Spring Sprint KICK OFF

Thursday, May 9, 2024





Today's Agenda

- 1. Unpacking Our Progress: Regional Recap
- 2. Where We've Been and What We're Learning: Community Panel
- 3. Department of Conservation: Going Back to the Basics
- 4. Lunch
- 5. Community Benefits Planning
- 6. Fireside Chat
- 7. Sprinting towards Success: Overview of Spring Sprint
- 8. Breakout into Regional Workgroups
- 9. Wrap up & Close

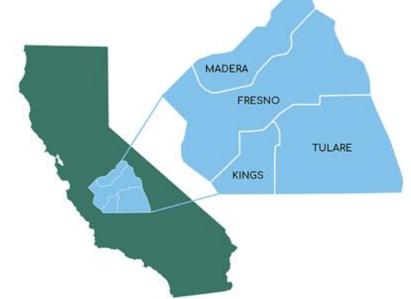


Unpacking Our Progress

In 2023, the Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Initiative launched an intensive, community-driven process to identify regional goals and economic opportunities in alignment with the State of California's 'Jobs First' objectives.

Our question...

What will it take to fundamentally transform our region and foster an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economy?





Local Engagement

- Establishing four 'Local Tables' with over 130 residents representing seven major stakeholder groups;
- Investing over 2,900 hours in Local Table Meetings
- Completing local and regional SWOT analyses;
- Working with research partners to complete a data-rich Baseline Report;
- Commissioning ten grassroots organizations to engage over 3,000 community members;
- Convening two 'regional congresses' with Local Table and public participants;
- Surveying local CBOs and civic organizations for projects that align with the California Jobs First objectives;
- Receiving over 75 project ideas across the region
- Synthesizing and reviewing key project themes during Local Table meetings
- Discussing promising economic frameworks and industries clusters with our research partners;
- Launching our Regional Table on January 25th!
- Synthesizing ALL the feedback into a draft framework.....





Outside Learnings and Research

- Community Engagement Report
- Outside Learnings: Exploring Options for Economic Competitiveness and Resilience, Equity, and Climate Action in the Central San Joaquin Valley
- Regional Plan Part 1
- Needs & Opportunities in the Central San Joaquin Valley: Executive Summary (Urban Institute report included in the Regional Plan Part 1)
- Climate and Environmental Analysis (Sierra Resource Conservation District & Yosemite Sequoia RC&DC report included in the Regional Plan Part 1)



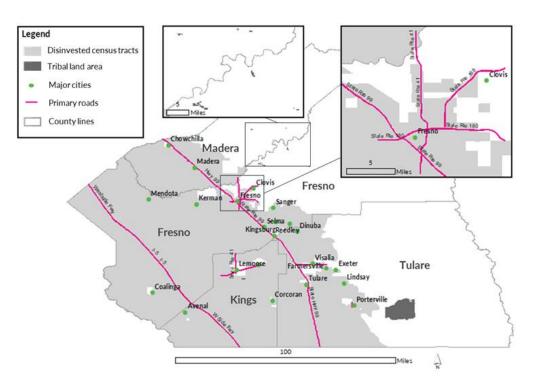
Baseline Assessment





Roughly two-thirds of the areas within the S2J2 region are designated as disinvested

- The region has a total population of 1.78 million.
- Nearly 2 out of every 3
 residents (1.1 million people)
 live in a disinvested area.*
- There are seven Tribal land areas in the region which are home to just under 2,100 people.





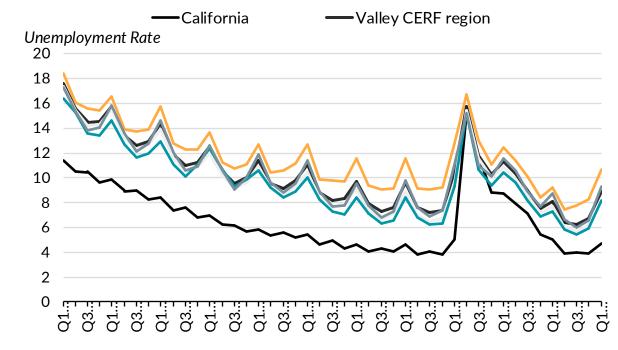
^{*} Disinvested areas are defined as census tracts identified as 'disadvantaged' by the California Environmental Protection Agency based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria.

Unemployment rates are consistently higher in the region than the state and spiked during the

pandemic

 Unemployment rates and labor force participation have largely rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in the S2J2 region.

The region's unemployment and labor force
 have more seasonal
 variability than what we
 see for the state
 overall.



Source: California Employment Development Department, county profile, https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/geography/lmi-bv-geography.html

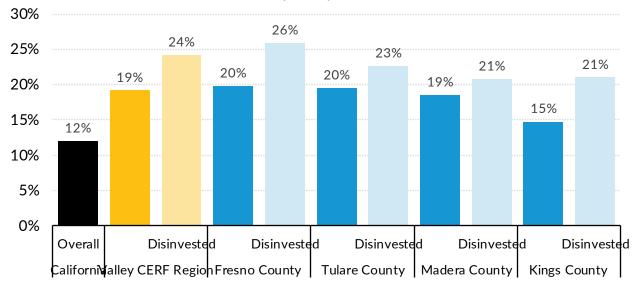
Note: Rates not seasonally adjusted; monthly data averaged for each quarter



Poverty rates are highest in the S2J2 region disinvested areas

- Nearly 1 of every 5 people lives below the poverty line in the S2J2 region.
- **Average** household income tends to **be lower** in the region than in California and households have more people. (data not pictured)





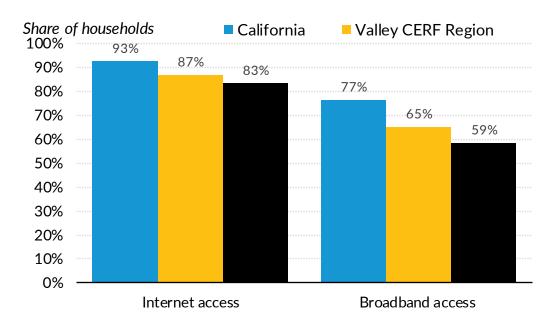
Source: 5-year ACS data from 2017-2021

Notes: The Central San Joaquin Valley has higher poverty rates than the rest of California. Rates are highest in the disinvested are as of each of the regions' four counties and most pronounced in Fresno County where more than a quarter of the households have incomes below the poverty line. Within the region, Kings County has the low est overall rate of poverty (15 percent) while the other three counties are in the 19 to 20 percent range.



Fewer residents of the S2J2 region have access to the internet and broadband than the rest of California

- Nearly twice the population share do not have access to internet in the S2J2 region compared to California.
- A smaller share of the population has broadband in the region than in the state.

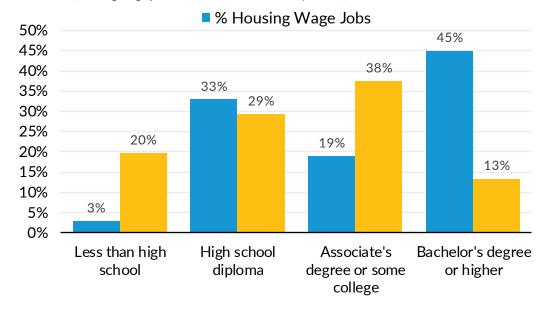




Nearly half of housing wage jobs in the S2J2 region require at least a four-year degree, but most people living in disinvested neighborhoods have less education

There is a clear divide
between the level of
education currently
required for housing
wage jobs and the
educational attainment
of adults living in
disinvested areas.

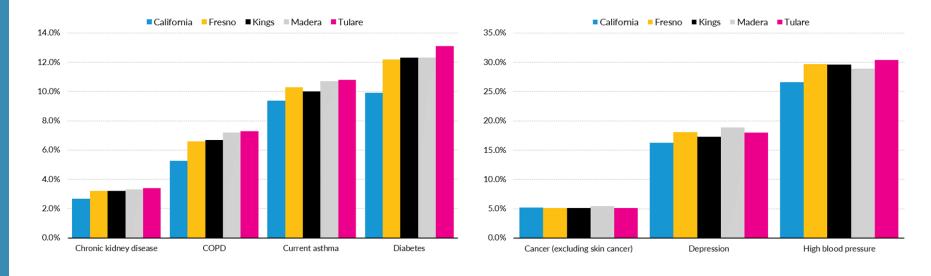
Percent of housing wage jobs and disinvested workers by level of education

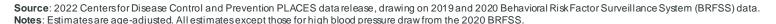


Source: Analysis of 2022 Occupational Employment Survey data, pooled across the 4 counties Notes: Median wages were benchmarked with a weighted average of the 2-bedroom housing wage for the study area. These data were joined with education required at entry from the Employment Projections program at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data on educational attainment of disinvested workers comes from the 2017 $_{11}$ 2022 ACS 5-year estimates



The climate, environmental, and economic inequities present in the region, along with significant health care access issues, increase the risk of poor health for residents







SIERRA SAN JOAQUIN JOBS

Resourcing California's Climate Economy

INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

FOOD & AG

SYSTEMS





SOLUTIONS













Where We've **Been and What** We're Learning: **Community Panel**





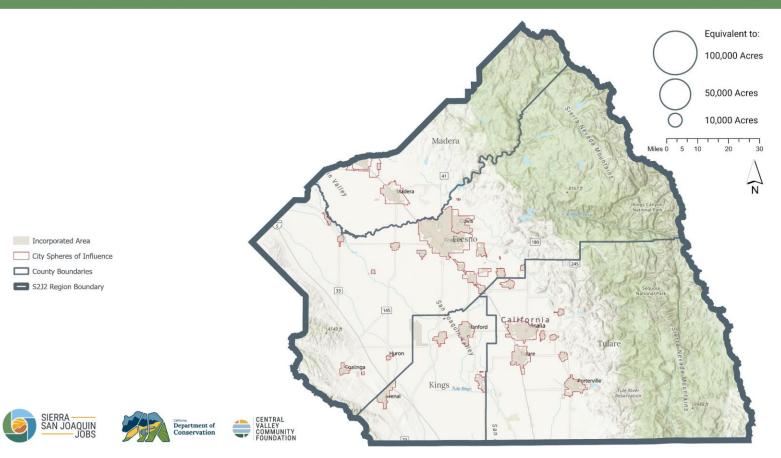


Sierra San Joaquin Region

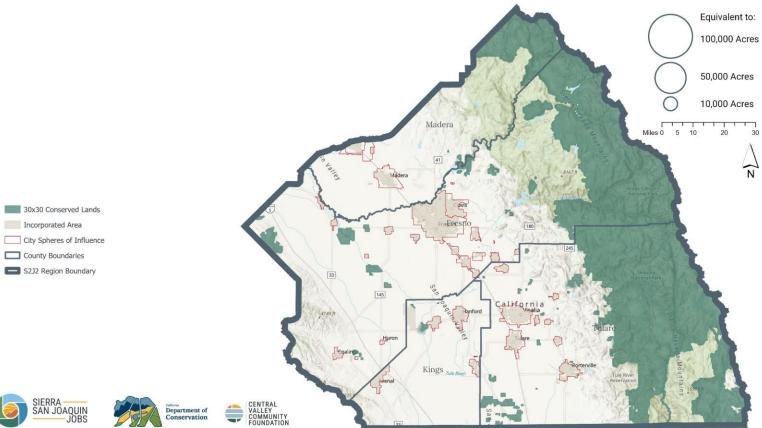
Mapping Assets & Opportunities for S2J2

David Shabazian
Director, California Department of Conservation
David.Shabazian@conservation.ca.gov





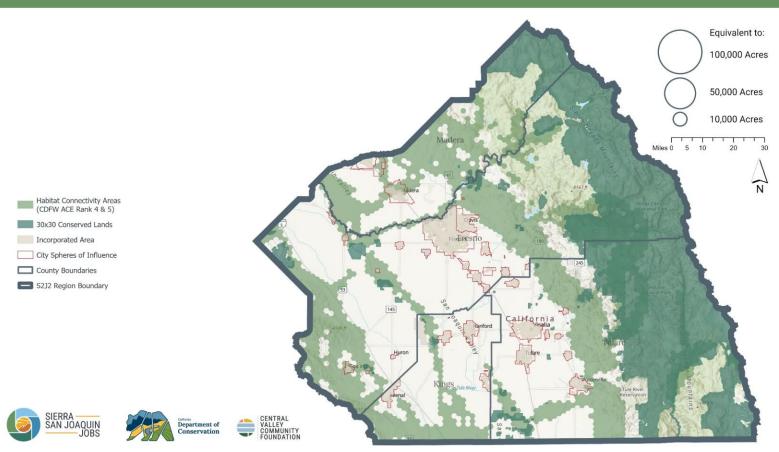






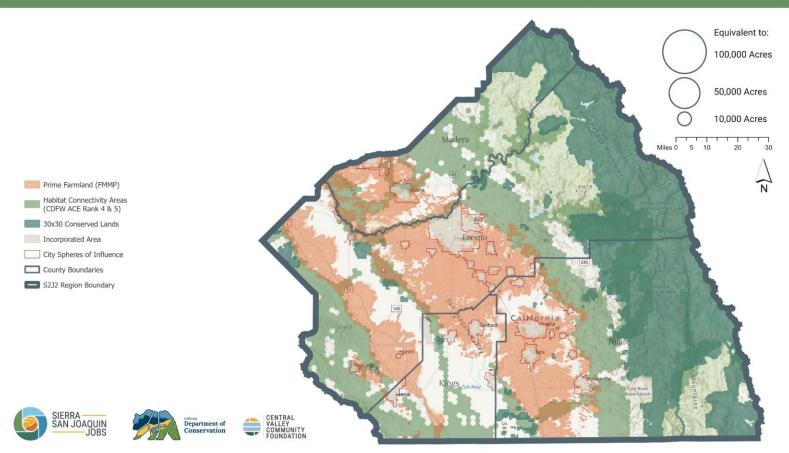






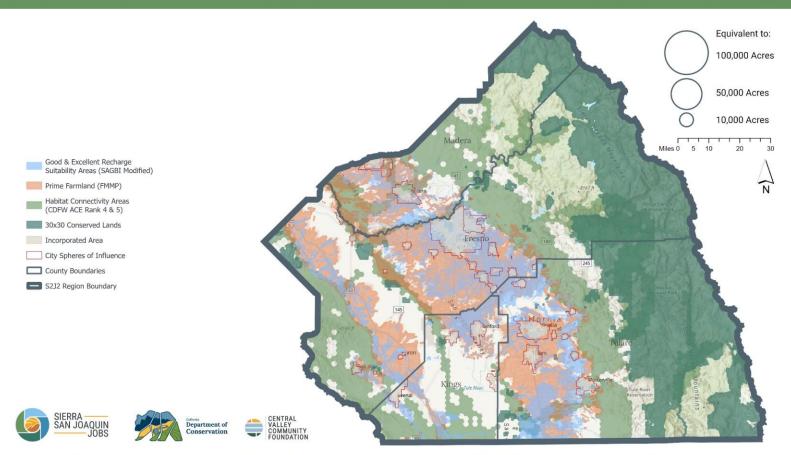






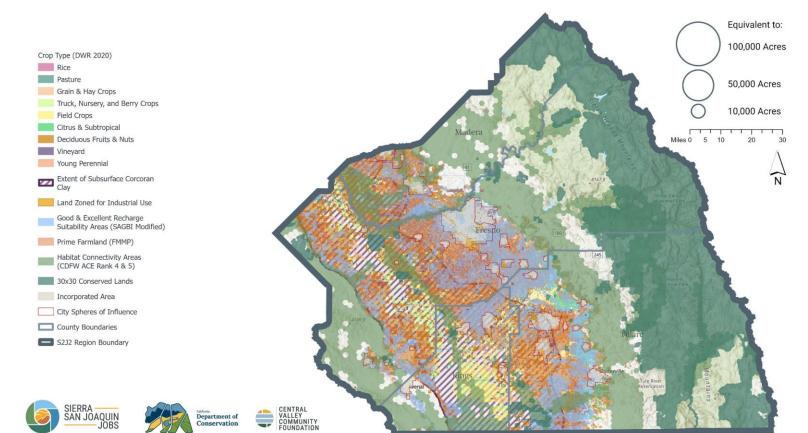






AGRICULTURE & WATER

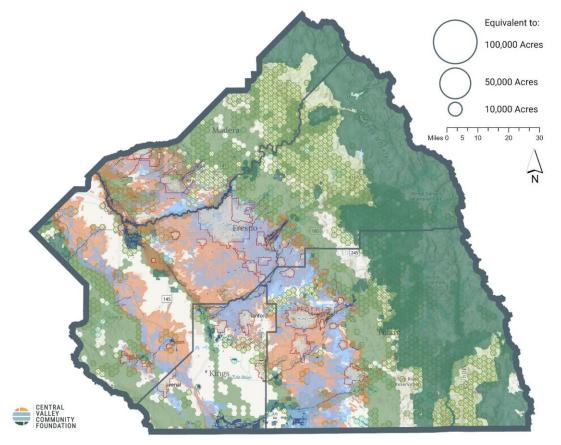




CONSERVATION











CLEAN ENERGY

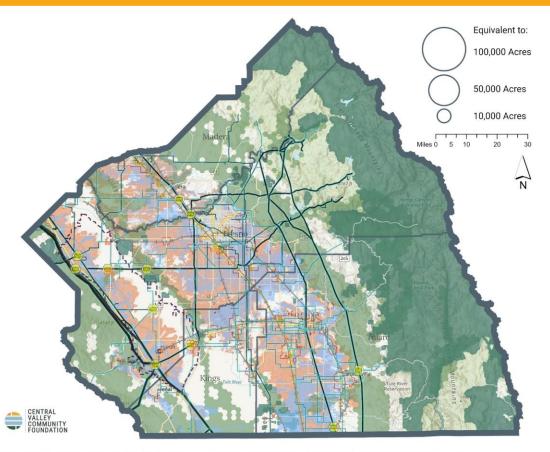




- 110 161 kV
- 220 287 kV
- 345-500 kV
- ---- Indicates Direct Current (DC)
- Electric Substations
- ---- Freeways
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- -- Rail Network
- U.S. Large-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Database (USPVDB)
- Land Zoned for Industrial Use
- [] Westlands Water District Boundary
- Good & Excellent Recharge Suitability Areas (SAGBI Modified)
- Prime Farmland (FMMP)
- Habitat Connectivity Areas (CDFW ACE Rank 4 & 5)
- 30x30 Conserved Lands
- Incorporated Area
- City Spheres of Influence
- County Boundaries
- S2J2 Region Boundary









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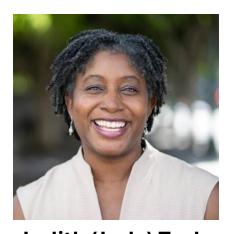




Community Benefits Planning

Spring Sprint Kick Off May 2024

About HR&A



Judith (Judy) Taylor

Partner-In-Charge

Judy specializes in inclusive economic development that drives community priorities.



Alexander (Alex) Meeks

Principal

Alex brings expertise in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.



Today's Agenda

- 1. Discuss the Opportunity for Community Benefits
- 2. Define Community Benefits & Benefits Planning
- 3. Discuss Community Benefit Examples



The Opportunity

The Central San Joaquin Valley is projected to generate a disproportionate portion of California's targeted renewable energy by 2040.

Private energy project developers will be incentivized by the U.S.

Department of Energy (DOE) to engage communities to define and agree to project benefits. When making competitive grant awards to support private place-based investment in renewable and clean energy infrastructure, community benefits planning will amount to 20% of scoring by DOE.

The California Jobs First initiative gives us an opportunity to consider and plan for the types of community benefits that should result from inclusive economic development planning.



The Risks & Challenges

Failure to turn this unprecedented level of climate investment into meaningful benefits for local communities will only perpetuate deep social, economic, and environmental inequities.

- **Displacement Risks:** Even well-meaning large infrastructure project can inadvertently increase property values/rents and contribute to gentrification and displacement.
- Inequitable Distribution: Benefits from large-scale projects are not always distributed equitably, which can potentially exacerbate existing disparities.



The Risks & Challenges

Recent approaches continue to put communities at a disadvantage to major investors.

- Low Baseline: Most projects promise only jobs and workforce training for new employees.
- **Non-Representation**: Advisory boards set up to negotiate on behalf a community (often appointed) might not adequately represent or understand the community's needs.
- Information Asymmetry: Communities seldom have the resources (or time) to adequately inform themselves going into negotiations.
- Lack of Transparency: Negotiations often occur privately.



It is time to raise the bar when it comes to community benefits.

We need a diverse coalition of stakeholders and economic interests to unify around **a regional framework for non-negotiable community needs**, which private investment in clean energy must satisfy as a condition for participating in the next massive investment in Central Valley infrastructure.

A regional framework for community benefits will provide a clear set of guidelines and approaches to organizations, businesses, government agencies, and other stakeholders to identify, prioritize, and implement initiatives to deliver positive outcomes, particularly for communities that have faced historic disinvestment and other inequities.



What is Community Benefits Planning?

Community Benefits Planning is a process of strategically identifying, prioritizing, and implementing community benefits within a specific project, development, or investment.

Community Benefits Plans (CBPs)

Consists of commitments that are not legally enforceable. DOE will be measuring the strength of community benefit plans in 4 categories:

- 1. Quality of engagement of communities & labor;
- 2. Level of investment in quality jobs;
- 3. Advancement of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility through recruitment and training; and
- 4. Implementation of Justice 40 (40% of benefits)

Community Benefits Agreement (CBAs)

A legally binding agreement between community entities or coalitions and a developer, outlining the benefits the developer commits to providing to the community or labor force in exchange for community backing or access to the workforce for a project.





Types of Community Benefits

Economic Justice

Community-Based Workforce Small Business & Micro-Enterprise **Education**

Education and Skill Building

Environmental Justice+ Health Equity

Community-based healthcare

Affordable Housing

Infrastructure + Public Realm

One Water and Broadband

Other Benefits



Economic Justice

The Minimum:

Job creation & workforce training

Raising the Bar:

- High-quality good-paying jobs
- Inclusive hiring
- Job training for all
- Childcare for all
- Equitable procurement
- Small business access to capital/bonding
- Rapid payment and payment advances
- Seed cooperatives + other wealthbuilding models

Education

The Minimum:

Scholarships & Grants

Raising the Bar:

- Skill building
- Invest in and create new credential, 2-year, or 4-year degree programs
- Tailored and culturally competent programming
- Recognize and compensate experts already in community

Environmental Justice + Health Equity

The Minimum:

- Environmental remediation onsite
- Air quality improvements
- Energy affordability

Raising the Bar:

- Fund community health needs assessment
- Environmental and health risk literacy
- Monitor long-term impacts w. intervention
- Fund/host community resilience centers
- Climate adaptation



Housing

The Minimum

- Affordable set-asides.
- Voucher acceptance

Raising the Bar:

- Anti-displacement measures:
 - O Housing preservation
 - Tenant assistance

Infrastructure + Public Realm

The Minimum

 Improving public realm/street connectivity around investment site

Raising the Bar:

- Fund open space, infrastructure, and services the community identifies
- EV charging stations

Other Benefits

The Minimum

Granting to local CBOs or philanthropy

Raising the Bar:

- Ongoing revenue sharing
- Co-governance
- Cultivating local leadership pipeline
- Seed funding for energy related initiatives



Case Study: Salem, MA

The new **Salem Offshore Wind Terminal** will transform a former coal power plant site into a logistics and operations center for wind turbine pre-assembly, transportation, staging, and storage.

The project is a public-private partnership between Crowley, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, City of Salem, and AVANGRID, and is anticipated to create **800+jobs** through construction and ongoing operations.

This case study is an exceptional example of how CBAs can meaningfully involve community leaders, go beyond expected workforce benefits, and invest in a long-term community vision.



CBA Process

- History: Salem Alliance for the Environment, long-term advocates of closing the coal plant, created a coalition working group called the Salem Offshore Wind Alliance (SOWA).
 - After community pushback that only the City and developer would be involved in CBA formation, Mayor agreed to include two representatives of SOWA in negotiations.
- Outreach: Crowley held 7 public meetings from June 2022 to November 2023 (public website + presentations published online)





\$9M Benefits Package

Economic Justice & Workforce

\$550K for scholarships, outreach and educational programs, and seed funding to support offshore wind careers and the blue economy. Commitments to **hire from local marginalized populations**, including pursuing target percentages for minority hires.

Education

\$3.5M to Salem Public Schools to fund educational programs, curriculum, and public school capital projects, with dedicated funds to support programs around Indigenous history and culture.

Environmental Justice & Health Equity

\$500K Climate Adaptation Fund to support City sustainability and resiliency projects, with increase in contributions if targets are not met in 2030.

Affordable Housing

\$25K for a rental assistance program for port workers.

Infrastructure & Public Realm

Street improvement projects and commitment to achieve 100% port electrification by 2040.

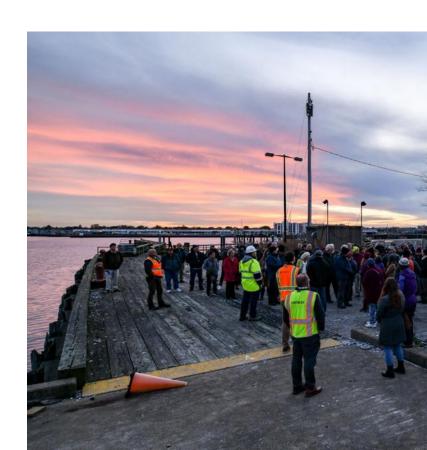
Other Benefits

\$2.7M for City services, including Salem Police Department, Fire Department, language-related services, and others.



CBA Structure

- Oversight: Working group including representatives from Crowley, the City, community, the Salem Harbor Port Authority, and Salem Public Schools
 - \$187K to support CBA working group for monitoring and compliance of CBA terms
 - Members selected via an application process through the Mayor's Office
 - Meets quarterly and receives annual public CBA reports from Crowley
 - City investigates all complaints received by the CBA



Lessons Learned

- Leverage Existing Community Alliances: Being on the site of a former power plant, there was existing community momentum that transformed to push the community benefits conversation during its redevelopment.
- 2. Innovative Benefits that Further Complementary City Efforts: The CBA includes benefits for climate planning, educational programming, public realm improvements and workforce development.
- 3. Include Funding and Structure for Implementation of CBA: Oversight and accountability needs to be built into the community benefits agreement.

Other Innovative Models

Creating Unique Legal Structures: Mutual Benefits Corporation (Morro Bay, CA)

Castle Wind developed a Mutual Benefits Corporation in partnership with two fishermen's associations and the City of Morro Bay. Although
Castle Wind did not win the development, winning offshore wind leaseholders can choose to sign on to the agreement or design their own.

Updating Tax Policies: Solar Taxation Schedule (Lapeer, MI)

- Even though Michigan does not have an official solar taxation schedule, DTE Energy included a solar taxation schedule for their project in Lapeer to ensure that the City would receive local tax benefits.
- Funds were used to fund sewage and waterinfrastructure.

Adopting Unique Incentives: Indirect Impacts (Medway, MA)

• The Medway Grid Battery Energy Storage Project CBA included compensation for property value reduction, payments for adjacent neighbor landscaping, and risk reduction and public safety positions at the City.

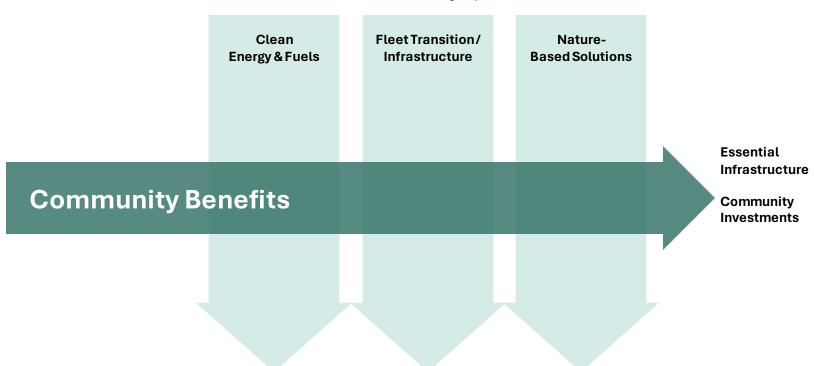
Strengthening Engagement Processes: Community Liaisons (Block Island, RI)

- Deepwater Wind designated a staff member to serve as a liaison between the developer and the community. The liaison was from the local area.
- Developers may also benefit from hiring consultants that can explain technical information to communities.



S2J2 Process

Climate Solutions Workgroups





Working Principles

Prepare the Valley today with the information and a regional framework to secure community benefits and advance equity tomorrow.

- 1. Root benefits in an understanding of regional needs and develop new structures to implement community benefits.
- 2. Plan to realize long-standing needs and also address new risks associated with new clean energy infrastructure.
- 3. Leverage government to open the door for planning, but center communities in the design of benefits.
- 4. Invest in long-term governance to define success, guide the allocation of benefits, monitor impacts over time, and correct course if necessary.



Thank You!

Spring Sprint KICK OFF





Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Regional Investment Plan

Spring Sprint Overview

Goals for this session





Share background on CA Jobs First and S2J2's Spring Sprint

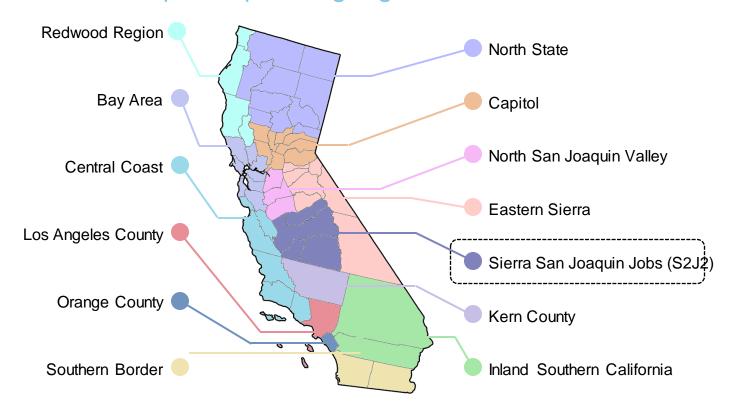


Review roadmap for the 8-week Spring Sprint



Align on plan for today's workgroup breakout session

California Jobs First is expected to direct funding to each of the 13 economic development planning regions





Sierra San Joaquin Valley (S2J2)











S2J2 Vision

The S2J2 Coalition has established a vision "to foster an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economy that creates quality jobs and provides equitable economic access to all across the Central San Joaquin Valley."

S2J2's regional investment planning exercise is being conducted over two phases: Regional Plan Part 1 & 2

Regional Plan Part 1

Regional Plan Part 2

In 2023, the Sierra San Joaquin Jobs (S2J2) Coalition launched an intensive, community-driven process to identify regional goals and economic opportunities in alignment with the State's 'Jobs First' objectives.

Engaging in this effort first required creating a governance structure for the 4-county region (i.e., Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings) and then **completing significant** research—using community member interviews, organizational surveys, and data analysis—codifying the findings in the Regional Plan Part 1.





In Regional Plan Part 1, stakeholders identified 3 major categories comprising 8 priority areas

In Regional Plan Part 1, stakeholders identified 3 major categories comprising 8 priority areas

Regional Plan Part 1

Regional Plan Part 2

Industry sectors



Climate solutions



"One water"

Essential infrastructure



Community investments



Small business and microenterprise



Community-based healthcare workforce



Education and skill building



Responsible food and agricultural systems



Circular manufacturing



In Regional Plan Part 1, stakeholders identified 3 major categories comprising 8 priority areas

Regional Plan Part 1

Regional Plan Part 2

Industry sectors



Climate solutions



"One water"

Essential infrastructure



Broadband

Community investments



Small business and microenterprise



Community-based healthcare workforce



Education and skill building



Circular manufacturing

Responsible food and

agricultural systems



Looking ahead: Regional Plan Part 2

Regional Plan Part 1

Regional Plan Part 2

The S2J2 Coalition is now using this research to **co-create a draft investment plan** (Regional Plan, Part 2) for the 4-county region

To enable this work, the **S2J2 Coalition** will convene **workgroups** aligned to the 8 priority areas

Each workgroup will **develop its draft investment plan during the S2J2 Coalition's 8-week "Investment Plan Spring Sprint"** between May and July 2024

Regional Plan Part 2 is due to the State by **August 30, 2024**





Goals for this session





Share background on CA Jobs First and S2J2's Spring Sprint

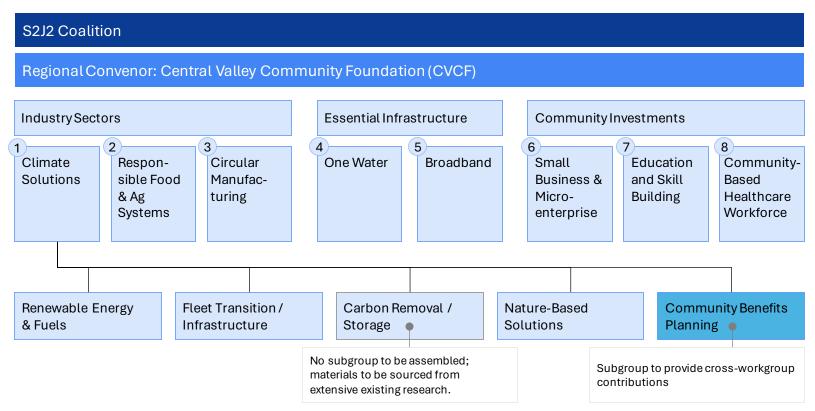


Review roadmap for the 8week Spring Sprint



Align on plan for today's workgroup breakout session

To develop Regional Plan Part 2, S2J2 has established a "Regional Strategy Team" comprising 8 workgroups across the 3 major categories



Roles and operating principles for the workgroups

Who is in the workgroup?

- **1** Workgroup Participants
- 2 Facilitator
- 3 Administrative Staff
- **4** Workgroup Convenors
- **5** Technical Experts / Data Leads
- **6** CVCF Contact

What will make your participation in the workgroups a success?



Attend workgroup meetings and contribute expertise to shape the investment plan



Share local and regional insights to enrich discussions



Provide input to the draft investment plan



How to affiliate with a workgroup

Scan QR Code

Scanning the QR code will direct you to S2J2's website



Click on the "Spring Kickoff Involvement Form"

Clicking on this link will direct you to the form to fill out for workgroup affiliation

Regional Investment Plan Spring Sprint KICK OFF (May 9, 2024)

- Spring Sprint Factsheet
- <u>Agenda</u>
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Community Engagement Synthesis
- Maps provided by DOC
- · Regional Workgroup Investment Area Descriptions
- Spring Sprint Involvement Form
- Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Calendar





3 Complete form

Filling out this form will affiliate you with a workgroup

Multiple workgroup affiliations are welcome as long as your schedule permits



Over the course of an 8-week "Spring Sprint", each workgroup will build from a single template

Executive Summary



Problem statement

Define the problem or need the workgroup is addressing



Investment strategies

Describe key specific strategies to address the problem statement



Funding models & sources

Identify potential funding models and sources (e.g., grants, loans)



Stakeholder map

Incorporate relevant parts of the Stakeholder Map of Reg'l Plan Part 1, as well as community engagement feedback



Barriers and potential mitigation pathways

Describe potential barriers that could delay or impede investment, and approaches to mitigate those barriers (incl. policy updates)



Path forward

Identify activities to follow conclusion of planning process



Workgroups will begin developing drafts directly after today's kickoff and work together for 8 weeks

Markeroup Doliverables

the state

PRELIMINARY

	workgroup Deliverables
Week #1	Develop problem statement and opportunity (I of II)
Week #2	Develop problem statement and opportunity (II of II)
Week #3	Identify investment strategies (I of II)
Week #4	Identify investment strategies (II of II)
Week #5	Identify funding models and sources
Week #6	Develop stakeholder inventory
Week #7	Examine key barriers and path to addressing
Week #8	Finalize draft investment plan for regional review
Post Week #8	S2J2 Coalition

Prioritize investments for implementation and prepare for final submission to



Goals for this session





Share background on CA Jobs First and S2J2's **Spring Sprint**



Review roadmap for the 8-week Spring Sprint



Align on plan for today's workgroup breakout session



Investment Plan Template: Problem statement, opportunity, & area overview

Focus for today















Problem statement

Describe the problem or need the workgroup is addressing and explain why it is prioritized

Opportunity

Describe the vision / opportunity, and how the vision meets S2J2 principles

Area overview

Describe current trends and projected growth in the area



Worksheet for May 9 Breakouts: Problem statement and opportunity

Each workgroup to complete a first draft of Sections 1 and 2 during breakouts.



Problem/need

Review the Investment Area description, which is the initial workgroup scope.

- A. How would you describe the extent of the problem/need that the workgroup could address?
- B. Why would you consider prioritizing some components of the Investment Area description over others?
- C. Describe any related issues that the workgroup may not tackle and why (e.g., another entity is already doing so).



Vision

Complete the following sentence: When our workgroup plans become a reality, we will live in a world where we...

S2J2 Principles

How will the vision align with the S2J2 principles of equity, environmental stewardship, good jobs/resilient economy, and data-based planning, and reflect community benefits considerations?



What to expect in workgroup breakouts over the next hour



Meet workgroup participants



Align on norms



Discuss problem statement



Review workgroup specific priorities and next steps



THANK YOU!



English





Spanish



Spring Sprint KICK OFF

