



Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
July 2, 2020

To: Community
Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Regional Council (RC)
From: Kome Ajise, Executive Director, Executive Management,
213-236-1835, Ajise@scag.ca.gov
Subject: Call for Collaboration Partnership Program

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD COMMITTEE:

Recommend that the Regional Council approve Resolution No. 20-623-1, to authorize the Executive Director or his designee to enter into an agreement with the California Community Foundation that would provide grant funding for the Call for Collaboration program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR REGIONAL COUNCIL:

Approve Resolution No. 20-623-1, to authorize the Executive Director or his designee to enter into an agreement with the California Community Foundation that would provide grant funding for the Call for Collaboration program.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians. 2: Advance Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In the wake of the pandemic and its disproportionate impact on low-income and minority communities, President Rex Richardson has outlined opportunity areas and a work program for Recovering and Reimagining a Resilient Region. Central to this framework is bringing new voices to the table and fostering innovative partnerships and collaborations that leverage the strength of the region's diversity to realize an inclusive economic recovery. Complementary to the President's priorities and as part of its broader Housing Program, the Regional Council set aside \$1 million out of the \$11 million allocation of the region's early application for the Regional Early Action Program (REAP) grant to establish the Call for Collaboration partnership program with the intent to support new partnership models and engage a wider range of stakeholders to advance the region's housing goals.

SCAG has the unique opportunity to partner with the California Community Foundation (CCF) and other non-profit entities to implement the partnership program, leveraging SCAG's resources 1:1

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous

with other funds, to increase the reach and impact of the program. The Call for Collaboration would fund projects that go beyond traditional planning tools and promote collaborative partnerships, particularly with community based organizations (CBO), and to also elevate local conversations on racial equity and justice in housing need and economic recovery. It would be designed to advance the President's vision for listening and convening, as the foundation for catalyzing innovation, opportunity and change. If the partnership is approved by the Regional Council, the Call for Collaboration is anticipated to launch in the Fall 2020, augmenting subregional and local planning efforts supported by REAP, and other state funding programs, to update housing elements and accelerate housing production.

BACKGROUND:

The REAP grant, which was part of the Governor's 2019 Statewide Budget bill, directs approximately \$47 million to SCAG to develop activities and programs that accelerate housing production throughout the SCAG region. There is a wide range of activities that are eligible for funding under the REAP planning grant. Generally, activities focus on programs and plans designed to promote pro-housing policies, streamline the housing approval process, and remove barriers to development. The Regional Council voted in February 2020 to set-aside half of the region's REAP funding to support Subregional Partnership Programs to align regional resources with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment allocations. Other activities approved by the Regional Council as part of SCAG's early application for REAP include the development of regional data tools, regional outreach efforts, finalization of the RHNA allocations, and technical assistance offered to local jurisdictions through SCAG's Sustainable Communities Program. The REAP grant is intended to have a net-positive effect on housing throughout the region but due to SCAG's large size, there are challenges in focusing on smaller individual projects, particularly those that specifically partner with CBOs. However, the collective impact of smaller projects can have a significant effect on regional housing supply and CBO engagement is central to ensuring all voices are heard in planning processes designed to serve Southern California's diverse communities as we work together to also address inequities inherent in access to housing.

To bridge the gap between large-scale regional programs and more community-oriented projects, and to align with the President's priorities for *Recovering and Reimagining a Resilient Region*, SCAG staff is proposing to partner with the California Community Foundation (CCF) and other non-profit foundations to develop the Call for Collaboration program. Rather than focusing on traditional methods of planning, financing, and development, this collaborative effort will promote inclusive community-based and community-driven approaches. SCAG would contribute \$1 million as pass-through funding to the program that would be matched 1:1 by CCF, the Irvine Foundation, and other donors. To align with the priorities set by SCAG President Rex Richardson, the Call for Collaboration would be designed to seek innovative and strategic models to shape and execute a vision for increasing housing stock in a sustainable and equitable way that promotes racial equity

and justice in the marketplace and less greenhouse gas emissions from unsustainable development patterns.

The Call for Collaboration would feature multiple awards with a range of award amounts and advance the themes and phases in President Richardson's work program to Listen, Convene and Catalyze innovation and opportunity. A minimum of \$50,000 is recommended for awards, though smaller amounts could be awarded based on the project scope. These awards are intended to seed community-based strategies for collaboration and engagement. Larger awards would be available to expand and implement already existing partnerships or initiatives. In addition to having a positive effect on housing supply, projects can also focus on preservation and anti-displacement initiatives. Activities that position racial equity and justice as the foundation for housing plans and policies and elevate the role of CBOs in housing and economic recovery will also be encouraged to mitigate structural and historical disparities. All awarded projects must promote equitable growth strategies in communities. Selected projects will be awarded throughout the SCAG region based on the amount and quality of applications received. All projects funded by SCAG's contribution to the program must qualify as an eligible housing planning activity as described by the REAP Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) published by HCD on February 27, 2020. Examples of potential awards include community engagement and educational activities, infrastructure planning to support housing development, anti-displacement policies that complement activities that promote housing production, and the implementation of innovative programs that promote affordable housing production and preservation.

In order to move the program forward, SCAG staff is requesting approval of the attached Resolution No. 20-623-1 which would authorize the for the Executive Director or his designee to enter into an agreement with the California Community Foundation to provide grant funding for the Call for Collaboration program. Pending the authorization from the Regional Council, CCF will provide the grant administration through a procured consultant. A consultant will also be procured to provide technical assistance to awarded projects. The program launch and application period is anticipated by Fall 2020, with review and award announcements following the application period. Awarded projects are expected to commence by early 2021 with an expected completion date of December 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this item is included in the FY 20-21 Overall Work Program (21-300.4872.01: Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grants Program (AB 101)).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Resolution No. 20-623-1 CCF



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
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Los Angeles, CA 90017
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www.scag.ca.gov

RESOLUTION NO. 20-623-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG) AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (CCF) TO PROVIDE GRANT FUNDING FOR THE CALL FOR COLLABORATION PROGRAM

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WHEREAS, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization, for the six-county region consisting of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial counties;

WHEREAS, the State of California (the "State"), Department of Housing and Community Development ("Department") is authorized to provide up to \$47,471,023 to SCAG under the Regional Early Action Planning grant program (REAP), the regional component of the Local Government Planning Support Grants Program (as described in Health and Safety Code section 50515.02);

WHEREAS, SCAG submitted an application for a Request for Advance Allocation to receive \$11,867,755 (up to 25% of the amount allocated pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 50515.02(b) consistent with the methodology described in 50515.03(a)) per Regional Council Resolution No. 20-618-1, which was signed on February 6, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Department approved SCAG's application for a Request for Advance Allocation on April 14, 2020;

WHEREAS, complementary to the SCAG President's priorities and as part of the broader Housing Program, SCAG has included the exploration of collaboration with community-based partners to support community-driven approaches to accommodate more housing as part of its proposed activities under its Request for Advance Allocation;

WHEREAS, SCAG will partner with the California Community Foundation and other non-profit entities to fund projects that go beyond traditional planning tools and promote collaborative projects, particularly with community-based organizations (CBO), and also to elevate local conversations on racial equity and justice in housing need and economic recovery; and

Attachment: Resolution No. 20-623-1 CCF (Call for Collaboration Partnership Program)

WHEREAS, the Call for Collaboration program will award grants of various amounts to projects that meet the program objectives and propose an innovative approach to planning, including those that promote community-driven and equitable growth strategies through partnerships among CBOs, non-profit institutions, and local governmental agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments, that;

1. The Regional Council hereby authorizes SCAG to program and set aside \$1,000,000 as pass-through funding out of the \$11,867,755 available from the Request for Advance Allocation to establish the Call for Collaboration program; and

2. SCAG's Executive Director or his designee is hereby authorized by the Regional Council to negotiate, finalize and execute all necessary agreements and other documents on behalf of the Regional Council as they relate to an agreement with the California Community Foundation to provide grant funding for the Call for Collaboration program.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at its regular meeting this 2nd day of July, 2020.

Rex A. Richardson
President, SCAG
Councilmember, Long Beach

Attested by:

Kome Ajise
Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

Justine Block
Acting Chief Counsel