



September 10, 2019

To: Members of the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program  
Technical Advisory Council

From: Louise Bedsworth, Executive Director, California Strategic Growth Council

Re: Proposed Wildfire Recovery and Resilience Planning Grants

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) is proposing a partnership with the Governor's office of Planning and Research's (OPR) Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) to develop and implement a planning grant program to support wildfire recovery and resilience activities in wildfire-affected communities in California. This memo outlines some initial ideas for the program, which will be developed in fall 2019. SGC will use reappropriated Proposition 84 funds to support these planning grants.

SGC and OPR are requesting input from the TAC on the development of the program and what role the TAC could play in supporting program design and implementation.

## Proposed Program Purpose and Structure

SGC and OPR request feedback on the following proposed program design elements.

### Purpose

SGC and OPR will award grants to support planning activities that facilitate resilient recovery in wildfire affected communities in California. These awards will prioritize investment in innovative approaches that could be replicated in other jurisdictions across the state. This funding is intended to advance climate adaptation activities in the context of changing wildfire regimes. Applicants who have adaptation planning efforts underway, as well as those who have not yet started adaptation work are encouraged to apply.

The overarching goals of this grant program are to:

1. Support land use planning activities at the local or regional levels that advance climate adaptation and resilience efforts specific to wildfire risk reduction.
2. Advance local understanding and consideration of vulnerable communities in an adaptation context.
3. Support local or regional capacity building to incorporate climate adaptation and resilience into wildfire planning and recovery.

### Eligible Activities

To support the planning and development of wildfire resilient communities, this funding shall be awarded for planning activities, including the following:

- Preparation, adoption, and implementation of a general plan or general plan element that incorporates wildfire and climate risk, aligned with Government Code 65302(4).
- Preparation, adoption, and implementation of other plans that incorporate wildfire and climate risk (e.g., corridor plans).
- Supportive planning activities (e.g., community engagement, scoping and pre-planning activities) that advance development of a General Plan or General Plan element update.

### Eligible Applicants

Cities, Counties, Councils of Governments (COGs), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Joint Powers Authorities, Special Districts, Regional Transportation Planning Authorities

### Threshold Requirements

To be eligible to apply, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Experienced a wildfire in 2017, 2018, or 2019
- Demonstrated unmet policy, planning, or recovery need
- Demonstrate consistency with:
  - o State planning priorities ([Gov. Code 65041.1](#))
  - o At least one of the Strategic Growth Council's [Sustainable Communities Objectives](#)
  - o OPR's Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program's [Adaptation Vision and Principles](#)
  - o If applicable, aligns with Sustainable Communities Strategy in your region
- Demonstrate political support for the activity

## Funding Available

SGC has approximately \$750,000 in funding available for grant awards.

## About Proposition 84

Proposition 84 (Appendix E) added Division 43 to the Public Resources Code, Chapter 9, Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction Section 75065(a), authorizing the Legislature to appropriate \$580 million for improving the sustainability and livability of California's communities through investment in natural resources. The purpose of this division is to reduce urban communities' contribution to global warming and increasing their resilience and adaptive capacity in the face of climate change, while improving the quality of life in those communities.

Ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000) was made available for planning grants and planning incentives, including revolving loan programs and other methods to encourage the development of regional and local land use plans that are designed to:

- Promote water conservation,
- Reduce automobile use and fuel consumption,
- Encourage greater infill and compact development,
- Protect natural resources and agricultural lands and
- Revitalize urban and community centers