

Community Economic Resilience Fund | LA County High Road Transition Collaborative

Overview: The California Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) aims to build an **equitable** and **sustainable** economy across California's diverse regions and foster long-term economic resilience in the overall transition to a carbon-neutral economy.

To achieve this goal, the State will allocate **\$600 million** across **thirteen designated regions** to fund the development of region-specific economic development strategies that support the creation of **quality jobs** and **equal access to those jobs**.

Click [here](#) to read the State's CERF Solicitation for Proposals (SFP).

Program Details

The Community Economic Resilience Fund implements a three-phase grant structure that emphasizes inclusive planning to ensure equitable outcomes for each region's disinvested communities.

I. Application | Pre-Planning Phase: April 2022 – July 2022

To select each region's High Road Transition Collaborative (HRTC), the State solicited proposals on how coalitions planned to build a "**table of tables**" that incorporates Community- and worker-centered voices to develop inclusive regional planning strategies and equitable pathways to high road opportunities.

Throughout the pre-planning phase, LA County community partners convened weekly to develop the Los Angeles Region High Road Transition Collaborative (LA HRTC) proposal. The LA HRTC selected the California Community Foundation (CCF) as its Fiscal Agent, and the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) as its Regional Convener.

The LA HRTC submitted its proposal to the State on July 25. The State will notify each of the 13 regions who they selected as the designated HRTC before October. Please visit the [LA County CERF webpage](#) to read the complete LA HRTC Proposal narrative, review meeting notes, and learn more about the partners involved.

II. Planning Phase - October 1, 2022

After announcing the designated HRTC, the CERF program will provide **\$5 million** planning grants for each region to inform regional investment opportunities based on actionable research in partnership and shared decision-making with communities and in consultation with expert institutions, with a focus on the CERF Objectives of **equity, sustainability, job quality, economic competitiveness, and resilience**.

Planning grants can be used for a wide range of planning activities, including capacity-building, community engagement, and research to inform projects eligible for funding during the Implementation Phase. Plans developed during this phase must be submitted to the State and will help identify projects eligible for funding during the Implementation Phase of the program.

III. Implementation Phase (Criteria to be released Fall 2022)

In Phase II, the State will fund implementation projects on a rolling basis identified in the planning phase based on criteria such as demonstrated community support, alignment with state climate goals, and demonstration of labor standards and job quality.

Participants interested in applying for Phase II implementation grants must participate during the planning phase or receive a letter of support from the HRTC to be eligible for funding.

Additional Resources

To join the conversation and be added to the LA HRTC mailing list, please fill out the [CERF Engagement Form](#).

If you would like to learn more about how to get involved, please contact Sulaiman.kenyatta@laedc.org or visit <https://laedc.org/CERF> for additional information.