

PRESS RELEASE

San Joaquin Council of Governments

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San Joaquin County Selected for New Program to Help Under-Resourced Communities Address Climate Change

The San Joaquin Council of Governments is pleased to announce that San Joaquin County has been selected as one of 12 California communities to participate in the BOOST Pilot Program – a new partnership of the Institute for Local Government (ILG) and the California Strategic Growth Council (SCG) to help local governments build capacity to develop and secure funding for projects that provide access to clean air and water, clean transportation, affordable housing, and economic opportunity in alignment with the state’s equity and environmental goals.

The BOOST Pilot Program will help communities: **Build** awareness of funding opportunities to address climate action; **Organize** projects to be best positioned to meet its goals; **Optimize** existing resources and build more capacity; **Strengthen** relationships with key stakeholders and identify new opportunities for regional engagement and collaboration; and **Transform** their approach to addressing climate action.

In San Joaquin County, the BOOST partnership will focus on meeting SJCOG’s climate goals as found in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and exploring potential initiatives that can be taken for the future. They will also aid SJCOG’s ongoing efforts in creating healthy and sustainable communities through addressing housing affordability.

“The Institute for Local Government is excited to partner with the California Strategic Growth Council and San Joaquin County” said Erica L. Manuel, CEO and Executive Director of the Institute

for Local Government. “Over the last decade ILG has gathered promising practices and lessons learned about sustainability through our flagship Beacon Program for cities and counties. We look forward to using that expertise to support, and BOOST, communities across California.”

“Communities across California are working to achieve sustainability, equity, economic prosperity, and a high quality of life for their residents, but not all have the same ability to do so,” said Louise Bedsworth, Executive Director of California Strategic Growth Council. “BOOST will provide customized support to help communities develop the compelling, fundable projects that can lead to healthy thriving, and resilient communities.”

The BOOST pilot program is funded through a \$1 million appropriation by the California Legislature in the Budget Act of 2018 (SB 856) from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which is administered through California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health outcomes, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

Find out more about the BOOST Program at www.ca-ilg.org/BOOST.

About the San Joaquin Council of Governments

The San Joaquin Council of Governments is a joint powers authority comprised of the County of San Joaquin and the cities of Stockton, Lodi, Manteca, Tracy, Ripon, Escalon, and Lathrop. The agency serves as the federally-designated metropolitan planning organization, the state-designated regional transportation planning agency, the implementing agency for the habitat conservation program, the local transportation authority (overseeing Measure K, the local half-cent transportation sales tax), and as a technical resource for the San Joaquin region. For more information, visit www.sjcog.org; follow SJCOG on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#); or call 209-235-0600.

About the Institute for Local Government

The Institute for Local Government (ILG) is the non-profit training and education affiliate of the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties and the California Special Districts Association, which represent 1000s of local agencies across the state. ILG helps local officials and staff navigate the constantly changing landscape of their jobs by offering training, technical assistance, written resources and facilitation services specifically designed for local



agencies. From leadership to public engagement to housing and workforce, ILG helps local leaders with a wide range of issues. Visit www.ca-ilg.org to find out more.

About the California Strategic Growth Council

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) is a cabinet-level body chaired by the Director of the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research tasked with coordinating and working collaboratively with public agencies, communities, and stakeholders to achieve sustainability, equity, economic prosperity, and quality of life for all Californians with a focus on the state's most disadvantaged communities. SGC implements its mission through four key activities: making investments in infrastructure and conservation programs; conducting outreach and providing technical assistance to support of communities seeking to access these investments; and leading and supporting integrated policy initiatives that align with SGC's mission. www.sgc.ca.gov

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