



## CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

TO: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Program

FROM: Louise Bedsworth  
Executive Director  
Strategic Growth Council

DATE: July 21, 2020

SUBJECT: GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND:  
Strategic Growth Council

### EXPENDITURE RECORD FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018-19 & 2019-20 California Climate Investments Technical Assistance Program

This Attestation Memorandum documents that the Strategic Growth Council completed the attached Expenditure Record on July 21, 2020 for the California Climate Investments Technical Assistance Program.

The Expenditure Record is consistent with the statutory requirements of Government Code Section 16428.9 to support expenditures from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

This Attestation Memorandum and Expenditure Record will be submitted to CARB for public posting on the CARB website at: [www.arb.ca.gov/caclimateinvestments](http://www.arb.ca.gov/caclimateinvestments). Questions on this Attestation Memorandum or Expenditure Record may be directed to Ena Lupine at [TA@sgc.ca.gov](mailto:TA@sgc.ca.gov) or 916-322-0476.

Attachment: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Expenditure Record  
Fiscal Year: 2018-19  
Strategic Growth Council  
California Climate Investments Technical Assistance Program

Louise Bedsworth, Executive Director

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***Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Expenditure Record***

Strategic Growth Council (SGC)  
California Climate Investments Technical Assistance (CCITA) Program

**Authorizing legislation:** The California Climate Investments Technical Assistance Program supports communities in building capacity and applying to the California Climate Investments (CCI) funding programs. The program aims to improve applicants' capacity to access these funds successfully, particularly those that live in the state's most disadvantaged communities.

Item 0650-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2019, as amended by Assembly Bill (AB) 74 (Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019) appropriates to the Office of Planning and Research \$2,000,000.00 for technical assistance for the California Climate Investments programs.

Item 0650-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2018, as amended by Senate Bill (SB) 856 (Chapter 30, Statutes of 2018) appropriates to the Office of Planning and Research \$2,000,000.00 for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities. The Institute for Local Government Beacon Program shall be eligible for up to \$1,000,000 of these funds to provide technical assistance to cities and counties to help them take actions to address climate change.

Senate Bill 862 (Chapter 36, Statutes of 2014) created the Affordable Housing and Communities (AHSC) Program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through projects that implement land use, housing, transportation, and agricultural land preservation practices to support infill and compact development, and that support related and coordinated public policy objectives.

Per Health and Safety Code 39719 (b)(1)(c), 20 percent of the annual proceeds of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) are continuously appropriated to the SGC under the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for the AHSC Program). In addition, current CCI Funding Guidelines allow for the use of GGRF funds for technical assistance.

On June 28, 2018, SGC unanimously approved the expenditure of \$5 million for technical assistance to local communities and agencies to assist with their participation in CCI programs.

**Element (1) A description of each expenditure proposed to be made by the administering agency pursuant to the appropriation.**

California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Expenditure Record for California Climate Investments  
Technical Assistance Program (CCI TA)

<b><i>Agency that will administer funding</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ California Strategic Growth Council (SGC)</li><li>▪ California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)</li><li>▪ California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)</li><li>▪ California Air Resources Board (CARB)</li><li>▪ Department of Conservation (DOC)</li><li>▪ California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)</li></ul>
<b><i>Amount of proposed expenditure and appropriation reference</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The total expenditure is \$9 million: \$2 million per Section 0650-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2019 (Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019) ; \$2 million per Section 0650-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2018 (Chapter 30, Statutes of 2018); and \$5 million as approved by SGC for technical assistance expenditure from FY 18-19 AHSC continuously appropriated funds.</li><li>▪ Per SB 856 (Chapter 30, Statutes of 2018), the Institute for Local Government Beacon Program shall be eligible for up to \$1,000,000 of these funds to provide technical assistance to cities and counties to help them take actions to address climate change.</li></ul>
<b><i>Estimated amount of expenditures for administering agency administrative costs</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The total expenditure includes up to \$200,000 for State Operations costs. This total represents 5% of the two \$2 million budget appropriations from FY 2018-2019 and FY 2019-2020. Not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated in this item may be used for administrative costs.</li></ul>

***If applicable,  
identify laws or  
regulations that  
govern how funds  
will be used***

- AB 1532 (Pérez, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2012), Senate Bill (SB) 535 (de León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012), SB 1018 (Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Chapter 39, Statutes of 2012), SB 862 (Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2014), and AB 1550 (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016) provide the general framework for how the auction proceeds will be administered to further the purposes of AB 32.
- Funding Guidelines from the California Air Resources Board allow for program funds to be used for the provision of technical assistance directed to disadvantaged and low-income communities.
- All funds will be allocated and managed in accordance with this law.

***Continuation of  
existing  
Expenditure Record***

- This is an update to an existing Expenditure Record submitted on January 22, 2019. The purpose of this update is to add the expenditure of the \$2 million appropriated to the Strategic Growth Council for the provision of technical assistance per Section 0650-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2019 (Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019).

***Project type(s)***

- Technical assistance

***Describe the projects and/or measures that will be eligible for funding***

- The California Climate Investments Technical Assistance Program (CCI TA) supports communities in building capacity and applying to the California Climate Investments (CCI) funding programs. The program aims to improve applicants' capacity to access these funds successfully, particularly those that live in the state's most disadvantaged communities.
  - Partnership with the Institute for Local Government to launch the BOOST pilot program to help 12 under-resourced communities (10 cities and 2 regions) create a framework for sustainable community planning that is customized and tailored to their specific needs. Through BOOST, ILG offers one-on-one support to each community that includes staff trainings, stakeholder and community engagement, and development of a realistic and sustainable implementation plan (FY 18-19).
  - Project development and application preparation services for applicants to Rounds 2 and 3 of the Transformative Climate Communities Program (FY 18-19).
  - Implementation assistance for Round 2 Transformative Climate Communities awardees (FY 19-20).
  - Direct application assistance and capacity building services for applicants to Rounds 4-7 of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, particularly those located in disadvantaged and low-income communities (FY 18-19 AHSC Continuous Appropriation).
  - Outreach, direct application assistance and implementation assistance for Planning Grant applicants to Rounds 6 and 7 of the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) program (FY 18-19 AHSC Continuous Appropriation).
  - Capacity building workshops to facilitate collaboration between transit agencies and community-based organizations on Caltrans' Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) projects (FY 19-20).
  - Implementation Assistance for awardees to Caltrans' Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) (FY 19-20).
  - The Partners Advancing Climate Equity cohort is a climate and equity learning collaborative with the objective of expanding community-based leadership

around climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience planning and grant readiness. The PACE cohort will build the capacity of individual leaders from low income and disadvantaged communities by providing information and technical guidance on the state's climate goals and the suite of available CCI programs (FY 18-19; FY 19-20).

- SGC will collaborate with Thriving Earth Exchange (TEX) on a new initiative to launch a cohort of California Community Science Fellows. The fellows will work with low income and disadvantaged communities to create collaborative, impactful community-driven research projects. This effort will help build a pipeline of Climate Research Program (CCR) projects and will advance the mission of CCR by supporting the development of actionable, community-based climate research (FY 19-20).
- Capacity building, direct application assistance and implementation assistance for CARB's Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (FY 19-20).
- CDFA partnership with University of California Agriculture & Natural Resources (UCANR) to grow the adoption of science-based climate smart farming and ranching practices and provide direct application assistance for the CDFA Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) programs (FY 18-19; FY 18-19 AHSC Continuous Appropriation; FY 19-20).
- Evaluation of the SGC's technical assistance and capacity building efforts since the inception of CCI TA in 2016. This evaluation will help SGC enhance and expand upon the success of its existing efforts and inform the development of new capacity building programs (FY 18-19).

***Intended recipients***

- Technical assistance providers
  - Technical assistance contractors
  - Non-profit organizations
  - University of California Agriculture & Natural Resources Community Education Specialists
  - Evaluation contractors
  - Community Science Fellows
  - Foundation for California Community Colleges
- Technical Assistance Recipients
  - State, local, and regional public agencies
  - Community based organizations
  - Local transit agencies
  - Farmers and ranchers

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***Program structure and process for selecting projects for funding***

- Request for Proposals for TA providers for AHSC, TCC, STEP, and the PACE Cohort.
- Request for Proposals for evaluation specialists for a contract evaluating the CCI TA program.
- Request for Proposals for TA Providers for the SALC Program via an interagency agreement with the Department of Conservation.
- Interagency agreement with Caltrans to support LCTOP and TIRCP TA through RFPs that Caltrans will administer.
- Direct contract with University of California Agriculture & Natural Resources via interagency agreement with CDFA
- Direct contract with the Institute for Local Government to support the BOOST program.
- Direct contract with Foundation for California Community Colleges to support Transformative Climate Communities implementation assistance for the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency.
- Direct contract with Thriving Earth Exchange to support travel expenses for Community Science Fellows.

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**Element (2) A description of how a proposed expenditure will further the regulatory purposes of Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code, including, but not limited to, the limit established under Part 3 (commencing with Section 38550) and other applicable requirements of law.**

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***How the expenditure is consistent with the Investment Plan and the Scoping Plan***

- AB 1532 (Chapter 807, Statutes of 2012) requires that monies from the Fund be appropriated in a manner that is consistent with the three-year Investment Plan. The “Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Third Investment Plan: Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2021-22” recommends support for “technical assistance and capacity building to help priority populations overcome challenges with accessing funds and become active participants in the transition to a low carbon economy.” In addition, the Investment Plan specifically describes and encourages agencies to direct resources towards technical assistance. Therefore, the expenditures covered by this record are consistent with the Investment Plan and align with the priorities expressed in the Plan.
- California’s 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan identified key strategies and recommendations to continue reducing GHG emissions and achieve the goals and purposes of AB 32 and related statutes. The Scoping Plan specifically referenced the need to invest in technical assistance resources for the California communities that are most disadvantaged by environmental and socio-economic burdens. The CCI TA program is therefore consistent with the Scoping Plan.

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**Element (3) A description of how a proposed expenditure will contribute to achieving and maintaining greenhouse gas emission reductions pursuant to Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code.**

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***Describe how expenditures will facilitate the achievement of GHG emission reductions in the State***

- The program will facilitate GHG benefits by providing technical assistance to disadvantaged and low-income communities that increases their participation in CCI Programs which are designed to help California reach its GHG emission reduction goals.



***Explain when GHG  
emission  
reductions and/or  
co-benefits are  
expected to occur  
and how they will  
be maintained***

- GHG emission reductions and co-benefits will occur through the CCI Programs for which disadvantaged communities will receive technical assistance to participate in and will vary according to the guidelines, methodologies and timelines of those programs.

**Element (4) A description of how the administering agency considered the applicability and feasibility of other non-greenhouse gas reduction objectives of Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code.**

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***Expected co-benefits, particularly environmental, economic, public health and safety, and climate resiliency***

- Projects will support disadvantaged communities to obtain equitable participation and outcomes in the implementation of the State's climate change policies and investment programs and the co-benefits resulting from those programs. Technical assistance also improves community engagement co-benefits and improves the ability of DACs to gain a broad range of benefits.

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***How the project will support other objectives of AB 32 and related statutes***

- Projects will support AB 32 objectives by providing technical assistance to disadvantaged communities to participate in CCI Programs that will maximize additional environmental and economic co-benefits for California, complement the State's efforts to improve air quality, and provide opportunities for local agencies and community institutions to participate in and benefit from statewide efforts to reduce GHG emissions. In addition, these CCI TA projects will support other objectives of AB 32, including the reduction of GHG emissions in a manner that:
    - Maximizes additional environmental and economic co-benefits for California
    - Complements the State's efforts to improve air quality
    - Directs public and private investment toward the most disadvantaged communities in California
    - Provides an opportunity for small businesses, schools, affordable housing associations, and other community institutions to participate in and benefit from statewide efforts to reduce GHG emissions
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***Percentage of total  
funding that will be  
expended for  
projects that are  
located in and  
benefit priority  
populations<sup>1</sup> per  
CARB guidance***

- FY 18-19 Appropriation: At least 70% of the funds will go towards supporting Disadvantaged Communities and at least 10% will go towards Low-Income Communities
- FY 18-19 AHSC Continuous Appropriation: At least 50% of the funds will go towards supporting Disadvantaged Communities and at least 20% will go towards Low-Income Communities
- FY 19-20 Appropriation: At least 70% of the funds will go towards supporting Disadvantaged Communities and at least 10% will go towards Low-Income Communities

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<sup>1</sup> Priority populations include residents of: (1) census tracts identified as disadvantaged by California Environmental Protection Agency per SB 535; (2) census tracts identified as low-income per AB 1550; or (3) a low-income household per AB 1550. See Section VII.B for more information on the definitions of priority populations.

***Describe the benefits to priority populations per CARB guidance***

- These projects will provide direct capacity building opportunities for disadvantaged communities through outreach, workshops, seminars, community leadership training, etc., to increase their capacity to obtain, improve, and retain the skills and knowledge needed to participate in and benefit from CCI Programs and other incentives and/or regulatory programs to reduce environmental burdens and improve public health in their communities.

***Explain strategies the administering agency will use to maximize benefits to disadvantaged communities***

- Disadvantaged and Low-Income communities are prioritized for AHSC and SALC TA.
  - All eligible applicants to STEP and TCC are disadvantaged communities, so all TA recipients are screened to ensure that they meet that criteria.
  - Low-income and disadvantaged communities were prioritized in selecting communities to receive assistance through the BOOST Program.
  - The focus of the LCTOP and TIRCP TA contracts is to maximize benefits to low income and disadvantaged communities through these transportation-related grant programs.
  - All or almost all of PACE cohort participants will be from disadvantaged and/or low-income communities.
  - While the CCI TA evaluation does not invest directly in low-income and disadvantaged communities, it does benefit priority populations by helping the SGC determine opportunities to build on past successes and make improvements to the program, which will undoubtedly benefit future TA recipients.
  - The TA provided for the applicants to CDFA's Climate Smart Ag programs will not focus on disadvantaged communities, but instead will prioritize assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs).
  - The majority of Thriving Earth Exchange Community Science Fellows will work with disadvantaged and low-income communities in California.
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***Explain how the administering agency will avoid potential substantial burdens to disadvantaged communities and low-income communities or, if unknown, explain the process for identifying and avoiding potential substantial burdens***

- The CCI TA program does not fund any infrastructure or activities that would create burdens for disadvantaged and low-income communities. The program is designed to ensure that the process of designing and implementing CCI-funded projects engages a variety of community stakeholders in order to avoid or minimize any potential burdens to the most disadvantaged and low-income residents of the communities that will host the proposed project.

**Element (5) A description of how the administering agency will document the result achieved from the expenditure to comply with Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 35800) of the Health and Safety Code.**

<b><i>How the administering agency will track / report progress to make sure projects are implemented per requirements in statute and CARB guidance</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The administering agency will require funding recipients to maintain records and submit status reports. In addition, the administering agency will conduct periodic reviews of selected projects. If a funding recipient does not perform in accordance with program requirements, the recipient will be subject to the remedies for non-performance, as identified in the contracting language.</li></ul>
<b><i>Describe the approach that will be used to document GHG emission reductions and/or other benefits before and after project completion.</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The administering agency will coordinate with CARB to determine how to document GHG emission reductions and/or co-benefits through qualitative metrics.</li></ul>
<b><i>Type of information that will be collected to document results, consistent with CARB guidance</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The administering agency will collect information on project outcomes for all of the projects, consistent with CARB guidance.</li></ul>
<b><i>How the administering agency will report on program status</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The administering agency will provide regular updates on expenditures, project status, and benefits in reports prepared according to CARB guidance. At a minimum, the reports will include expenditure amounts, quantification of applicable co-benefits, and other metrics yet to be determined. Reports will also include information on how outcomes for these projects have been linked to practical climate action over a period yet to be determined.</li></ul>