# 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)



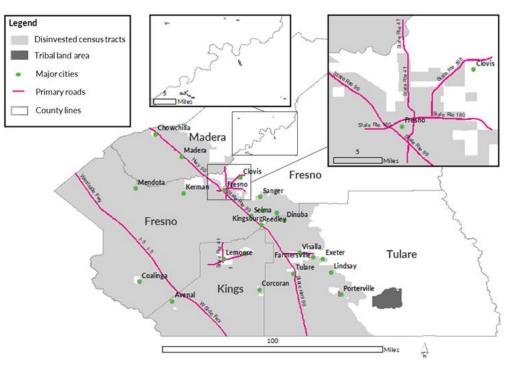
### **Baseline Assessment**



# 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.

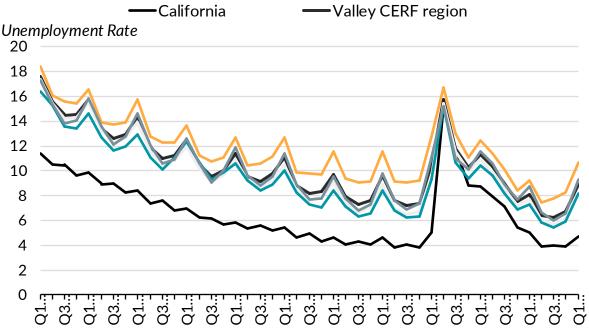


**Source:** Disadvantaged Communities; Data.gov: Nation, US, American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian (AIANNH) Tribal Subdivisions

## 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.



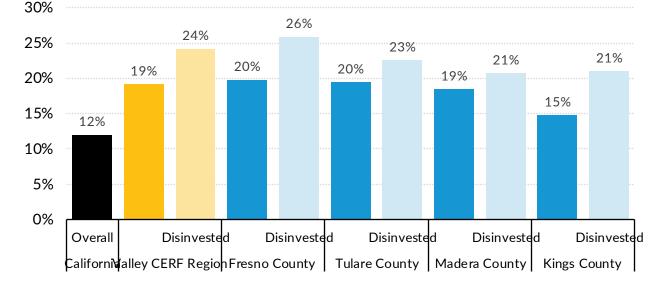
Source: California Employment Development Department, county profile, <u>https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/geography/lmi-by-geography.html</u>

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) Share of households with income below poverty

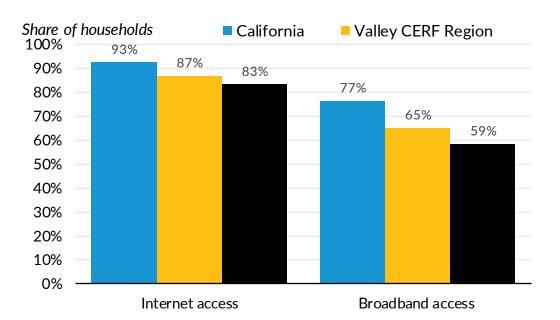


#### Source: 5-year ACS data from 2017-2021

**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.

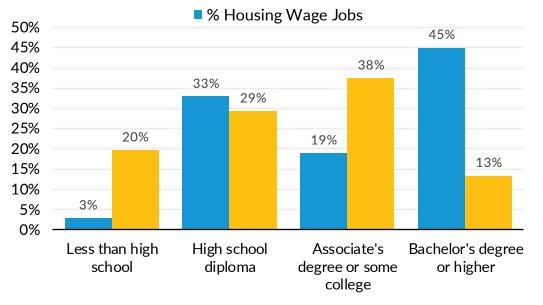
### Fewer residents of the S2J2 region have access to the internet and broadband than the rest of California

- 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.



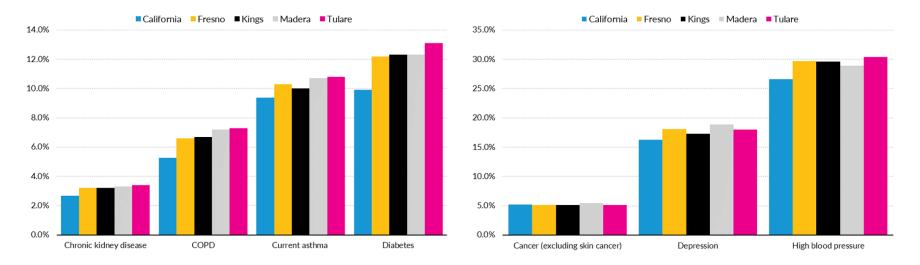
Nearly half of housing wage jobs in the S2J2 region require at least a four-year degree, but most people living in disinvested neighborhoods have less education

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<sub>11</sub> 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



Source: 2022 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention PLACES data release, drawing on 2019 and 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data. Notes: Estimates are age-adjusted. All estimates except those for high blood pressure draw from the 2020 BRFSS.

### **SIERRA SAN JOAQUIN JOBS**

Resourcing California's Climate Economy -



#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

EQUITY | GOOD JOBS | ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP | STRONG & RESILIENT ECONOMY | DATA INFORMED

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







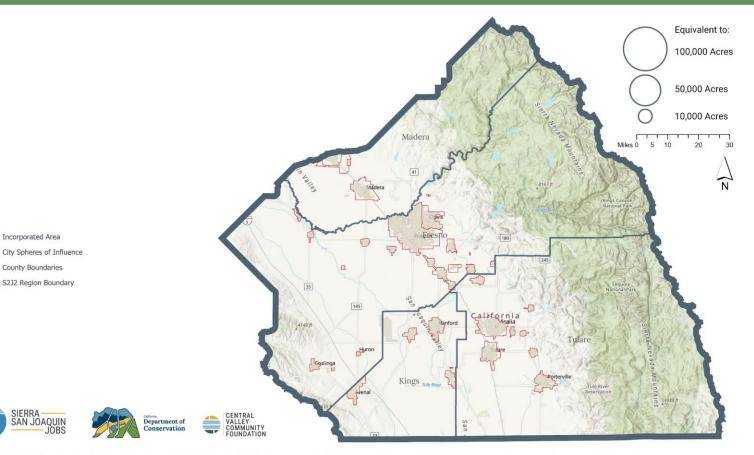
California Department of Conservation

### Sierra San Joaquin Region

Mapping Assets & Opportunities for S2J2

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

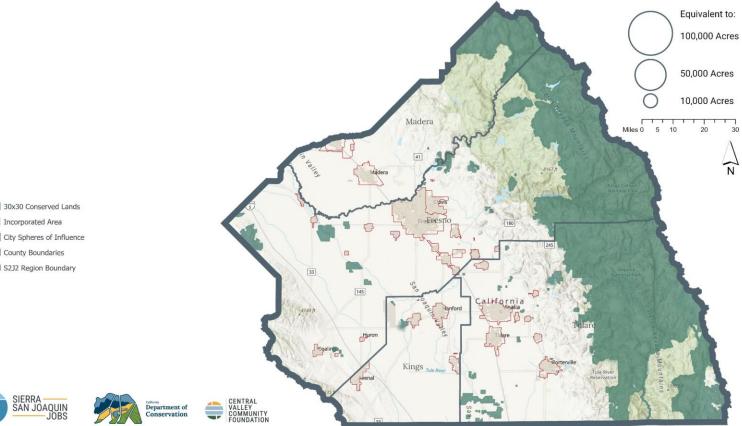




Incorporated Area City Spheres of Influence County Boundaries S2J2 Region Boundary

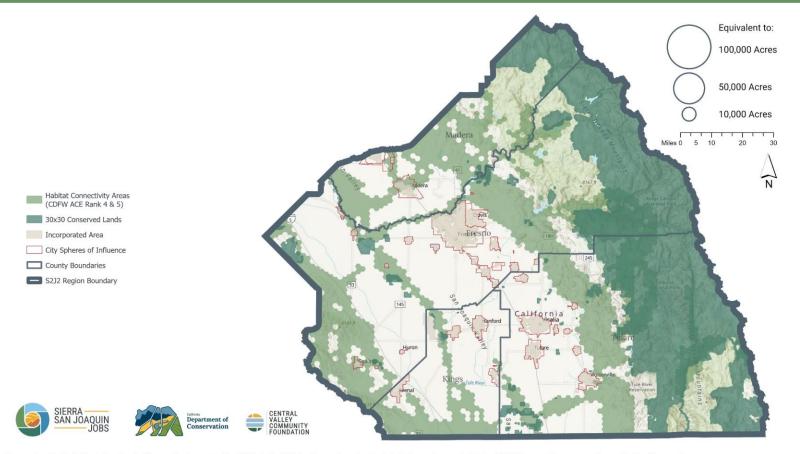
Maps produced by the California Department of Conservation in support of the S2J2 Jobs First Initiative. For questions about the data displayed, please contact Nathaniel.Roth@conservation.ca.gov. and Lynnea.Ormiston@conservation.ca.gov.





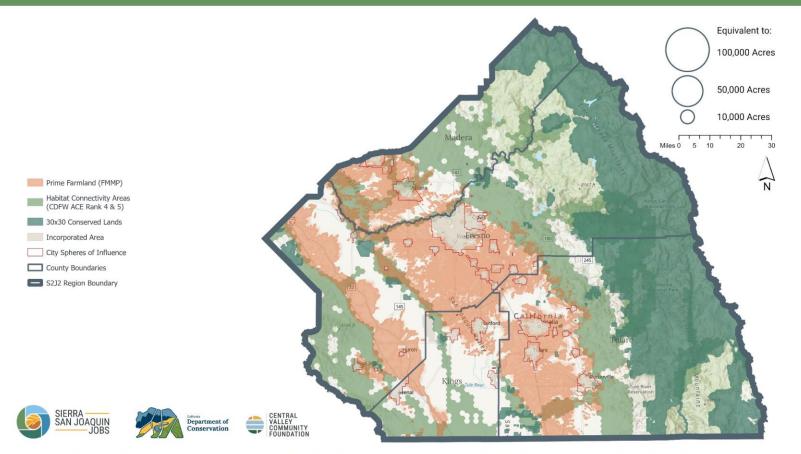
30x30 Conserved Lands Incorporated Area City Spheres of Influence County Boundaries S2J2 Region Boundary





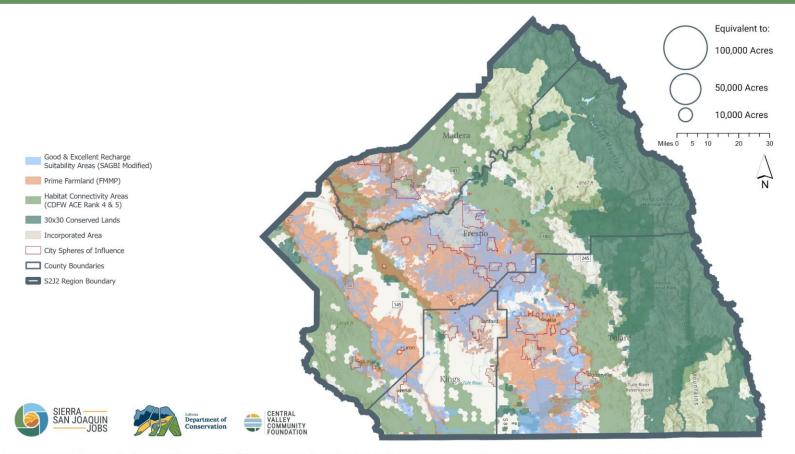
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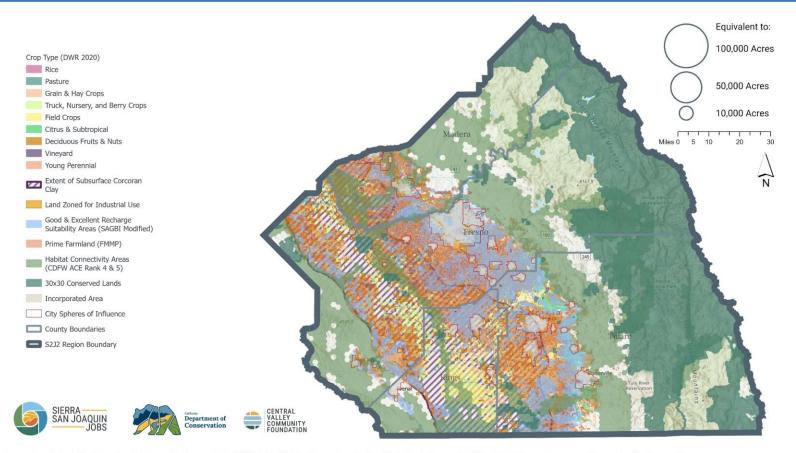




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### **AGRICULTURE & WATER**

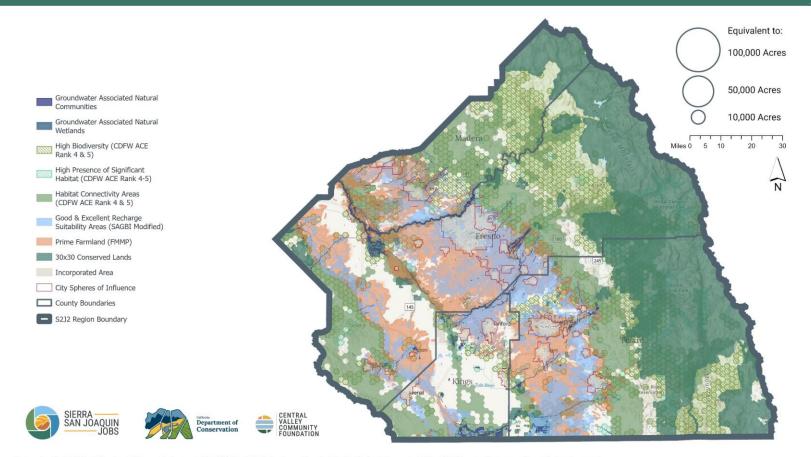




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### CONSERVATION

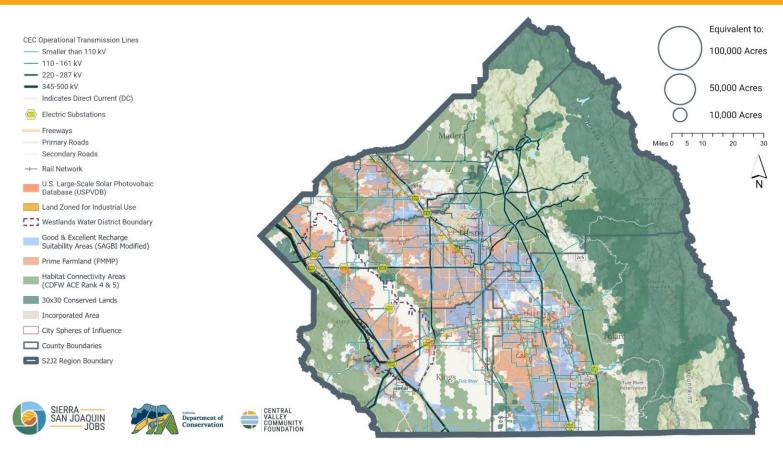




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### **CLEAN ENERGY**





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# Thank you

# Spring Sprint KICK OFF





## **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.

VS.

#### **Community Benefits Plans (CBPs)**

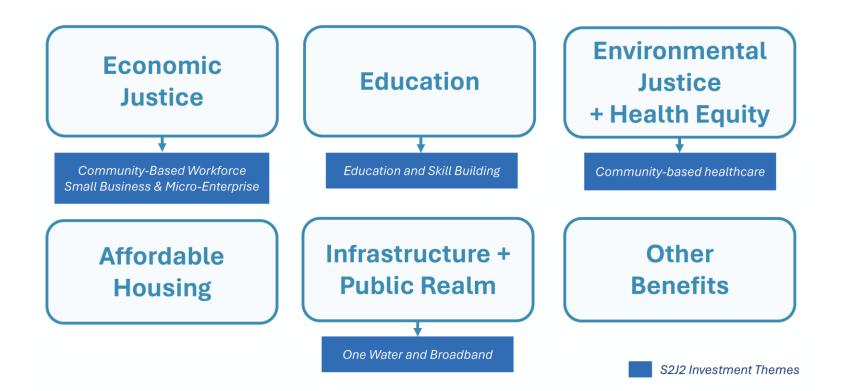
**Consists of commitments that are not legally enforceable.** DOE will be measuring the strength of community benefit plans in 4 categories:

- 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**

#### 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 wealth- building models

### **Education**

#### The Minimum:

• Scholarships & Grants

### Raising the Bar:

- Skill building
- Invest in and create new credential, 2-year, or 4year 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:
  - 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

## **Salem Offshore Wind Terminal**

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.

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## **Types of Community Benefits**

### **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)

### From the Past to the Future... Salem's **Offshore Wind Port Project:** Vision, Timeline, **Community** Impact February 3, 2022 @ 7:00pm



## **Types of Community Benefits**

### \$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.

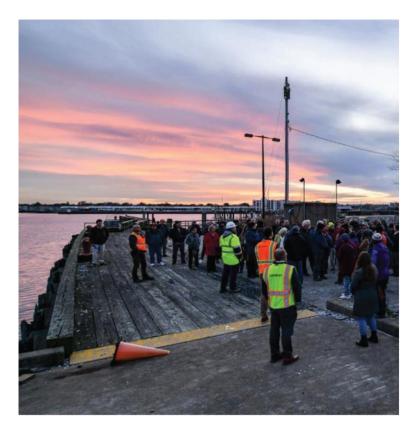


**\$2.7M** for City services, including Salem Police Department, Fire Department, language-related services, and others.

## **Salem Offshore Wind Terminal**

### **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



## **Salem Offshore Wind Terminal**

### **Lessons Learned**

- 1. 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 water infrastructure.

#### 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.

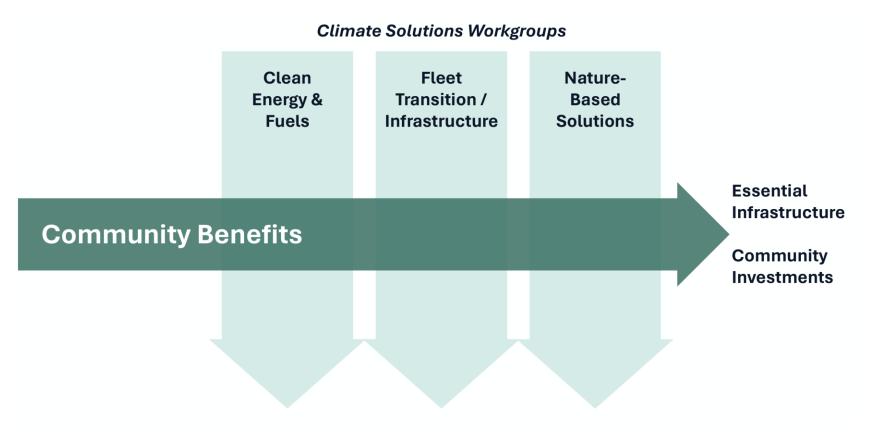
### Strengthening Engagement Processes: Community Liaisons (Block Island, RI)

- 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

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# **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



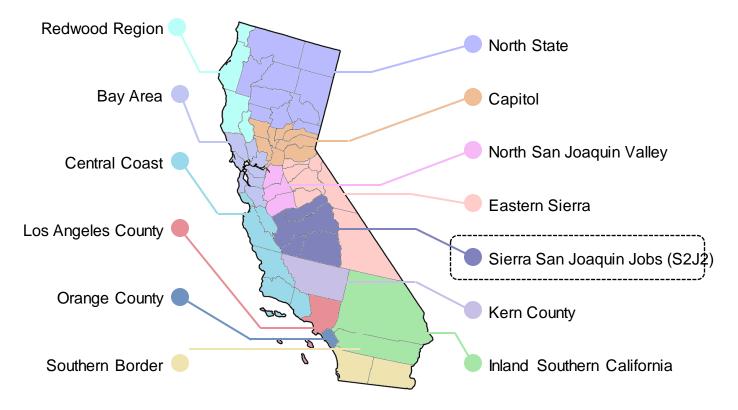
Review roadmap for the 8-week Spring Sprint



Align on plan for today's workgroup breakout session

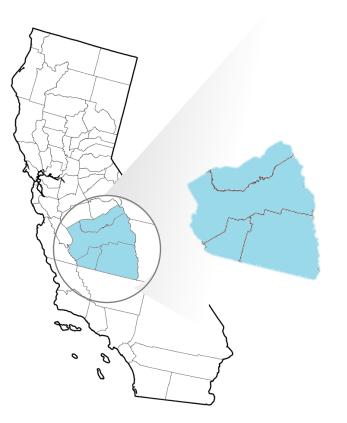


California Jobs First is expected to direct funding to each of the 13 economic development planning regions





### 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.

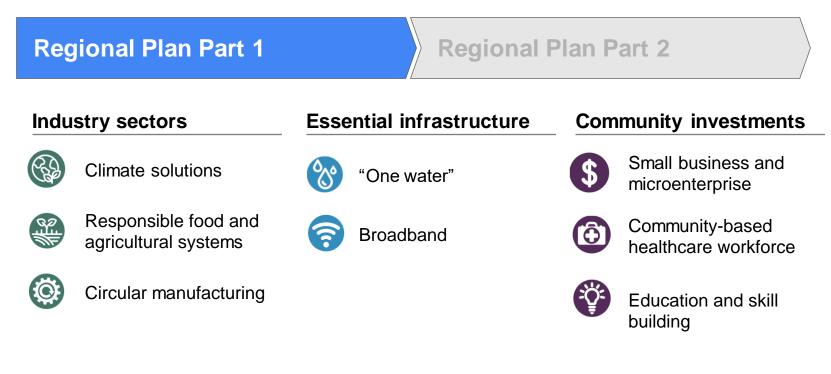
Engaging in this effort first required creating a governance structure for the 4-county region (i.e., Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings) and then **completing significant research—using community member interviews, organizational surveys, and data analysis**—codifying the findings in the Regional Plan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



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

Regional Plan Part 1 Regional Plan Part 2		
Industry sectors	Essential infrastructure	Community investments
Climate solutions	"One water"	Small business and microenterprise
Responsible food and agricultural systems	Broadband	Community-based healthcare workforce
Circular manufacturing		Education and skill building

## 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



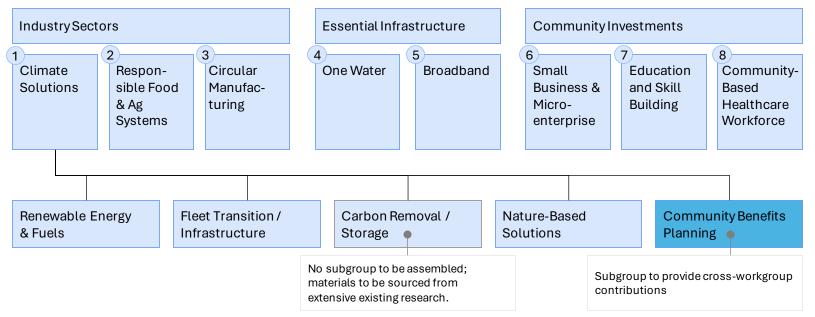
Align on plan for today's workgroup breakout session



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

#### S2J2 Coalition

#### Regional Convenor: Central Valley Community Foundation (CVCF)





### **Roles and operating principles** for the workgroups

Who is in the workgroup?

- **Workgroup Participants**
- Facilitator 2
- **Administrative Staff** 3
- Workgroup Convenors
- 5 **Technical Experts / Data Leads**

### 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

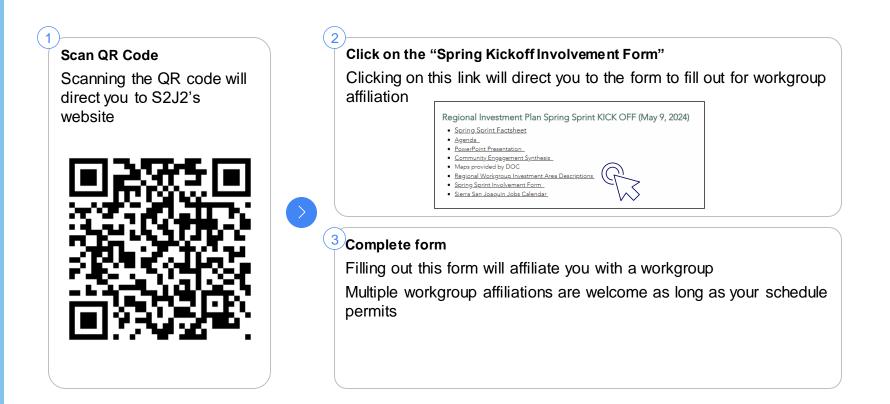


Provide input to the draft investment plan



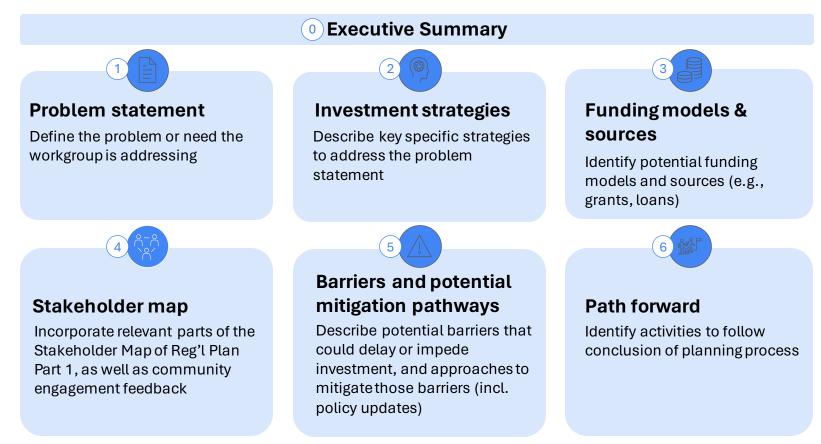


### How to affiliate with a workgroup





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



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

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	<b>S2J2 Coalition</b> Prioritize investments for implementation and prepare for final submission to the state
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## 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

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

**Focus for today** 



### 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).

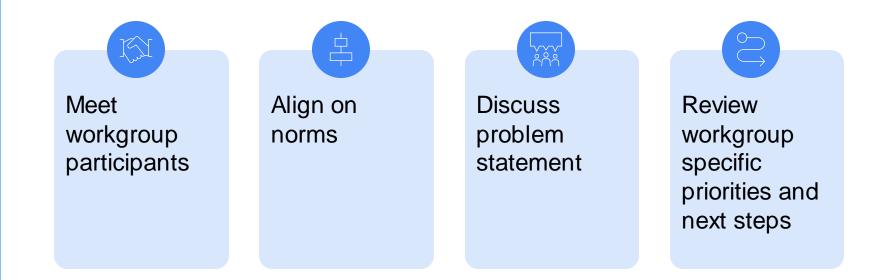
### Vision

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



# **THANK YOU!** Spanish English





Sierra San Joaquin Jobs is an initiative of Central Valley Community Foundation

# Spring Sprint KICK OFF

