LA County CERF
Governance Committee
June 21, 2022

Who should get to govern?

- Everyone in LA County
- Disinvested communities
- Specific populations projects aim to impact
- Representatives of each of the required HRTC stakeholders named in the solicitation
- Grassroots and community-based organizations, community organizers, and community members - Government agencies - Economic development agencies - Philanthropic organizations
- May need 2 or 3 reps from each of the 12 required stakeholder groups to help govern as some of the groups included subsets (e.g., CBO's, Community Organizers and Community Members are all in one stakeholder group)

Worker and community organizations have real decision-making authority; shift in power and focus on building power (e.g., grassroots and CBOs, EJ orgs, labor unions from various sectors, worker centers, tribal communities)
Should we have a voting structure?

If so, who gets to vote?

- Consensus model and a steering committee that provides updates to a larger collaborative.
- Consensus structure.
- Yes as it relates to budget
- Should there be consensus among groups? One vote per group.
- How do we define consensus (vs. unanimity or just simple majority rule)?
- Regional representation is extremely important i.e. SFV, Antelope Valley, etc.
- How do we ensure that those disinvested communities have the weight that we’re intending in this model?
- Representation but with equity embedded (e.g., if 80% of funding is going to disinvested communities, representation in governance should be 80% organizations that work in said disinvested areas).
Do we have an executive committee?

Is this committee governed by Roberts rules of order? By a set of officers (i.e. Chair, vice-chair, etc.)

No. Too many layers

- Must ensure that committee does not take over the conversation/process --> any action must be ratified by the full group before its implementation

Some sort of steering or stewardship committee could be necessary for practical purposes but should operate as stewards/representatives of their stakeholders/regions

Want to stay as close as possible to the community voice

If there is an executive committee, how would it unsure non-English speakers have a voice/seat in the committee?

What is the role/responsibility of each group that is identified --> clear definitions

Maintain democratic process as much as possible

Implementation v. decision-making --> committee can focus on implementing what the larger group has decided

+1 for a steering committee model (I think this is what is meant by "executive committee" but I'd suggest calling it a steering committee in service of the larger body.

How do we provide additional support and resources for community groups who don't feel comfortable in spaces like this?

Accountability, efficiency, trust

It may be challenging to engage the larger group --> how to balance trust between entities?
Do we have other large table committees?
If so, what would be the role of this committee?

Is this committee governed by Roberts rules of order? By a set of officers (i.e. Chair, vice-chair, etc.)

What would membership look like (formal, informal, etc.)?

HRTP partnership letter?

Yes, Roberts Rules of Order.

Create additional committees - budget, project oversight, etc. to provide some level of due diligence to report to the full group.

What does compensation structure look like for community orgs / members on a steering committee?

How do we ensure that community voice and their feedback is integrated into the process?

Yes, I believe it’s important to create committees to create accountability and ensure that we are accomplishing our goals efficiently.

Include language on its authority in directing the fiscal agent on expenditures and how the budget should be allocated.

Clear instructions on who will be giving instructions (steering committee, etc.)
Is consensus our North Star?
or
Do we want to have a Majority vote strategy?

We should define what we mean by consensus (in the range between simple majority and unanimity).

How do we ensure that voices are represented within the structure? --> trust in the model

Op-Out v. Opt-in strategy --> % vs. total votes

Are there specific examples of existing collaborative structures in the County that we can point to certain governance components to draw from?

REAL Coalition example: 2/3 threshold

LA County Strategic Plan: Consensus based.

CERF Eastern Sierra: Modified consensuus --> what can you support / what can you live with / opposition / abstain
If voting, do we want Public vs. Anonymous voting?

This is where consensus is also helpful, and can be public.

I think anonymous voting would enable participants to feel more comfortable voicing their opinion.

Public voting can help build trust among participants as people will understand where each other stand on things.
How important are LA County regions to the governance structure?

I think LA County regions are important to highlight in the governance structure as there are already existing structures within the various regions, but I would encourage us to also think about the shared challenges that unite us all.

Regional tables help facilitate contracting --> important passthroughs to distribute funds to community level (small -level contracting)

Should there be a limitation on the number of regional leads?

CCF Regional Recovery Hubs as a potential breakdown

What are shared challenges shared between different groups?

Geography v. Demography to splice up the County
What are the barriers that keep individuals from participating in processes?

- Some barriers might include capacity to participate, awareness of the process, and comfort level in joining.
- Connectivity (for zoom)
- Technology/virtual, transportation/childcare, etc., if in person.
- Not feeling included or excluded by majority
- Training prior to the discussions.
- Being mindful of times of meeting for people to join + length of meetings
- Childcare
- Financial stipend
- Language barriers
- Language access
- Intimidation with material
- Power dynamics

Funding, helpful to have a financial stipend at amount the honors expertise.
What would broad and meaningful communication look like?

**Websites?**
- Do we create a cohort of community leaders that are part of a paid fellowship to participate?

**Consistency**

**Community events**
- Meeting community where they are

**Social Media**
- It would look like solutions that are cross-cutting across workforce development, climate change, public health

**TCC Watts Rising - Monthly meeting with the community members to provide updates and feedback**
- Community Members who have been engaged who are participating in the community meetings + open callout for community members to join

**In-person meetings**

**Partnerships with foreign language media**
- Community navigator approach to connect with communities - somebody that connects organizations to the process, navigate, and provide increased access

**Expanding outreach through Community Groups**
- cross-cutting solution that incorporation multiple aspects of CERF (climate, public health, etc.)

**Phone banking**
- 2 way communication for solutions

**Use of libraries and promotoras**
- Stakeholder assessment -- will help determine how often + what form of communication.

**Meaningful communication would be different to different stakeholders.**
What might a successful shared/inclusive governance strategy look like?

Not governed by majority so that it is inclusive of every community.

Where the governance strategy represents the key priorities of the CERF region and includes key community stakeholders in all of the areas we would like to impact.