

Community Economic Resilience Fund ("CERF")

CAP Luncheon
February 25, 2022



What We'll Discuss



- "CERF 101"
 - Program Pillars
 - Phases
 - Timeline
- Updates in Our Region
 - Regional Assets
 - Actions
 - Public Comment
- Q & A
- Discussion

A large, faint, light blue outline of a lightbulb is centered in the background. The lightbulb has a rounded top with a curved filament and a wider base with a small opening at the bottom.

CERF 101

One-time use of **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** funds that will distribute **\$600 million** in a **competitive process**, to regions across California.

sustainable and equitable
RECOVERY
from the economic
distress of COVID-19

high-quality, accessible
JOBS

**ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE**
industries

Program Pillars

**MEANINGFULLY
INCLUSIVE**
regional planning
processes

ALIGNING and LEVERAGING
federal, state, philanthropic,
and private-sector
investments



- Colusa
- El Dorado
- Placer
- Sacramento

- Nevada
- Sutter
- Yolo
- Yuba



PLANNING

- \$ 5 million per region
- Establishes regional, inclusive planning tables
- Results in a holistic strategy and recommended series of investments

Phases

IMPLEMENTATION

- Competitive process
- Funds projects in localities across the regions based on regional plans developed and criteria outlined
- "Early implementation" pilot projects + Projects coming out of the Planning Phase

Updated Planning Phase Timeline

- **December 2021** - Draft Planning Phase Guidelines released
- **January 2022** - Deadline to submit Public Comment in response to Draft Planning Phase Guidelines
- **April 2022** - Expected release of Final Planning Phase Guidelines and Solicitation



Updates in Our Region

Regional Assets

- 
- The Prosperity Strategy (regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy)
 - Existing opportunities across key sectors



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- Build a **larger, more inclusive table**
 - Design a process in which **diverse communities can co-own and advance solutions**

Actions

- We are actively planning and beginning to build partnerships to **advance an application from our region**
 - We've been doing outreach and engagement to **inform about the opportunity** and **gain a sense of priority and interest** in the CERF program
 - We've been **communicating with the lead state agencies** and advocating for our region's needs with state agencies
 - We're building a **listserv** of interested parties

Public Comment

- **The Prosperity Partners** (Valley Vision, SACOG, SMCC, SACC, and GSEC) + **SMUD**
- Affirming our support for the program and our determination to stay engaged
- Seeking from the State further **guidance on**:
 - Any unmovable federal prescriptions + reporting requirements and accountability measures under the grant
 - Criteria for designating the different roles identified in the draft planning phase guidelines
 - How the state will bridge the planning and implementation phases

Public Comment

- Highlighting the **need for**:
 - Flexibility in the use of funds, in order to meaningfully engage with the communities that the CERF program seeks to prioritize
 - Results-based framework that reflects the need for both near-term and long-term projects as part of each region's recovery and transition strategy
 - Technical assistance in setting up the engagement and governance structures needed to build our inclusive planning tables



How to stay engaged:

- Scan the QR Code and fill up the survey if you would like to stay engaged throughout this process.
- You can also access the survey by going to:
<https://forms.gle/hSPRRixaRjcsHcHN8>
- isa.avancena@valleyvision.org