



ICARP

INTEGRATED CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCY PROGRAM

Technical Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2022 | Zoom Video Conference | 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Public Agenda: https://opr.ca.gov/climate/icarp/tac/meetings/2022-10-07/docs/20221007-Agenda_TAC_Q3_2022.pdf

Meeting slides: https://opr.ca.gov/climate/icarp/tac/meetings/2022-10-07/docs/20221007-PPT_TAC_Q3_2022.pdf

Item 1 | Welcome and Roll Call

Chair Sam Assefa introduced the meeting with a land acknowledgement and noted that Sacramento, California is on ancestral Nisenan Tribal Land. He remarked that a land acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Native Americans as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Native American tribes and their traditional territories.

Today's agenda:

- Item 1: Welcome & Roll Call
- Item 2: Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes
- Item 3: State Agency Report Out
- Item 4: ICARP Programmatic Updates
- Item 5: CA Climate Adaptation Strategy Annual Implementation
- Item 6: Draft Adaptation Planning Grant Guidelines
- Item 7: Citizen Advisory Committee: CDBG-MIT
- Item 8: General Public Comment
- Item 9: Closing and Meeting Adjourned

Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Members Present (17):

Jacob Alvarez, City of Coachella

Sam Assefa (Chair), Governor's Office of Planning & Research (OPR)

Nathan Bengtsson, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)

Laura Engeman, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Jana Ganion, Blue Lake Rancheria

Amanda Hansen, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)

Virginia Jameson, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

Liya Rechtman (Substitute for Darwin Moosavi), California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)

Sona Mohnot, Greenlining Institute

Lori Nezhura, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)

Andrea Ouse, City of West Sacramento

Jonathan Parfrey, Climate Resolve

Michelle Passero, The Nature Conservancy

Mark Starr, California Department of Public Health (CDPH)/California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

Brian Strong, City and County of San Francisco

John Wentworth, Town of Mammoth Lakes

Wilma Wooten, County of San Diego

Absent (7):

Veronica Beaty, California Coalition for Rural Housing

Karalee Browne, Institute for Local Government

Shereen D'Souza, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency

David Loya, City of Arcata

Gloria Walton, The Solutions Project

Item 2 | Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes

Public Comment

No comments.

Action

Brian Strong moved to approve the March 25th meeting minutes, with a second from Amanda Hansen.

The TAC voted to approve TAC meeting minutes from March 25, 2022, with 15 ayes and 0 noes.

Sam Assefa, Nathan Bengtsson, Laura Engeman, Jana Ganion, Amanda Hansen, Virginia Jameson, Liya Rechtman, Lori Nezhura, Jonathan Parfrey, Mark Starr, John Wentworth, Wilma, Andrea Ouse, Michelle Passero, and Wilma Wooten voted to approve.

Minutes approved.

Item 3 | State Agency Report Out

Amanda Hansen provided an update for the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA). She began by noting that the state secured \$54 billion for climate action through the recent legislative cycle. Additionally, in August, CNRA released a Water Supply Strategy to help plan for a hotter and drier future. Hansen highlighted that CNRA and OPR will be co-hosting an Extreme Heat Symposium in mid-October. Lastly, she mentioned that Secretary Crowfoot attended Climate Week in New York City in September with Governor Newsom. Secretary Crowfoot connected with state and international partners to discuss climate adaptation and resilience issues California is facing with other Mediterranean climate partners to share lessons learned and best practices.

Nathan Bengtsson asked if CNRA is coordinating with the California Energy Commission to help implement the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding.

Amanda Hansen answered that her colleague works closely with California Energy Commission to monitor IIJA funding. She also shared that there is an administration-wide effort to better position California for federal funding, both IIJA and Inflation Reduction Act funding.

Mark Starr provided an update for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH)/California Human and Health Services Agency (HHS). First, he announced that CDPH and HHS received funding through the state budget to address extreme heat action items called out in California's Extreme Heat Action Plan. He shared that the Department of Social Services received \$8.5 million to educate and train 70,000 residential and childcare facilities on how to prevent heat related illnesses. CDPH received \$3 million to help address extreme heat. Half of this funding will go to the Occupational Health Branch to support public outreach and education to employers with vulnerable workers to inform them of extreme heat risks and the other half will support CDPH's Licensing and Certification Branch which regulates over 11,000 facilities to train surveyors and ensure residents in long-term care facilities remain safe in heat waves. Mark shared that CDPH released new extreme heat guidance in September for schools and local health departments to protect vulnerable populations, student athletes, and the general public. He highlighted a \$10 million investment in the state budget to support a syndromic surveillance program to more accurately track extreme heat related health conditions. He explained that this will provide the State with more rapid information to quickly respond to public health concerns. He

shared that CDPH released new wildfire smoke guidance for local public health officials. He explained that this version includes robust updates from the last guidance and useful information on smoke. Additionally, the Office of Health Equity received \$25M to address climate change and health related plans on a regional scale. He shared that CDPH and the California Air Resources Control Board co-hosted a public health workgroup meeting focused on tribal health.

John Wentworth asked how strategies coming out of the wildfire taskforce affect implementation programs on the ground. He expressed that there are a handful of opportunities to connect this work with CNRA's.

Jonathan Parfrey mentioned he is really interested in syndromic surveillance. The Los Angeles Times reached out to Climate Resolve to ask how many people were hospitalized during the September heat wave. The Los Angeles Public Health Department did not want to share this information. He expressed the need for news coverage and public interest on heat related illnesses and the importance of releasing heat related data through syndromic surveillance to trigger greater public concern and engagement.

Mark Starr responded there are approximately 8-12 counties that are doing syndromic surveillance themselves and this funding will help expand this effort across the State to gather data on heat related illnesses.

Jacob Alvarez shared that is difficult to find data on heat related illnesses or deaths. He expressed frustration with limiting data that does not accurately capture communities in the Eastern Coachella Valley that are impacted by heat related illnesses. He expressed support to identify better ways to collect heat related data at the employer and worker-level to help combat extreme heat.

Nathan Bengtsson mentioned that he is working with community facing groups that represent communities in regions across the state. He shared that PG&E is looking at less air-conditioned coastal zones where adaptative capacity does not exist and supported the need for data collection and education on climate related threats.

Brian Strong recommended CDPH reach out to local governments to learn about local efforts to track and address extreme heat. He mentioned working in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through a Heat Watch grant to track heat over Labor Day weekend.

Mark Starr responded that CDPH will reach out to their local public health partners.

Wilma Wooten mentioned that in San Diego, they have a heat response taskforce. She shared that it was over 100 degrees in coastal communities during the September heatwave. They have updated their taskforce and plan to take this into consideration. She also mentioned that San Diego is issuing an annual report of the incidents of extreme heat events and hospitalizations.

Lori Nezhura provided an update for the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). CalOES sent a text alert to 27 million phones in California during the September heatwave to urge action and turn off non-essential power and within 30 minutes of that text, the grid regained over 2,000 megawatts of capacity. She explained that this allowed the State to avoid mass rolling blackouts. She shared that the draft 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) is being shared with State partners for review and the importance of this document to help maintain the State's enhanced status which allows CA access to more disaster funding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs are open for funding, FEMA will expand the non-financial directive of technical assistance to 40 communities through this cycle to help communities build capacity and capability at the local level to access BRIC and FMA funding. FEMA created a new webpage on climate resilience and action to highlight best practice stories on how communities are building back strong and becoming climate resilient. Lastly, she shared that CalOES is currently working on their Threat and Hazard Risk Assessment (THRA) to identify hazards and how California will address these gaps and the Stakeholder Preparedness Review discusses how CalOES will mitigate these hazards.

Chair Assefa thanked Nezhura for the hard work CalOES has been leading, especially during the September heatwave.

Jonathan Parfrey asked if CalOES could clarify if extreme heat mitigation projects are eligible for BRIC funding and how sub-applicants should develop competitive BRIC sub-applications that address extreme heat.

Lori Nezhura responded that extreme heat mitigation projects are eligible for FEMA hazard mitigation funding. She recommended pulling together a regional or community-wide application and to prioritize vulnerable populations since funding is limited. Nezhura suggested a future TAC agenda item on FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding.

Nathan Bengtsson asked if CalOES is incorporating UCLA's ArkStorm 2.0 flood projection data in their THRA update.

Lori Nezhura responded that CalOES has reviewed UCLA's report, but is planning to incorporate ArkStorm 2.0 flood projections in its Northern California Flood Response Plan.

John Wentworth expressed interest in supporting topic areas CalOES and FEMA could cover in a future TAC agenda item.

Brian Strong stated that extreme heat projects are a FEMA eligible activity, but struggle to meet FEMA's benefit cost analysis (BCA) because there aren't standard values to input into FEMA's Benefit Cost Analysis toolkit. Strong encouraged inviting CalOES's Hazard Mitigation Branch and FEMA Region IX to an upcoming TAC meeting to discuss project eligibility requirements and federal challenges. He also expressed concern of superfund sites and hazardous waste. He emphasized the

need to ensure hurricane data should be paired with climate risk to ensure the most vulnerable communities are not impacted toxic sites.

Virginia Jameson provided an update for the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). She emphasized that the drought continues to impact California's agriculture, which produces over a third of the country's vegetables and three quarters of its fruit and nuts. Jameson mentioned that projections of fallowing this year are close to 800,000 acres, which is an estimated 1.7 billion dollars in losses and more than 14,000 full and part-time jobs. This fallowing creates health hazards such as poor air quality because of dust. She mentioned four funding programs to address the drought. The first program is for California underserved and small producers which provides direct economic relief for drought and COVID impacts. CDFA is currently seeking input for this program and another round of funding will open in 2023. The second program is the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program that just launched a pilot program in Imperial Valley to fund updates to irrigation systems. A third program, the Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program, is accepting applications to fund activities such as carbon farm plans, nutrient management plans, organic transition plants, and soil health management until the end of October. Lastly, Jameson mentioned funding for a pollinator habitat program that opens at the end of November.

Nathan Bengtsson asked for clarification if the 800,000 acres being fallowed because of limited water availability.

Virginia Jameson responded that Nathan is correct and that it is drought related fallowing.

Jana Ganion asked if CDFA has data on the percentage of crop reduction this year due to the drought.

Virginia Jameson responded that she would get back to Jana with this information.

Jacob Alvarez expressed that colder winter seasons and longer summer seasons have devastating impacts on farmers and crop yield. Jacob mentioned that the Augustine Coya Indians developed a pollinator's row for themselves to be 100% sustainable. He expressed an interest in pollinator grant information to help encourage farmers do more of this work.

Liya Rechtman provided an update for the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA). CalSTA just released the first annual report on the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure. A public comment period for the report will be open until November 4th. There are 34 actions on how to better align state transportation infrastructure investments with climate goals. CalSTA is at 88% complete in meeting its 34 actions. One specific action calls for the development of climate adaptation planning and implementation guidance, specifically looking to bolster ICARP and CalTrans vulnerability assessments, updating competitive grant guidelines to incentivize climate risk assessments, and exploring land conservation incentives through transportation programs. She also mentioned that CalTrans's Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program Guidelines

just went out for a 30-day public comment period. This year's state budget included one-time additional funding of \$50 million for climate adaptation planning grants, which will be administered by CalTrans as part of their Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program. Public comment for this program is open until November 4th. She also mentioned that the California Transportation Commission will be hosting a workshop for the Local Transportation Infrastructure Climate Adaptation Program to kick-off the guidelines development process. Rechtman mentioned that Caltrans is starting to scope its resilience improvement plan which required by the Federal Highway Administration and plans to host workshops with other jurisdictions to build this out. Lastly, she shared that CalTrans is hiring seven climate change planning positions to help implement the federal infrastructure bill and its climate change programs, with a focus on coastal climate change issues.

Chair Assefa provided an update for the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). He announced the appointment of Saharnaz Mirzazad as the new Chief Deputy Director of Planning and Climate Policy. Prior to this role, Saharnaz served as the Deputy Director of Community Investment and Planning at the California Strategic Growth Council, overseeing more than \$3 billion dollars of investments in infrastructure programs and community driven policy solutions. At OPR, Saharnaz will help build and connect on-going efforts in climate equity, infrastructure, and planning work across OPR's climate and planning team. Next, he announced the upcoming Extreme Heat Symposium that OPR is co-hosting with CNRA on October 18th. At this Symposium, leaders from across regions and sectors will convene to discuss innovative and replicable strategies for building resilience to extreme heat to ensure these strategies are equitable and accessible based on California's best climate science. Chair Assefa also mentioned the recent release of OPR's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Planning Guidance and the updated Fire Hazard Planning Technical Advisory, along with 9 best practice case studies. These resources are available on the State Adaptation Clearinghouse. Lastly, he shared that the Community Economic and Resilience Fund (CERF) program finished scoring applications for the first round of planning grants and anticipates making award announcements in early November.

John Wentworth asked who on the OPR team is involved with GIS and data aggregation to ensure that data resources are integrated into planning guidance to ensure wildfire and human considerations are prioritized in the WUI.

Chair Assefa responded that OPR's GIS team coordinates with CalFire and other agencies.

Public Comment

Deirdre Des Jardins highlighted extreme flooding scenarios in British Columbia and Europe.

Mehdi Ganji encouraged the TAC to holistically analyze the State's infrastructure systems and identify points of coordination to support resilience.

Belle Cole asked if the funding programs that the TAC oversees prioritize mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate change.

Mark Roast stated that they are developing new battery technologies and is looking forward to deploying these at scale in California and the rest of the world. This will help stabilize the grid in terms of high demand and then displace fossil fuels in all roles. They also suggested that people should get familiar with surface water management practices taught in permaculture.

Action

No action.

Item 4 | ICARP Programmatic Updates

Sloane Viola announced two new ICARP team members, Lauren Marsiglia, Senior Planner, Regional Resilience Grant Program and Simon Jumpshot, ICARP Intern. Viola flagged several vacancies across ICARP and that recruitment processes will begin soon. She mentioned that the ICARP website has a new layout, so some links may no longer be working. ICARP staff is quickly fixing these issues. Viola highlighted five key updates.

First, she mentioned that ICARP's Fifth Climate Change Assessment team just concluded a series of research roundtables that brought together academic experts, community groups, and the general public to identify research gaps that could be addressed through the Fifth Assessment's technical reports. Viola expressed ICARP's gratitude for the California Council on Science and Technology for their partnership in convening these roundtables. The team will refine its list of proposed research topics and intends to release a request for proposals early next year.

Secondly, Viola shared that the Adaptation Clearinghouse is undergoing a user needs assessment with a contractor to determine short, medium, and long term needs and priorities to inform web development, design, and functionality improvements to support user accessibility. She extended an invitation for Councilmembers to participate in key informant interviews to shape future updates to the Clearinghouse.

Thirdly, Viola highlighted that the online wildfire and flood after fire plan alignment guides are nearing completion. She mentioned that the print and online versions of these guides will be available later this fall and the team plans on conducting outreach to local governments on the use and application of the plan alignment tool kit.

Finally, Viola shared that OPR's Cooperative Technical Partner (CTP) grant with FEMA was awarded a FY2022 award. This grant will provide staff support and resources to support local climate resilience planning efforts to build on the plan alignment guides by conducting a user needs assessment to support plan alignment and hazard mitigation needs in California Native American tribes and tribal communities. ICARP's Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grants Program finished its stakeholder listening sessions to solicit feedback to inform the development of the program's guidelines. One of the hybrids listening sessions in Fresno had 360 participants. The Regional Resilience team anticipates releasing draft guidelines in early January 2023.

The ICARP Staff Report is included on the October 7, 2022 TAC meeting https://opr.ca.gov/climate/icarp/tac/meetings/2022-10-07/docs/20221007-Item%204_ICARP_Staff_Report_TAC_Q3_2022.pdf

Public Comment

No comments.

Action

No action.

Item 5 | California Climate Adaptation Strategy: Implementation Reporting

Sloane Viola and Clesi Bennett from CNRA provided an overview of the annual reporting requirements of the California Climate Adaptation Strategy and the proposed structure of the implementation report. This item is before the TAC to seek input on the development of the annual report and help inform implementation reporting requirements. The strategy is organized around outcome-based priorities rather than individual sectors, enabling a coordinated, integrated approach to building climate resilience. This approach recognizes how climate adaptation is implemented on the ground and reflects the state's commitment to integrating climate resilience into the work of all state agencies.

The 2021 Strategy was released as an interactive website that serves as a hub for state climate resilience action. This website will be updated to reflect progress and will allow for Californians to easily access information on our efforts. Viola explained that the Adaptation Strategy is structured around six coequal priorities that provide strategic direction to State, policies, programs, and investments. These priorities were refined through robust public engagement process held last summer.

Clesi Bennett shared that State must report annually on the implementation of the State Adaptation Strategy. There will be two key reporting deliverables, an implementation report for the Legislature and an update to the State Adaptation Strategy website to add progress indicators for each metric. Bennett explained that today's discussion will help inform what material should be included in the implementation report and whether the proposed metrics are understood and useful. There will be public workshops on October 17th and 18th to gain public input on progress to date and near-term priorities. Bennett also mentioned that there is also a survey available until October 21st for individuals to provide feedback on annual reporting requirements if they cannot attend any of the workshops. Bennett concluded by sharing the questions that were asked during Workshop Series #1: Public Priorities for Implementation Reporting to solicit feedback from the Council.

John Wentworth asked that staff consider incorporating GIS or mapping tools to articulate the geographies of where adaptation strategies are being implemented. Secondly, Wentworth asked to include reporting requirements that discuss jurisdictional collaborations with federal agencies to report on the opportunities and

challenges of working with federal partners when it comes to implementing 30x30 and nature-based solutions.

Nathan Bengtsson asked if the reporting can identify equity components by addressing what types of projects are happening in certain communities and regions.

Michelle Passero asked if there is a way to gather information to look at synergies, such as climate mitigation efforts. She expressed that pulling together this information for climate adaptation and mitigation, similar to the structure of the 30x30 Plan, will help support cohesive thinking and planning.

Jana Ganion expressed it would be helpful to use this programmatic initiative to identify capacity gaps at the regional level.

John Wentworth asked how the State is defining regions and if this can be integrated with CERF to help align overlapping work and capacity gaps on the ground.

Chair Assefa supported John Wentworth's comments.

Sona Mohnot mentioned that vulnerable communities and the vulnerable communities platform is identified as a key priority. Mohnot asked what environmental justice and equity components are being included in this framework. She also asked how we can share this work with community partners and stakeholders in an accessible way, so people are aware of the work the State and OPR is leading.

Chair Assefa mentioned that OPR is being intentional on addressing equity issues and highlighted the creation of the new Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications.

Sloane Viola shared discussion questions that will be asked during Workshop Series #2: Progress and Near-Term Priorities to guide Councilmember's feedback.

Nathan Bengtsson expressed support for the "future areas of focus" questions. Bengtsson mentioned that in PG&E's Climate Vulnerability and Community Engagement Program, people are really interested in solutions. Asking people what they need is a great form of engagement.

Jana Ganion explained that it is important to deploy programs aimed at supporting regional partners and conducting peer-to-peer learning and knowledge transfer to share adaptation strategy successes. She expressed that programs such as TCC and RCC are working to support capacity challenges in rural and tribal communities which will help expand climate adaptation and mitigation dollars the furthest. She also mentioned the need for continuing dollars to uphold regional structures to support climate resilience.

Michelle Passero mentioned that The Nature Conservancy just finished a series of roundtables of how to accelerate nature-based solutions. One highlight of these conversations was accessing and increasing funding. One suggestion that came out of these discussions recommended bundling similar funding programs, so communities could easily identify alignment across the different funding opportunities and understand the programs that could support different activities. Lastly, Passero raised support to consolidate all the different grant applications into one common application to ease the application process.

Wilma Wooten mentioned a good example is the county rankings system through CalBRACE, which allows you to search a zip code and see the health outcomes and the health factors for individual counties. She mentioned it would be good to have a website where individuals can search up a county's vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans, and what hazards are being prioritized in that county. She expressed support to continue funding and expanding funding for CalBRACE.

Sloane Viola noted that the Resilient Adaptation Planning Map is a resource that ICARP has released and is refining to serve a purpose like this.

Jacob Alvarez mentioned that the Department of the State Architect, which is responsible for helping build schools, does not understand how urban greening can prevent extreme heat and provide shade on school playgrounds. He recommended the TAC identify opportunities to work with school districts to help mitigate urban heat islands and support more urban greening to keep schools cool.

Brian Strong asked how jurisdictions and nonprofits are working through these processes. He raised the importance of using this information to identify what communities are in line with the adaptation strategy and why are certain communities not in line. He mentioned an interest in learning more about the communities and jurisdictions that are applying to these funds, why they are applying or why they aren't applying.

Sloane Viola sought clarification if Brian Strong is referring to local governments being in line with the adaptation strategy.

Linda Helland mentioned that since the writing of the State Adaptation Strategy, CDPH has received funding to conduct syndromic surveillance and near or real time notifications by emergency department climate-related conditions. Helland mentioned that eventually CDPH will be able to develop a website on a local health department progress on resilience planning and implementation.

Jonathan Parfrey expressed the importance of creating implementation reporting requirements that are integrated into existing planning functions, state functions, and local functions with that added information on climate impacts and the need for resilience and adaptation.

Nathan Bengtsson echoed Jonathan's points. He mentioned that at PG&E, climate adaptation and resilience is no longer considered a distinct function of PG&E but as a way of doing business and having the ability to account for any hazard.

Public Comment

Deirdre Des Jardins asked if the State's Adaptation Strategy have been compared with international targets, such as those identified in the United Nations Risk Reduction Framework.

Zack Crum asked if there is a way to track what communities have been contacted. He expressed that from a rural community perspective, it is difficult to track who is aligned with the vision of the Adaptation Strategy.

Mark Roast mentioned it would be helpful to know where the most benefit would come from converting existing trucks and buses to full battery power.

Action

No action.

Item 6: Adaptation Planning Grant Program

Abby Edwards and Brandon Harrell provided an overview of the Adaptation Planning Grant Program's (APGP) draft Round 1 program guidelines. OPR through ICARP received \$25 million in the state budget to fill local, regional, and tribal planning needs; provide communities the resources to identify climate resilience priorities; and support the development of a pipeline of climate resilient infrastructure projects across the state. The APGP team is soliciting public feedback for program guidelines until October 28, 2022. The application period will open on November 7th with completed applications due by December 16th. The presentation walked TAC members through the framework of the guidelines, eligible and ineligible activities, scoring criteria, technical assistance, eligible costs, and application requirements.

Abby Edwards explained that eligible funding activities were identified from Spring 2022 public feedback and is structured around the 2020 California Adaptation Planning Guide. She stated that eligible applicants include public entities, California Native American tribes, Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities, and Community-Based Organizations. She also provided an overview of ineligible funding activities, including implementation of construction projects, environmental studies, plans, or documents required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The grant application will be housed electronically on the Department of Water Resources GRanTS portal. Applicants will be scored on project vision, project objectives, community need and priorities, co-benefits, adaptive capacity, community partnership, organizational capacity, and budget for a total of 100 points. Brandon Harrell shared that third party technical assistance is not available in Round 1, but ICARP intends to incorporate third party

technical assistance providers in future rounds. He also explained that \$6,600,000 is available for Round 1, with a minimum award of \$25,000 and maximum award of \$600,000. The guidelines also include funding targets for California Native American tribes, rural communities, and FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding programs for either a Federally Recognized tribe or economically disadvantaged rural communities. No match funding is required for the APGP. Abby Edwards concluded with information on upcoming guideline workshops for rural, unincorporated, and tribal communities to share public comments.

Laura Engeman asked how many pages constitute the grant guidelines and the grant application. She expressed feeling overwhelmed trying to read through the guidelines and encouraged the APGP team to explore condensing information where possible to ensure it is accessible for all communities. She suggested incorporating a Letter of Intent in future rounds of funding so prospective applicants can share their project proposals in advance before submitting a potentially ineligible activity. Engeman also expressed concerns with the lengthy scoring criteria and suggested consolidating similar criteria and including checkboxes for certain questions to alleviate the burden on applicants. She also inquired if there would be leniency in scoring for applicants that are not well versed in writing workplans. Engeman suggested that some communities may not apply for this funding given how little funding is available and how complicated the current application process is. She concluded that she appreciated that the application includes an opportunity to provide justification on why counties or cities may not be part of the public agency partnerships, and this provides an opportunity to address these issues.

Abby Edwards thanked Laura Engeman for her comments and responded that she will look into opportunities to consolidate the grant guidelines and application where possible.

Johnathan Parfrey congratulated the APGP team on completing its draft guidelines. He mentioned that less than 50% of California municipalities are in compliance with SB 379. He views the APGP as an opportunity for communities to update their General Plan safety elements and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. He also mentioned that this work is aligned with several other ongoing grant opportunities and expressed the need to consolidate these grants in one place so applicants can pick the funding pot that best fits their needs. He also expressed that applicants may turn to other grant opportunities given how little funding is available for APGP in comparison to other programs.

John Wentworth expressed support for Laura Engeman's comment. He mentioned that his community was planning on applying to the California Strategic Growth Council's Regional Climate Collaboratives grant program but decided not to proceed because the application was overly complicated. He emphasized that rural and under-resourced communities do not have the capacity to pull together grant applications for complex funding programs. He recommended that the APGP team review the guidelines to ensure they are simple, clear, and easy to read.

Laura Engeman expressed that a 45-day grant application period is not enough time to pull together a competitive application. She asked if the APGP team could reconsider this timeline and extend the application period to January 2023.

Lori Nezhura echoed the comments shared by other TAC Councilmembers. She expressed that OES has tried to put out streamlined grant applications to target vulnerable communities, but a lot of communities opted out from applying because the grant application was too complicated. She explained that prospective applicants shared that they were not willing to apply for funding that was less than the cost they would spend to apply for the funding. Nezhura shared that \$25,000 might not appeal to communities based on her experience with smaller funding pots at OES. Nezhura concluded that she understands the budgetary and timeline constraints ICARP is facing and encouraged the APGP team to extend their grant application period from 45 days to 60-75 days. She thanked the APGP team for pulling together great draft round one guidelines.

Andrea Ouse expressed support for the funding targets and removal of match funding requirements. She suggested that her community would potentially use the APGP funding as local match for a capital project they will be doing in the following fiscal year.

Public Comment

Devin Middlebrook asked about the timeline for the Regional Resilience Grant Program to understand if his office, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, should prioritize applying to the APGP or the Regional Resilience program. He expressed capacity limitations may impact which grant opportunity communities should prioritize given grant timelines and funding priorities.

Jeff Mosher asked for clarification on the timeline for Round 2 and 3 of APGP funding.

Abby Edwards responded that the APGP team is still finalizing the timeline of Round 1 funding and timing for Round 2 will begin in late 2023.

Zack Crum asked why funding for CEQA activities is not included in the list of eligible activities. He expressed CEQA can be a challenge to develop projects when communities need to spend around \$30,000 to complete a CEQA review.

Abby Edwards explained that CEQA funding is not included because of the limited amount of funding that is available in Round 1, but the APGP team may reconsider it in future rounds.

Action

No action.

Item 7: CDBG-MIT Citizen Advisory Committee

Maziar Movassaghi from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) provided an update on the CDBG-MIT Action Plan. He explained that CDBG-MIT funding is tied to Presidentially Declared Disaster Declarations to impacted counties. This presentation focused on disaster impacted counties from 2018. Movassaghi stated that United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires HCD to complete an Action Plan when they receive a disaster declaration that identifies how HCD plans to spend the funding allocation. HCD will publish its draft Action Plan in late Fall 2022 and a public comment period will open in early 2023.

He mentioned that this Action Plan includes two proposals. The first is to streamline the method of distribution and the second is to create an owner-occupied rehabilitation/mitigation (OOR) program that includes the 2018 eligible counties: Los Angeles, Shasta, Butte, Ventura, and Lake into the 2020 CDBG-MIT wildfires. He explained that HCD's Action Plan proposal includes \$50,000 for OORs that lost their homes to 2018 wildfires to fund eligible mitigation measures to rebuild and harden. Additionally, HCD will allocate up to \$50,000 for mitigation measures to meet WUI code standards for OORs that did not lose their homes to 2018 wildfires but are in the mid- to low-moderate income. This framework was co-developed with CalFire and OES and addresses equity concerns for low-moderate income homeowners and is in alignment with the California Wildfire Mitigation Grant Program. Movassaghi concluded that HCD is trying to identify how to streamline funding through its Action Plan and is trying to understand how to improve their competitive and allocation funding models.

Wilma Wooten asked how the five counties were determined to be eligible for CDBG-MIT funding.

Movassaghi responded that these five counties were selected because they were impacted by 2018 wildfires.

Public Comment

No comments.

Action

No action.

Item 8: General Public Comment

Deirdre Des Jardins stated that the Legislature initiated an audit on Department of Water Resources (DWR) on snow runoff forecasts in 2021 because DWR is using 50 years of snow runoff data. These projections forecasted more runoff than the state received in 2021. She expressed that a lot of state climate modeling does not accurately forecast how much runoff and the state is actually experiencing.

Item 9: Closing and Meeting Adjourned