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BUILDING CAPACITY DELIVERING OPPORTUNITY

IMPLEMENTING SB 1072 (LEYVA, 2018)
REGIONAL CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM



THE CHALLENGE

California has made significant commitments to address systemic inequities and pollution through targeted investments to low income communities.

Low-income communities, however, are often the very same communities with the least resources and capacity to compete for funding. In order for the State to meet its commitment to our most vulnerable areas and reach our climate goals, every community in California, small and large, must have equitable opportunity and access to the resources that lead to local transformations.

SB 1072 builds the capacity of local communities to make the investments necessary to transition all California to a clean energy future. SB 1072 does this in two distinct ways: establishes the Regional Climate Collaborative Program and provides guidance for the delivery of technical assistance.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS

- Seek a minimum of \$5 million allocation from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to fund the Regional Climate Collaboratives Program.
- Inform the development of the Strategic Growth Council's (SGC) guidance document for the regional collaboratives due October 1, 2019.
- Inform the development of SGC's guidance document for technical assistance due July 1, 2020.
- Track implementation of SB 1072 through annual reports produced by SGC.

Regional Climate Collaboratives

Administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) until October 1, 2029, the program will select collaboratives to provide capacity building services to assist in building the community-driven leadership, knowledge, skills, experience, and resources to identify and access public funding for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects. Where feasible, a collaborative shall leverage, complement, and build on existing regional efforts and resources for capacity building and technical assistance.

Regional collaboratives will be formed by local experts and stakeholders, including but not limited to community-based organizations, nonprofits and foundations, local government agencies, and other organizations with a history of providing community-based outreach and technical assistance.

Upon selection, the regional collaboratives will conduct activities at the regional level such as:

- Conduct outreach and build awareness of competitive grant programs.
- Convene stakeholders to discuss community needs and potential projects eligible for statewide climate grants with targeted funding.
- Develop community and project plans that demonstrate local needs and identify multiple benefits.
- Support the development of partnerships between stakeholders and funding sources.
- Provide policy, program and technical advice to develop and align multi-benefit projects with potential funding sources.
- Serve as an intermediary between stakeholders and technical expertise from agencies/outside experts.
- Support with assistance and training for grant application development, project management, implementation and monitoring.
- Assist in the development of local job training and anti-displacement policies and programs.

Technical Assistance

SGC is required to develop technical assistance guidelines by July 1, 2020 that state agencies may use in their technical assistance delivery. SGC shall consult with relevant state agencies during the development of the guidelines.

SB 1072 presents an opportunity to raise standards for state agencies providing technical assistance and to provide more coordinated technical assistance for all programs; ensuring that applicants are aware of all the funding options and apply for the program best matched to their project. While many public funding programs have set-asides for low-income communities, these programs are often implemented in a siloed approach. To maximize opportunities, stretch dollars and achieve multiple social, environmental, health and economic benefits we must coordinate and align investment activities at the state and local level. SB 1072 provides an opportunity to streamline and align program delivery and technical assistance.

Technical assistance and capacity building help priority populations overcome challenges with accessing funds and become active participants in the transition to a clean energy economy. Helping people and organizations with applications for grants and other incentives has several benefits. First, applicants who receive technical assistance are more likely to submit competitive, successful applications. Second, the project design is more likely to include desirable, community-derived benefits if technical assistance facilitates robust applicant participation in the application development process. Third, applicants who learn how to apply for State grants through technical assistance will build greater capacity in their community for securing these and other sources of funding.



For More Information

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