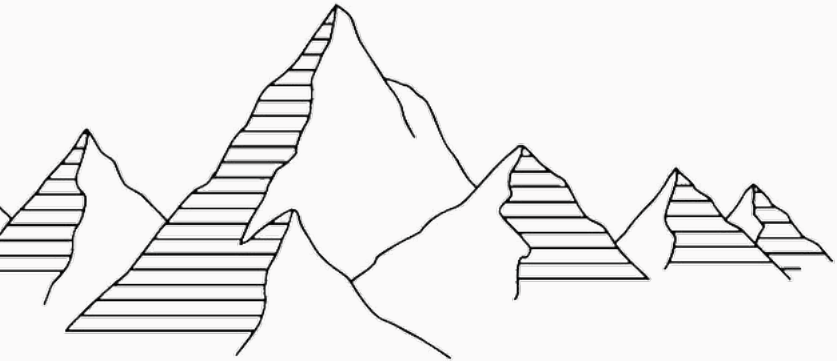
Presentation for CCEC Local Energy Resources Network

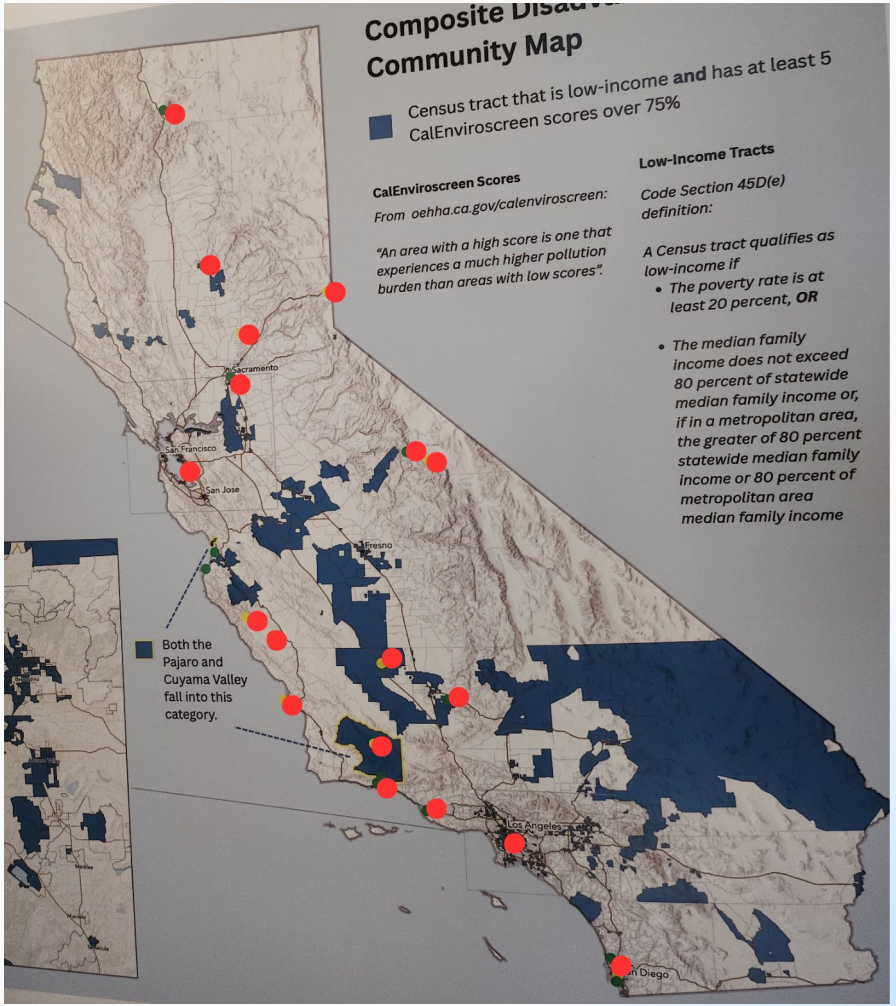
October 12, 2026

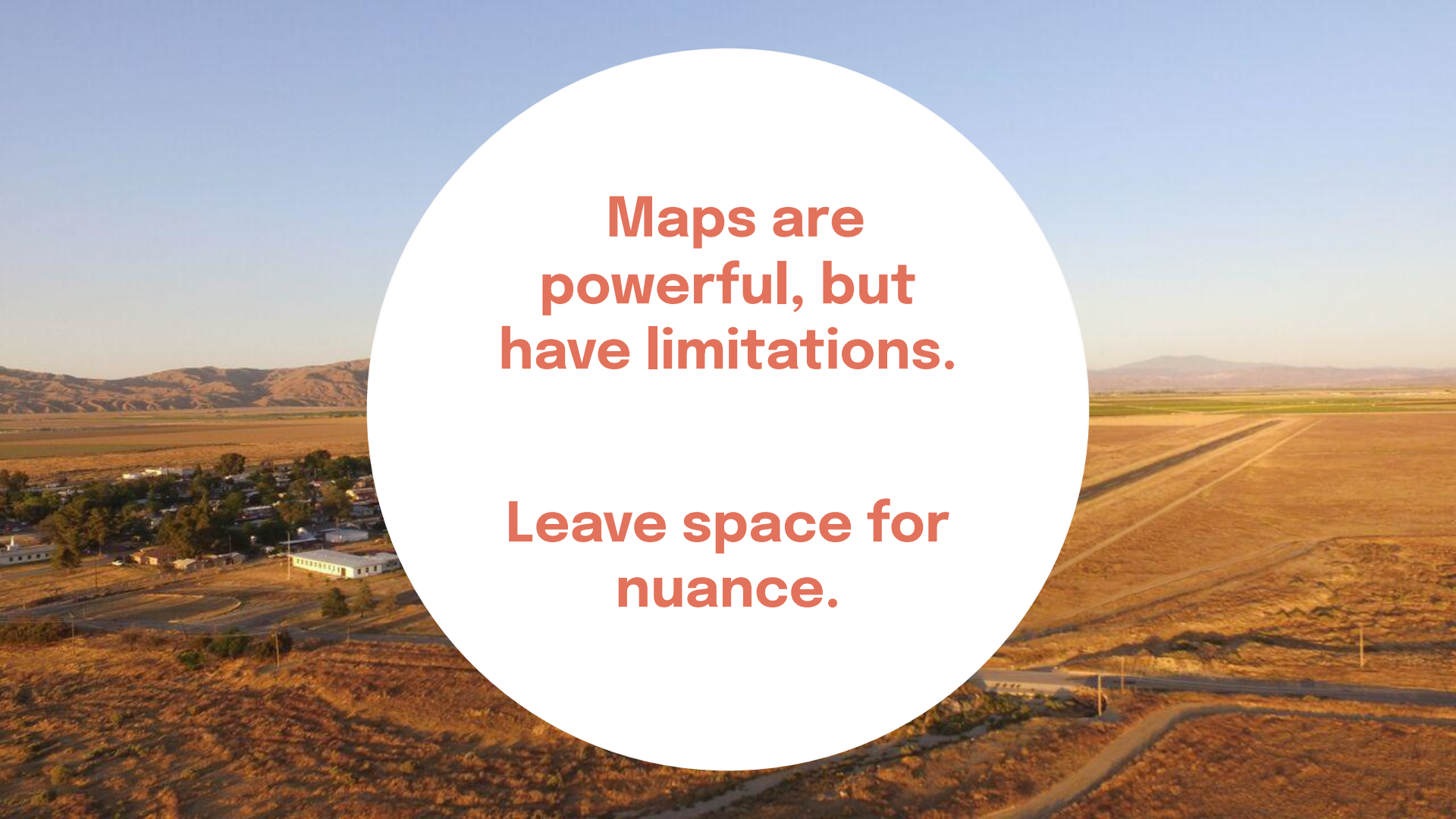



COUNTIES OF THE CENTRAL COAST
SAN LUIS OBISBO
KERN
PACIFIC OCEAN
SANTA BARBARA
VENTURA
THE CUYAMA VALLEY
30 MILES TO SANTA MARIA
166
NEW CUYAMA
CUYAMA
60 MILES TO BAKERSFIELD
VENTUCOPA
33
60 MILES TO OJAI

Grounded in Place Mapping Exercise






Maps are powerful, but have limitations.
Leave space for nuance.

Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)

- **Community-led transformation for a sustainable California**

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

California Department of Conservation

Project Development Grant
County of Santa Barbara – Resilient Cuyama Valley Initiative

Community Environmental Council

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA — one COUNTY one FUTURE

BLUE SKY

QUAIL SPRINGS

BLUE SKY

QUAIL SPRINGS

Community Environmental Council

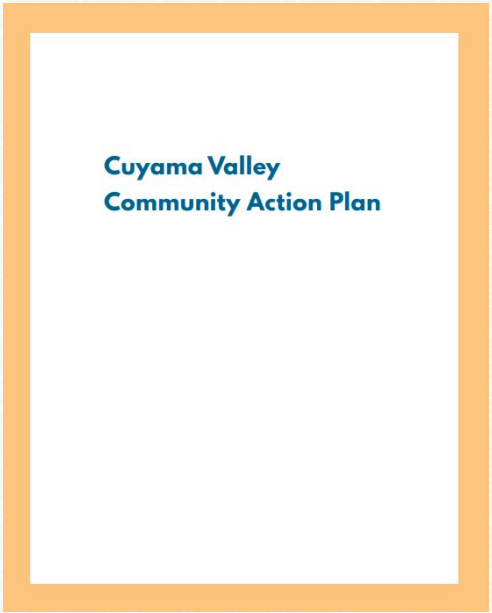
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA



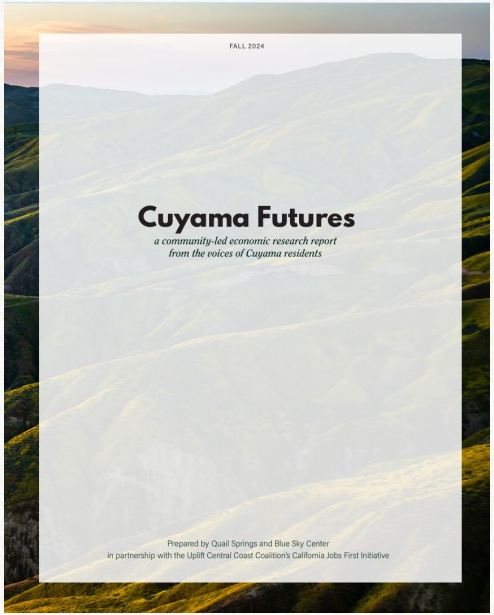
The **Resilient Cuyama Valley Initiative (RCVI)** envisions a community where families can afford **safe, comfortable housing**; community facilities serve as accessible gathering spaces; **healthy food** is locally available; workers have access to dignified **green jobs**; and local businesses and farms can grow in ways that reflect the r**egion's climate, resources, and rural character.**

Grounded in nearly **a decade of community-led planning**, we aim to transform Cuyama Valley by making critical facilities more energy-efficient and accessible, developing climate-smart affordable housing, investing in food and health sovereignty infrastructure and programs, and creating pathways to high-quality jobs supporting **lasting community resilience.**

A decade of community-led planning







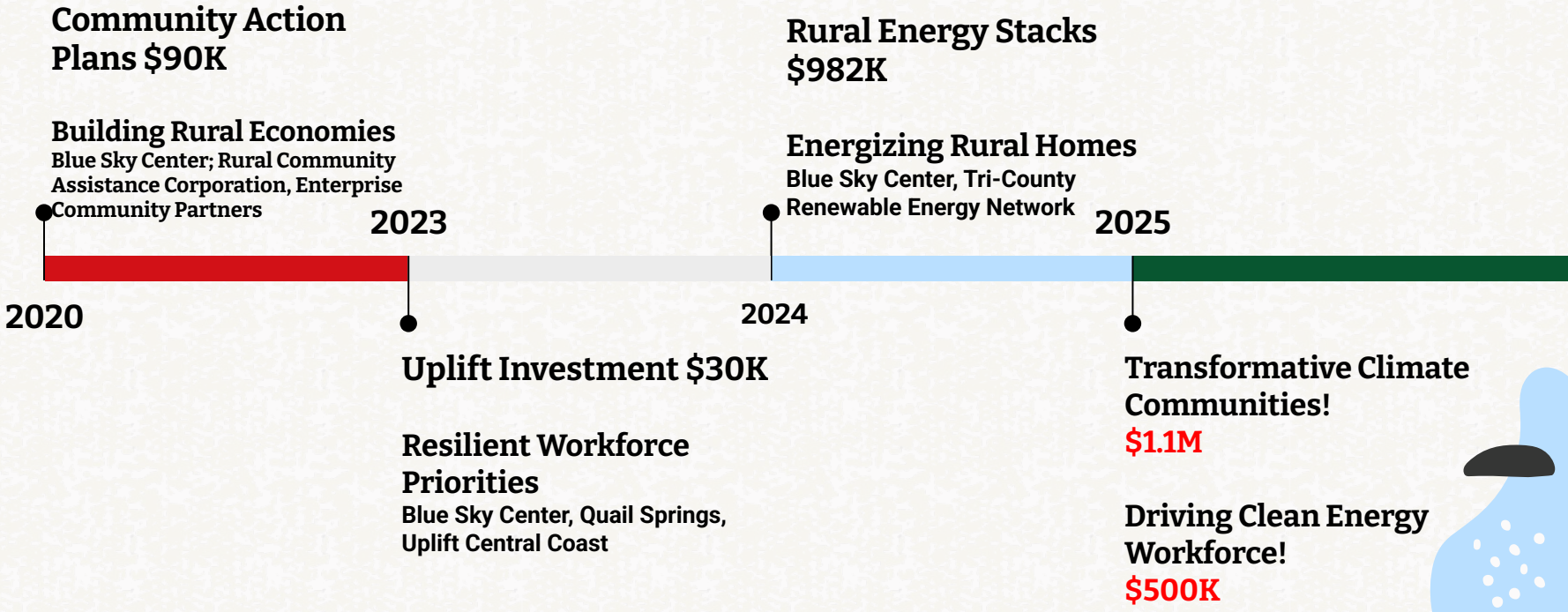


- Door-to-door outreach
- Surveys
- Community forums
- Advisory council
- Steering committees
- Celebrations
- Home visits
- Workshops

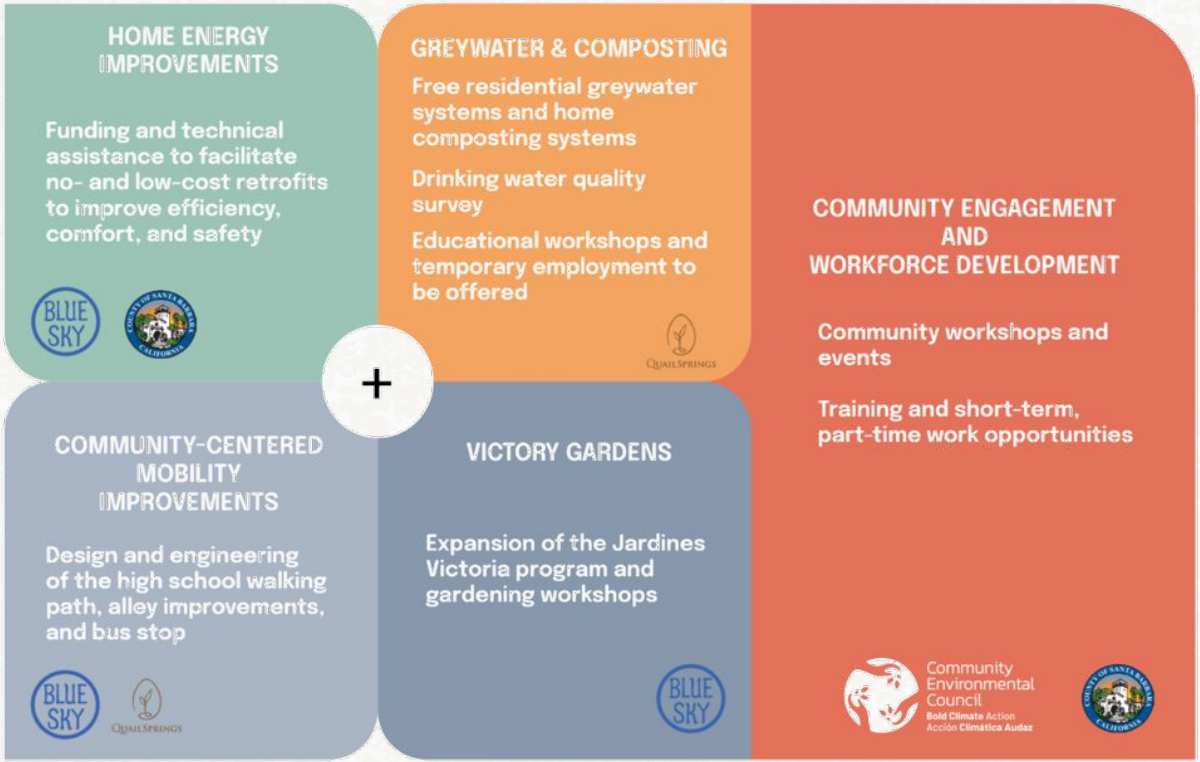




Investing in Cuyama




Involving the community is not a box to check.
It’s a dodecahedron.


HOME ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS
Funding and technical assistance to facilitate no- and low-cost retrofits to improve efficiency, comfort, and safety
BLUE SKY
GREYWATER & COMPOSTING
Free residential greywater systems and home composting systems
Drinking water quality survey
Educational workshops and temporary employment to be offered
QUAILSPRINGS
+
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Community workshops and events
Training and short-term, part-time work opportunities
COMMUNITY-CENTERED MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Design and engineering of the high school walking path, alley improvements, and bus stop
BLUE SKY
QUAILSPRINGS
VICTORY GARDENS
Expansion of the Jardines Victoria program and gardening workshops
BLUE SKY
Community Environmental Council
Bold Climate Action
Acción Climática Audaz

Cuyama Home Energy Retrofit Program (CHERP)

RESEARCH

- **76** home energy surveys
- **22** home audits completed
- **2** completed reports

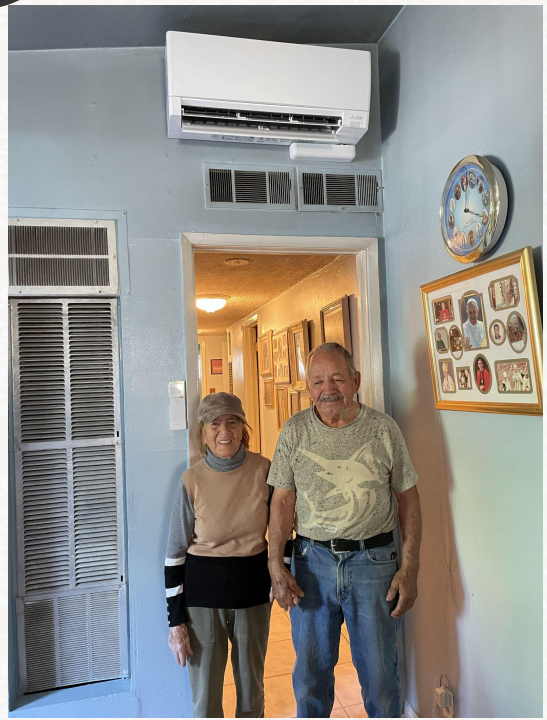
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **2** Earn-and-Learn HVAC installation project
- **12** resident learners

HOME ENERGY PROJECTS

- **4** recruited contractors
- **35** heat pump projects completed
- **12** no-cost solar and storage projects secured
- **$50,000** of TCC funds to complete projects
- **$589,210** of other leveraged funds to complete projects

In Cuyama, the home is the center for resilience.







Enabling quality jobs & a strong local economy through workforce development









Leveraging Incentives for No-Cost Projects



Self-Generating Incentive Program (Solar & Battery): **$320,157.5**

Energy Efficiency Incentives Stacked from: 3C-REN, HEERA, TECH, & 3CE: **$155,909**

U.S. Department of Energy's Energizing Rural Communities Prize: **$83,590.68**

TCC (CHERP): **$50,000**

Uplift Grant: **$26,753**


It takes money to access money.
The potential payoff is enormous.



Learn more about the Resilient Cuyama Valley Initiative:

Thank you / Gracias

Discussion

Please add questions in the chat

Q&A and Discussion

CCEC Updates

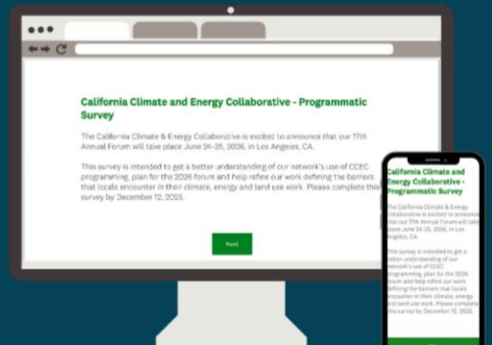


Let's build our 2027 blueprint together!

Give us feedback on programs and resources like:

- **CCEC Forum 2027**
- **Local Energy Resource Network (LERN)**
- **wEEkly Newsletter**
- **State/Local Energy & Climate Coordination (SLECC)**
- **More!**

Take the Survey Today!



Local Energy Resources Network

What's Next?

- REACH Project Accelerator Study Cohort - monthly meetings starting soon!
- Bonus Breakouts up next!
- Next meeting **November 10th**
- 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)

CCEC Serves Local Needs

- wEEkly Update
- CURRENTS Quarterly
- Webinars
- Annual Forum



- Technical Assistance
- Technical Assistance Directory
- Local Government Roundtables

- Active Funding Opportunities
- Funding Program Database

- Best Practice Database
- Interviews and Case Studies