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JTAC STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Funding for Adaptation and Resilience Focus Group

MEETING DATE: April 7, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 12

STAFF CONTACT: Mike Becker

RECOMMENDATION:

Participate in a focus group on funding opportunities related to climate change adaptation and resilience.

DISCUSSION:

The Resilient Cities Catalyst is conducting focus groups across the state to discuss climate change adaptation and resilience funding needs and opportunities. Please see attachment A for more information.

ATTACHMENTS:

A. Focus Group Agenda

ATTACHMENT A

Central Coast Focus Group: OPR's Funding For Adaptation And Resilience

Santa Barbara County Association of Governments Forum - April 7th, 10 am PT

Focus Group Discussion Agenda (Proposed)

Time	Agenda Item
0:00 - 0:05	Brief Overview of the Landscape Analysis
0:05 - 0:10	Poll: Given the context of substantial new funding for Central Coast adaptation/resilience, what are the critical gaps that you would prioritize for OPR funding?
0:10 - 0:28	Discussion Prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Considering current obstacles and previous state and federal funding, what would be the best structure for awarding and administering the OPR funding in the Central Coast Region, bearing in mind the use of these OPR funds to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- build lasting local/regional capacity,- better address climate inequities, and- leverage other public, private sector, and charitable resources?- <i>Examples: One structure for all climate impacts? Different structures for drought, heat, wildfire, sea-level rise, etc.? All funding direct to local governments? Regional agency control for all or part of the funding?</i>
0:28 - 0:30	Wrap up

Background: Regional Landscape Analysis, Agenda Setting Sessions

Resilient Cities Catalyst (RCC), Farallon Strategies, and CivicWell, recently received a grant from The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to conduct a statewide analysis on governance gaps and opportunities for regional climate resilience. The impetus for this work is the historic level of funding allocated in the FY 2021-2022 State budget to support climate resilience. The Legislature and Governor Newsom responded to California's significant climate change impacts by allocating \$3.7 billion for climate resilience (and \$15 billion for climate overall), and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) received \$275 million to distribute from 2022-2025. OPR should begin providing grant funding in 2022 for community-based organizations, non-profits, regional climate collaboratives, and municipalities to spearhead and/or further advance climate mitigation and adaptation across the State.

Our goal in conducting regional engagement processes and related analyses is to inform OPR's program and highlight where gaps and opportunities exist to make the greatest impact through

their grant programs. Our analysis will include an overview of needs and capacities across all the State's regions while answering critical questions related to governance structures. The regional sessions will serve as one key component of a landscape analysis that will continue through early Spring of 2022 and conclude in a final statewide report.

Regional discussions aim to provide an opportunity for regional constituency representatives to:

- Share what aspects of climate resilience work are most in need of greater and/or more stable funding;
- Discuss how funds could flow in a way that would build the greatest lasting organizational, institutional, community, and professional capacity in the region;
- Consider what would be the most efficient channels for funding for different types of entities, the climate preparedness of different constituencies, and different types of climate resilience work (e.g., technical assessments, training and capacity building, project preparation); and
- Craft further survey and engagement activities for this process with RCC.

The sessions should help frame alternatives for the prioritization of funds uses and for local distribution and governance of funds that can be further explored via a survey and regional workshop.

About the California Resilience Partnership

The California Resilience Partnership is a statewide, multimillion-dollar public-philanthropic effort led by Resilient Cities Catalyst in coordination with a diverse set of organizations and stakeholders, along with participation by representatives of California State agencies, to support collaboration on statewide priorities. This multi-sector model, expanding to regions statewide, will develop new partnerships to advance high-impact projects that tackle California's complex resilience challenges in regions across the state. The CRP model is designed to attract philanthropic and other funders for high-impact, equity-focused resilience projects.