



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (6/2/23)

Upcoming Joint Hearing with the Assembly Committee on Emergency Management & the Assembly Committee on Insurance

Topic: Looking Forward: Insurance and Catastrophe Modeling

When: Wednesday, June 14th, Upon Adjournment of the Insurance Committee's Policy Hearing

Where: State Capitol, Room 437

California Wildfires | Placer County Emergency Crews Train Ahead of Fire Season

[ABC 10 reports](#) Placer County has seen devastating fires in recent years including the River Fire and the Mosquito Fire, so training ahead of fire season is crucial.

To watch the report, [click here](#).

Forward Progress Stopped for Wildfire in Yuba County | Updates

[ABC 10 reports](#) forward progress on a wildfire burning in Yuba County has been stopped, Cal Fire said.

Evacuation warnings were put into place due to the so-called Sicard Fire burning around Sicard Flat Road and Frontier Trail in Yuba County.

The fire is about 13 acres in size in the area of Sicard Flat and the Highway 20 corridor near Browns Valley. Cal Fire officials said the fire was threatening buildings in the area.

Roadblocks were put into place to keep people from entering the area. Officials said some areas within the Sicards Flat Road area were being evacuated directly by sheriff's deputies directly on a house-by-house basis.

The Yuba County Office of Emergency Services said zone 065-b is in the immediate fire area and under an evacuation order. The rest of zone 065 and 065 is under an evacuation warning.

The fire is 30% contained, according to Cal Fire.

'California is Meant to Burn': Experts Teach Landowners Art of Prescribed Burns

[Reuters reports](#) the prescribed burn begins on a California hill with a drip torch to light brush, needles and fallen branches, the flames spreading out on the forest floor far below the tree canopy.

Students on this Saturday class learn how to keep the burn under control, while others stand by ready to assist with water pumps, hand tools and first aid.

Teaching locals is exactly what Susie Kocher is hoping to accomplish through the El Dorado Amador Prescribed Burn Association. Founded in 2021, the association teaches private landowners about prescribed burns, including how to plan and carry them out safely.

Experts like Kocher and fire officials consider prescribed burns a vital tool to curb wildfire risks by preemptively burning dry timber and other fire fodder that could fuel the kind of out-of-control blazes California has seen in recent years.

“People have an innate fear of fire because it's only been an enemy that's been wiping out communities and it's still doing that,” Kocher said. “But if you do it at the right time, under your own conditions, it can be your friend and it can treat the forest as opposed to destroying it.”

One of the students is Sarah Fischbach, a sixth-generation Californian who grew up burning piles of wood, leaves and other tree debris on her family’s 439-acre property in the Sierra Nevada foothills. But the recent fire conditions have been intimidating.

“We haven't done any pile burns for probably 10 to 15 years with the way fires have been going. You know, recently we've been scared to, and we haven't had really the knowledge to feel like we were doing it safely,” Fischbach said.

California last year launched a strategic plan for wildfire and forest resilience with the aim of expanding prescribed burns to 400,000 acres annually by 2025.

The Saturday class for two dozen volunteers – mostly college students and a few private landowners - at the Blodgett Forest Research Station west of Lake Tahoe turned out just as the experts had hoped.

Along the perimeter, Cathy Mueller stood watch as the fire crept downhill, learning how she should burn her own four-acre property, a practice she believes California needs to do more.

“California is meant to burn, and we've been suppressing fire for so long that the buildup of fuels is kind of an emergency state right now,” Mueller said.

“And so as individual homeowners, if we can take care of our individual properties and reduce the fuels both through like mechanical means and broadcast burning, it makes our neighborhoods safer.”

State Farm Will No Longer Offer Home Insurance to New Customers in California

[NBC News reports](#) State Farm will no longer offer home insurance to new customers in California, citing "historic" construction cost increases and "rapidly growing catastrophe exposure."

Beginning Saturday, State Farm General Insurance Company will stop accepting new applications including all business and personal lines property and casualty insurance, the company said in a [news release](#).

The changes do not affect personal auto insurance.

The company said "historic increases in construction costs outpacing inflation, rapidly growing catastrophe exposure, and a challenging reinsurance market" were the reasons behind the policy change.

Their announcement comes after a bout of [wildfires](#) in the state last year. There were 7,490 fires sparked in the state in 2022, a drop of 256 from the five-year average of 7,746, according to a Dec. 1, 2022 article by [CalMatters](#).

State Farm said in its statement that it recognizes government officials and the California Department of Insurance (CDI) for their wildfire loss mitigation efforts.

"We take seriously our responsibility to manage risk," the company said. "We pledge to work constructively with the CDI and policymakers to help build market capacity in California. However, it's necessary to take these actions now to improve the company's financial strength."

"We will continue to evaluate our approach based on changing market conditions," State Farm said.

Yet Another Home Insurance Giant Quietly Stops Writing New Policies in California

[San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) Allstate has stopped writing new homeowner, condominium and commercial insurance policies in California, the company confirmed to The Chronicle.

The insurer, [the fourth largest](#) property and casualty insurance provider in the state in 2021, paused new policies "so we can continue to protect current customers," spokesperson Brittany Nash wrote in an email to the Chronicle.

The pause began last year but appeared to receive only a passing mention in industry publications. The Chronicle learned of the development this week, after reviewing an Allstate rate increase request to the California Department of Insurance.

It was not immediately clear what prompted Allstate's pullback on new policies. But State Farm, the largest provider of property and casualty insurance in California, made waves in late May by announcing it would [stop issuing new homeowner policies](#) in the state due to inflation, wildfires and rising reinsurance costs.

That Allstate quietly did the same thing last year signals that insurance woes in the state may be more severe than the public is aware of.

"State Farm is unusual in that it announces such underwriting actions. It is not required by law and most insurers do not," said Rex Frazier, president of the Personal Insurance Federation of California, an association of insurers, in an email to The Chronicle over the weekend.

The only public disclosure required of insurers pulling back eligibility in the state comes when they ask the California Department of Insurance for rate increases, Frazier said Thursday.

At least two other insurers, AIG and Chubb, which cater to high-end homes, [have pulled coverage](#) for some customers in recent years.

[Consumer advocates](#) have noted that there are still more than 100 insurers doing business in California, even as many big names pull out.

But homeowners in high-risk fire areas may have a harder time finding coverage, leading to more usage of the FAIR Plan, a state-offered “insurer of last resort” meant as a temporary safety net that covers only fire insurance and generally costs more than other plans.

Many insurance companies have already stopped renewing policies in fire-prone areas after fires in 2017 and 2018 devastated communities and resulted in large payouts.

State Farm is the only insurer in the state that has not non-renewed any customers after 2017 because of fire risks — causing their already leading share of the homeowner insurance market in California to grow 3.6% in five years.

Allstate had [previously paused new homeowner policies](#) in California from 2007 to 2016, after [state regulators questioned](#) the company’s request for a 12.2% rate increase.

Consumer advocates say State Farm’s decision to stop writing new policies in California is a tactic to push through rate increases. But insurers say California’s slow rate approval process and refusal to allow companies to charge for reinsurance and forward-looking climate risks hurt their ability to take on more customers in the state.

Insurers could also be reducing their market share to avoid the need to compensate for losses from the FAIR Plan, which requires companies as a cost of doing business in the state to cover losses proportional to their market share in the state.

PG&E Reaches \$50 Million Settlement with Shasta County in 2020 Zogg Fire

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) Pacific Gas & Electric Co. will pay \$50 million in a legal settlement with Shasta County for its role in causing the 2020 Zogg fire, which tore through several rural Northern California communities, killing four people and burning more than 56,000 acres.

As part of the settlement agreement, which awaits final approval by a judge, criminal charges against PG&E that were filed by the Shasta County district attorney in 2021 will be dropped.

The [charges, among them manslaughter and arson](#), were brought before Judge Bradley Boeckman in a February 2023 preliminary hearing, where he ruled most of the charges should [proceed to trial](#). However, a motion filed by PG&E’s legal team caused the charges to be reviewed by a different judge, who issued a tentative ruling overturning Boeckman’s decision.

Despite that tentative ruling, Shasta County Dist. Atty. Stephanie A. Bridgett engaged in several weeks of negotiations with [PG&E](#) and secured the \$50-million settlement.

In an interview Wednesday, Bridgett said it was “frustrating and disappointing” that PG&E would not be held criminally liable, but she was glad to have gained additional funding for Shasta County with the settlement.

“I didn’t want to take a risk or gamble with the safety of the community,” Bridgett said. “I wanted to secure things that would be beneficial.”

The settlement includes \$45 million earmarked for improving fire safety and emergency preparedness, including firefighter training, a large-animal evacuation center, the hiring of new arson investigators, and vegetation removal to reduce wildfire risk via the Shasta County Fire

Prevention Council. The money will also pay for permanent memorials to the four people killed in the Zogg fire.

The settlement's remaining \$5 million will cover a civil penalty to Shasta County. As part of the stipulated judgment, PG&E cannot raise customer rates to cover the settlement costs.

The Zogg fire began on Sept. 27, 2020, after a damaged gray pine fell on a PG&E electric line along Zogg Mine Road. The fire burned 56,388 acres across southwestern Shasta County and northwestern Tehama County, destroying 204 structures before it was fully contained on Oct. 13, 2020.

Four people died in the fire: Karin King, 79; Alaina Mcleod, 45; Felya Mcleod, 8; and Kenneth Vossen, 52.

According to the Shasta County district attorney's office, PG&E had in 2018 flagged the pine tree that later fell as hazardous and marked it for removal. Among its issues were a large cavity at the tree's base and no uphill supporting roots, which caused it to lean toward the lines before falling.

For further details, [visit the full article](#).

Cal/OSHA Reminds Employers to Protect Workers from Heat Illness During High Temperatures

[Cal/OSHA is reminding](#) all employers to protect workers from heat illness as high temperatures are forecast in the next few days, with some of the highest temperatures on Sunday in Imperial County, Palm Springs, Redding, Sacramento, Stockton, Bakersfield, Modesto, and Fresno.

Employers in California must take steps to protect outdoor workers from heat illness by providing water, rest, shade and training.

When working in these hotter conditions for the first time this year, workers must be closely observed for any signs of heat illness.

Cal/OSHA's [heat illness prevention standard](#) applies to all outdoor worksites. To prevent heat illness, the law requires employers to provide outdoor workers fresh water, access to shade at 80 degrees and, whenever requested by a worker, cool-down rest breaks in addition to regular breaks. Employers must also maintain a written prevention plan with effective training for supervisors to recognize the common signs and symptoms of heat illness, and what to do in case of an emergency.

In certain industries, when the temperature at outdoor worksites reaches or exceeds 95 degrees, Cal/OSHA's standard requires additional protections. The industries with additional high-heat requirements are agriculture, construction, landscaping, oil and gas extraction and transportation of agricultural products, construction materials or other heavy materials. High-heat procedures include ensuring employees are observed regularly for signs of heat illness and establishing effective communication methods so workers can contact a supervisor when needed.

Employers with outdoor workers in all industries must take the following steps to prevent heat illness:

- Plan – Develop and implement an effective written heat illness prevention plan that includes emergency response procedures.
- Training – Train all employees and supervisors on heat illness prevention.
- Water – Provide drinking water that is fresh, pure, suitably cool and free of charge so that each worker can drink at least 1 quart per hour, and *encourage workers to do so*.
- Rest – Encourage workers to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least five minutes when they feel the need to do so to protect themselves from overheating. *Workers should not wait until they feel sick to cool down*.
- Shade – Provide proper shade when temperatures exceed 80 degrees. Workers have the right to request and be provided shade to cool off at any time.

Cal/OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention special emphasis program includes enforcement of the heat regulation as well as multilingual outreach and training programs for California's employers and workers. Details on heat illness prevention requirements and training materials are available online on Cal/OSHA's [Heat Illness Prevention web page](#) and the [99calor.org](#) informational website. A [Heat Illness Prevention online tool](#) is also available on Cal/OSHA's website.

Cal/OSHA helps protect workers from health and safety hazards on the job in almost every workplace in California. Employers who have questions or need assistance with workplace health and safety programs can call [Cal/OSHA's Consultation Services Branch](#) at 800-963-9424.

For questions about heat illness prevention in indoor and outdoor places of employment, call 833-579-0927 to speak with a Cal/OSHA representative Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Complaints about workplace safety and health hazards can be filed confidentially with [Cal/OSHA district offices](#).

The HIP Network is a voluntary partnership established to increase employers' and workers' awareness of heat illness prevention in California and the importance of taking steps to prevent work-related illnesses and fatalities.

‘We’re at a Standstill’: Patients Can Face Agonizing Waits for Hospitals Transfers

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) when the pain kicked in again in February, Lahisha Marquez-Soto held off on going to the hospital for days, until she was struggling to walk out of her college dorm in Carson.

Eight days into her stay at MLK Community Hospital, doctors knew she needed another facility. She needed a medical procedure that would allow doctors to peer inside her digestive tract and perform a biopsy to find out what was wrong with her pancreas. That was something that the small hospital in South Los Angeles could not do.

But week after week, the 20-year-old lay waiting in frustration. Stranded in her hospital bed, she missed college classes, birthday celebrations, a scheduled visit with her siblings in foster care. She read novels, watched HGTV and tried not to think about what she was missing.

Hospitals are generally required under federal law to accept transfer patients suffering from medical emergencies if the facilities have space and capability; but federal officials said that does not obligate them to accept those like Marquez-Soto, who have already been admitted to a hospital. Hospital employees armed with phone lists often need to call, and call, and call until

they can secure a spot. One MLK staffer likened it to throwing spaghetti against the wall to see if it sticks.

Delays in transfers can put people at higher risk of complications and derail day-to-day life for patients. Hospital officials from around the state say that transferring patients has generally gotten harder as many health facilities struggle with staffing, which cramps hospital capacity to accept transfers. Some said that in Southern California, demand for ambulances is also exacerbating delays.

“The general public has no idea of what it takes to transfer a patient,” said Dr. Ferdinand Panoussi, medical director of Horizon Multicare, which provides hospitalist services for Antelope Valley Medical Center in Lancaster. “They think that it’s just as easy as picking up the phone.”

At Antelope Valley Medical Center, some patients who need to be transferred have grown so tired of waiting that they have decided to leave against medical advice, hoping to show up and get in through the emergency department at another facility, Panoussi said.

“This is a mess right now,” even for emergency patients, said Dr. Michael Gertz, president-elect of the California chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He also works at Antelope Valley Medical Center. Even if another facility accepts an emergency patient, “we’re often holding that patient for 12 to 24 hours until we can actually get an ambulance that is willing to take them.”

For further details on the offload delays impacting our hospitals and EMS system, [visit the full article](#).

Cartel-Backed Pot Grows Linked to Human Trafficking, Inhumane Working Conditions

[The Courier Journal reports](#) if you buy weed illegally, you unwittingly could be supporting Mexican cartels and other criminal syndicates that lure workers to farms in Northern California and Southern Oregon, where they often suffer inhumane conditions and sometimes sexual abuse. Or worse.

Some disappear, presumed murdered, their bodies discarded within the area's vast wilderness.

Others are held against their will. Sometimes, workers' passports, visas or driver's licenses and cell phones are locked away until they finish the harvest season. And cultivators often threaten to harm the workers or the workers' families if they run off or talk to police, said Trinity County Sheriff Tim Saxon.

"They're basically being held prisoner," he said.

"They're being threatened; they're cut off from their families. They're being placed in remote locations, and they don't even know where they're at."

Trinity, Mendocino and Humboldt are the three large, mountainous counties in Northern California that comprise the Emerald Triangle, known throughout the world for its extensive production of high-quality legal cannabis, as well as black market marijuana.

The state legalized marijuana for adult recreational use in 2016, but that hasn't slowed the "green rush" from Mexican cartels and other criminal syndicates angling for their portion of America's multibillion-dollar industry.

Those who harvest illegally can offer cheaper prices than licensed growers by avoiding environmental impact studies, taxes, fees and fair wages for their workers. They also rake in cash by doing something that lawful dispensaries can't do — shipping to states where marijuana remains illegal.

"We really don't know what's going on out in the forest of Trinity County," said David Brady, the county's district attorney. "We don't know if people are missing, if people are being trafficked.

"For all we know, there could be bodies buried out in the wilderness," the prosecutor said. "I worry about that because we have no way of controlling who comes into this county."

Workers are lured to the Emerald Triangle by an image of the past — one of peaceful hippies who established a cannabis community decades ago, but who are now known as the few remaining "legacy farmers." Instead, workers are far more likely to be greeted by aggressive guard dogs, an elaborate security system, potent pesticides, a towering perimeter fence and an arsenal of weapons.

"It's just like 'blood diamond,' only it's marijuana — blood cannabis," said Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, who's fighting to identify and rescue victims in his jurisdiction. ('Blood diamond' is a term used to describe gems that are illegally traded and mined in war-torn areas and used to fund the conflict.) While many of the large illegal grows are run by foreign criminal syndicates, Kendall pointed to a Potter Valley native who killed and beheaded two of his farm workers in 2021 near the town of Willits, in central Mendocino County.

Investigators found the headless bodies of a 17-year-old and his father, who came from Mexico seeking work, on a second property owned by Christopher Wayne Gamble in a ditch under a pile of tires that had been set on fire. Their heads were never found.

Kendall said he's not sure if Gamble's illegal operation was connected to organized crime, but Gamble estimated he had \$500,000 worth of marijuana, much larger than the typical mom-and-pop growers.

"It's my opinion they had a fallout, a dispute over wages or worker treatment," Kendall said of the suspected motive.

For further details on this epidemic, [visit the full article](#).

California to Send \$95 Million to Undocumented Flooding Victims – Months After Promising ‘Rapid Response’

[CalMatters reports](#) California will send \$95 million to flood victims in a long-awaited program to assist undocumented residents suffering hardship and damage from the recent months of storms.

The money will be available in many affected counties starting in June, according to the state's Department of Social Services.

The announcement comes two months after Gov. Gavin Newsom promised flood victims that help would come from the state's Rapid Response Fund. Since then his office provided few details despite repeated queries and criticism.

Alex Stack, a spokesperson for Newsom, said state officials were trying to ensure the program would be accessible to a population that is often hard to reach, while also protecting taxpayer funds from fraud.

“This program is going to serve folks who might be reticent to take advantage of public benefits for fear of it affecting their immigration status, and this is a population that moves around a lot because of farm work or other issues,” Stack said. “We’re trying to make sure folks can access this program without hurdles, and do it the right way.”

Eligible households could qualify for up to \$4,500 — each qualifying adult receiving \$1,500 and children receiving \$500. Stack said a percentage of the \$95 million will go to launching and administering the program.

The funds would be available to residents living or working in counties that were federally designated major disaster areas and that were approved for individual assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Applicants for the state funds must show they are not eligible for FEMA assistance but experienced hardship from storms beginning in December 2022 to April 2023.

For further details, [visit the full article](#).

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **GFO-22-609 – Responsive, Easy Charging Products with Dynamic Signals (REDWDS);** *energy*
 - Funded by: CA Energy Commission
 - Deadline: **Friday, June 2, 2023**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$9 million
 - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)
- **CalVCB Regional Trauma Recovery Center (TRC) Pilot Program Special Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) Northern California;** *disadvantaged communities; health & human services*
 - Funded by: Victim Compensation Board
 - Deadline: **Monday, June 5, 2023**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$2.5 million
 - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **Ready or Not Disaster Preparedness Grant Program;** *libraries and arts*
 - Funded by: CA State Library
 - Deadline: **Thursday, June 8, 2023**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$1,634,000
 - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)

Funding Opportunities

Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program

[The Board of State and Community Corrections](#) has created this program to support federally recognized Indian tribes in California to support efforts to identify, collect case level data, publicize, and investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

The State Budget Act of 2022 (Senate Bill 154, Chapter 43, Statutes of 2022) established the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program. Funding is available to federally recognized Indian tribes in California to support efforts to identify, collect case level data, publicize, and investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program proposals must be received by 5:00 P.M. (PST) on Friday, June 23, 2023.

Applications for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program must be submitted through the BSCC-Submittable Application portal. The BSCC-Submittable Application portal, Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program Application, and all required attachments are available on the BSCC website.

Prospective applicants are invited to attend a virtual Bidders' Conference. Attendance at the virtual Bidders' Conference is not a requirement. The purpose of this Bidders' Conference is to answer technical questions from prospective bidders (applicants) and provide clarity on RFP instructions. The Bidders Conference will be held on May 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Prospective applicants are asked (but not required) to submit a non-binding letter indicating their intent to apply.

The purpose of this grant is to fund proposals from federally recognized Indian tribes in California that support efforts to identify, collect case-level data, publicize, and investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

Applicants must propose activities, strategies, or programs that address a minimum of one (1) of the following Program Purpose Areas (PPAs):

- PPA 1: Culturally Based Prevention Strategies
 - PPA 2: Strengthening Responses to Human Trafficking
 - PPA 3: Improving Cooperation and Communication on Jurisdictional Issues
- Applicants may implement new activities, strategies, or programs, OR expand existing activities, strategies, or programs (without supplanting funds - see supplanting definition in the General Grant Requirements).

Proposals selected for funding will be under agreement from October 1, 2023 to June 1, 2028 with the BSCC. The grant agreement service period covers October 1, 2023 and ends on December 31, 2027. However, an additional six (6) months (January 1, 2028, to June 1, 2028) will be included in the term of the grant agreement for the sole purposes of finalizing and submitting a required Local Evaluation Report and finalizing and submitting a required financial audit.

The maximum an applicant may apply for is up to \$440,000 in the Small Scope category OR up to \$1,000,000 in the Large Scope category. Applicants may apply for any dollar amount up to and including the maximum grant amount identified in each category.

The Grant Award must cover the entire grant period. For example, if an applicant requests and is awarded \$400,000 that amount must last from October 1, 2023 to June 1, 2028.

No match is required.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, June 23, 2023**. Total estimated funding available is \$11.4 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth (5th Funding Round)

[The State Treasurer's Office](#) intends to improve access to mental health crisis services in California for children and youth, ages 21 and under by funding a statewide expansion of mobile crisis support teams (MCSTs), crisis stabilization and Children's Crisis Residential Program beds, and family respite care via grants available to counties.

Chapter 30, Statutes of 2016 (SB 833), Section 20, established the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth and is intended to improve access to mental health crisis services in California for children and youth, ages 21 and under. SB 833 provides a mechanism for funding a statewide expansion of Mobile Crisis Support Teams (MCSTs), Crisis Stabilization Units and Children's Crisis Residential Treatment beds, and Family Respite Care services via grants available to counties.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS - Counties and counties applying jointly are eligible applicants. Counties and counties applying jointly may also designate a private nonprofit corporation or public agency to receive grant funding.

ELIGIBLE COSTS - Purchase of Real Property - Construction/Renovation - Furnishings/Equipment- Information Technology - Three Months Start-Up - MCST Vehicles- MCST Personnel Funding (12 Months)

PROGRAM FUNDING - There is currently \$7,587,124.44 available in Capital funding for Crisis Residential Treatment, Crisis Stabilization Unit, and Mobile Crisis Support Team programs and \$192,737.00 in Mobile Crisis Support Team personnel funding. Funding for the Family Respite Care program is no longer available.

Counties and counties applying jointly are eligible to apply. Counties may also designate a private nonprofit corporation or public agency to be a co-applicant and a designated Grantee, but only a county may apply as a Lead Grantee.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, July 28, 2023**. Total estimated funding available is \$7,779,864. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

Transformative Climate Communities Round 5 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT Grant (FY 22-23)

[The Strategic Growth Council](#) has created the TCC Program to further the purposes of AB 32 (Nunez, 2006) and AB 2722 (Burke, 2016) by funding projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) through the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include multiple coordinated GHG emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities.

The Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC), established by AB 2722 (Burke, 2016), invests in community-led climate resilience projects in the state's most overburdened communities. The program objectives are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health and the environment, and support economic opportunity and shared prosperity. TCC's unique, place-based strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions is designed to catalyze collective impact through a combination of community-driven climate projects in a single neighborhood.

The Project Development Grants support disadvantaged communities by funding pre-development and basic infrastructure activities that advance the communities' climate and community resilience goals and prepare them for future funding opportunities aligned with the TCC Program Objectives. Project Development Grants should respond to previous community planning efforts that identified priority projects and need additional project development and basic infrastructure support funding to get ready for future resilience funding. SGC developed this pilot grant type for Round 5 TCC in response to the expressed support gap between Planning and Implementation Grant funding and to meet communities where they are in their climate resilience efforts.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs), Tribal Communities, Planning Grant Grantees, and Previous Implementation Grant Applicants will be prioritized for Project Development Grants, with DUCs given the most priority.

TCC Implementation Grants and Planning Grants support holistic neighborhood proposals and planning activities, respectively, to advance community-led goals and projects. Please see separate Grants Portal entries for information on Planning Grants and Implementation Grants.

A wide variety of activities and costs can be funded through the grant. Please see the Round 5 Guidelines for a list of example eligible activities.

Multiple Co-Applicants are required. A diverse range of community, business and local government stakeholders must form a Collaborative Stakeholder Structure to develop a shared vision of transformation for their community.

Applicants must include community engagement activities and address climate resilience through the proposal. Applicants may also address other transformative elements such as displacement avoidance and workforce development, if applicable.

Eligible Lead Applicants may include but are not limited to: community-based organizations, local governments, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations and foundations, faith-based organizations, coalitions or associations of nonprofit organizations, community development finance institutions, community development corporations, joint powers authorities, councils of governments, and California Native American Tribes.

Project Areas must be designated as disadvantaged communities per the TCC Guidelines. The Guidelines contain multiple options for establishing Project Area eligibility. Project Areas for Project Development Grants must be contiguous and may be any size and shape. See Section 6.4, Project Area Eligibility, of the Guidelines for more information on Project Area requirements.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Tuesday, August 1, 2023**. Total estimated funding available is \$9.8 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).