The Local Government Commission supports local policymakers through nationally recognized events, affordable technical assistance, and policy guidance on climate change, energy, water, and healthy community design.

WHO WE ARE

LGC Maintains a Network of 700+ Innovative Leaders

LGC Personnel Includes

LGC works in four main program areas

CLIMATE CHANGE

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN

ENERGY

WATER
Throughout the year, the Local Government Commission provided support to over 155 local and regional jurisdictions. LGC staff contributed over 2,000 hours of service providing technical assistance and conducting charrettes, community design workshops, walkability assessments and trainings. In addition, CivicSpark fellows collectively spent over 106,000 hours of service providing direct assistance to 62 communities throughout the state.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

PLANNING ASSISTANCE

LGC’s Community Design team partnered with leading multimodal transportation and urban design consultants in 2017 to provide assistance in planning and equitably implementing healthy, sustainable and prosperous communities:

1. County of Colusa Safe Routes to School Plan
2. County of Kern Active Transportation Plan
3. County of Merced Beachwood Franklin Community Center
4. County of Merced Le Grand Community Design Guidelines
5. City of Oakdale Accessibility Master Plan
6. Community of Orleans Town Center and Cultural Connectivity Plan
7. County of Riverside Neighborhood and Regional Mobility Plans for Thermal and Oasis
8. City of Paso Robles Creston Road Corridor Complete and Sustainable Streets Plan
9. City of Richmond Wellness Trail Vision Plan (adopted unanimously by the City Council in April and awarded $3.1 Million Urban Greening Grant in November for implementation)
10. City of Richmond First Mile/Last Mile Transportation Strategic Plan
11. City of Saint Louis (Missouri) LGC assisted 3 communities with neighborhood placemaking and art in the region as part of the 2017 New Partners for Smart Growth conference
12. City of Salinas East Alisal Complete Streets Plan
13. City of Sanger Active Transportation Plan
14. City of San Jose Story-Keyes Complete Streets Study
15. Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and City of Redding Active Transportation Plans (For more: www.goshasta.org)
16. City of Stockton East Main Street Corridor Revitalization
17. City of Willits Main Street Corridor Enhancement Plan (2017 Award of Excellence APA California Chapter Northern Section)

STATEWIDE/REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Transformative Climate Communities (TCC): LGC provided technical assistance to disadvantaged communities in Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento and the Inland Empire on behalf of the Strategic Growth Council to develop proposals for implementation grants that integrate affordable housing, active transportation, urban greening, water and energy efficiency, waste diversion and other eligible projects. TCC is part of the California Climate Investments program, which is funded by cap and trade proceeds.

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC): As part of a team under the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) LGC helped city, county and regional agencies and developers prepare successful AHSC proposals for transit-oriented development, affordable housing and sustainable transportation projects.

Active Transportation Resource Team Technical Assistance: LGC, in partnership with Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, conducted workshops in the Tulare County and Riverside County, and is providing follow-up support through 2018 to disadvantaged communities in the two regions to help them access funding from the State Active Transportation Program for infrastructure, planning and programs to support walking and bicycling.

LGC prepared three successful Caltrans SB1 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant applications for three jurisdictions in October, including Riverside County, Visalia and Guadalupe. In the coming year, staff will be leading mobility, revitalization and traffic safety planning efforts in all three communities.

LGC partnered with Dan Burden of Blue Zones to conduct three workshops and a walkability audit on living and complete streets for the Beach Cities Health District which covers the cities of Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach.

LGC reviewed a plan for the City of Artesia’s main street, Pioneer Boulevard, and organized a site visit with Sargent Town Planning to develop strategies and recommendations for the corridor to facilitate a successful, active downtown district.

Prepared a Community Image Survey focused on street design to assist the development of a Complete Streets plan for three neighborhoods in Honolulu.

CLIMATE CHANGE

CALIFORNIA’S FOURTH CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENT

As part of California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment LGC is moving into the final phases for two research projects designed to help local agencies overcome financial and institutional barriers to implementing adaptation strategies. Staff are analyzing the results of over 300 survey responses about financing issues, and refining and field testing a roadmap and self-assessment tool for local agencies to evaluate and advance their adaptation capabilities with tangible strategies and targeted resources. Both projects will be completed and submitted for peer review in early 2018.
IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

CALTRANS SB1 ADAPTATION PLANNING GRANT ASSISTANCE

Building off the Community Design team’s success with Caltrans Sustainability Planning Grant program, Climate team staff were successful in partnering on 2 grants in the first round of CalTrans SB1 Adaptation Planning Grant program. In the coming year, staff will be supporting an urban heat island project in the Sacramento Region, and a regional vulnerability planning project in the Western Riverside and San Bernardino regions.

WATER

WE CAN - SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

LGC’s $2.5 million WE CAN program has conducted over 100 landscape upgrades to date (91 single-family and 12 institutional), via rebates and direct install projects in Fresno County. Project highlights include:

- Feature on Fresno morning show, KSEE24 Sunrise.
- Partnership with Habitat for Humanity and Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission to provide no-cost landscape upgrades. The WE CAN team was featured on “Movement of the Americas,” a local radio show hosted by Mayor of Huron, Rey Leon on 88.1 KFCF.

- Partnership with Rockpile landscaper which provides jobs for formerly incarcerated individuals.
- Partnership with California Conservation Corps (CCC) to replace over 78,000 square feet of turf removed from institutional properties, for an anticipated 7.8 million gallons of water saved per year.
- 7,000 square feet of turf removed at the Fresno Boys and Girls club with drought-tolerant climate-appropriate gardens, for an anticipated 700,000 gallons per year water savings.
- Launch of a new Smart Controller direct install program in partnership with Rachio and Valley Soil, a statewide irrigation efficiency company, to provide Fresno County residents with a free water audit and installation of free weather-based irrigation system controller.

- With more than 850 smart controllers installed to date, the program is expanding beyond the cities of Fresno and Clovis to reach more rural areas of Fresno County.
- Providing US EPA Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) certification training to Fresno Local Conservation Corps members (disadvantaged youth 18-24 year-olds working toward earning their high school diploma) who will provide labor for the direct install landscape upgrades.

WE CAN Impacts to Date

<table>
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<tr>
<th>236 Residences or Institutions Served Across Fresno County</th>
<th>20 Jobs Created or Supported</th>
<th>+5 Million Tons of CO₂ Emissions Prevented Annually, for the Next 20 Years</th>
<th>+19 Million Gallons of Water Saved Annually, for the Next 20 Years</th>
<th>+24,500 kWh in Energy Usage Reduced Annually, for the Next 20 Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 to Disadvantaged Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nearly equivalent to the entire emissions of the population of Modesto, CA (~200,000 US households)</td>
<td>Approximately enough water for entire year for nearly 60 families</td>
<td>Average energy usage for 2 household for a year</td>
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WESTSIDE SACRAMENTO IRWM “BROWNFIELDS” PROJECT

LGC helped to refine the abandoned mine site mapping tool, an open-source data visualization platform to help communities plan for land use change, watershed restoration, and redevelopment. We also helped to identify existing authority and jurisdiction for local governments to address abandoned mine sites in their communities for better land use decision-making. LGC co-drafted the area-wide plan, which evaluates regional priorities and planning documents to provide guidance for city and county land use planning in regard to abandoned mine sites.

ENERGY

ENERGIZE FRESNO

LGC has developed a comprehensive Master Community Design for an “Energy Opportunity Zone” in Fresno. LGC identified and signed MOUs with the developers of 12 energy opportunity projects, defined a commercial and a low-income residential energy upgrade program, and mapped out low-carbon transportation investment opportunities for the community.

The $35.1 million portfolio of advanced energy investments is estimated to provide more than 10.3 million kWh in annual energy savings, 7,250 metric tons of CO$_2$e in annual greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and over $3.5 million in annual energy cost savings for the Fresno community. The Master Community Design is currently being vetted with community leaders, and will be submitted to the CEC for up to $14 million in implementation funding in early 2018.

ZERO NET ENERGY HUB

LGC is expanding the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative’s Zero Net Energy Hub, a new online resource library that compiles resources in a single easy-to-navigate webpage.

Please visit: http://californiaseec.org/zero-net-energy/

BEST PRACTICES COORDINATOR

The Best Practices Coordinator (BPC) is providing assistance to local governments on energy efficiency and sustainability including:

- Assisting San Joaquin Valley jurisdictions to develop local ordinances that go above and beyond the 2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards;
- Hosting series of statewide webinars to for local governments Partnering with the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council on their Building Operator Certification program to provide expanded energy efficiency training opportunities for local building managers across the state supporting Inland Empire local governments with acquisition of streetlights to reduce energy use and electricity costs and advance telecommunications implementation for ‘smart cities’ development
- Assisting with energy efficiency project proposals in Fresno, Irvine, Morgan Hill, San Mateo County, the Sierra region, San Diego County, and Santa Monica.
NATIONAL SERVICE

CIVICSPARK

Throughout the 2016-17 Service Year, 66 CivicSpark Fellows provided over 100,000 hours of service to California’s communities (82,000 hours since January) through the implementation of 14 water action projects and 43 climate action projects. Through community engagement projects, the Fellows recruited 159 on-going volunteers and 658 one-time volunteers, who in turn volunteered for 2,714 hours. Additionally, the Fellows:

- Conducted 64 Community Events
- Engaged over 10,700 Community Members
- Hosted 56 Implementation Workshops
- Completed 4 Climate/Energy Action Plans
- Completed 46 GHG/Water Inventories
- Completed 4 Vulnerability Assessments
- Engaged 634 Local Businesses

The 2017-18 Service Year began with a pre-service Orientation in September. The 69 Fellows in the cohort were chosen from a record pool 465 applicants. The Fellows have already provided over 25,000 hours of service through 48 climate action projects and 11 water action projects.

In parallel with current CivicSpark program activities, LGC, in partnership with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, completed a planning process for an expanded CivicSpark cohort. The proposed “Opportunity Access” expansion program would deploy 20 Fellows to support local government capacity building to improve social mobility by addressing: affordable housing, alternative transportation, and infrastructure modernization.
In 2017, the Local Government Commission has reached more than 7,500 livable community and sustainability leaders and practitioners through our national conference, statewide forums, design workshops, webinars, listservs and networking events.

In 2017, LGC connected livable community practitioners with other leaders and a range of resources.

- Over 13,600 people receiving LGC newsletters
- Over 1,900 Infinite Earth Podcast subscribers and 93,000+ podcast downloads (2,000 downloads per week)
- Over 3,200 livable community leaders and practitioners connected through in-person events
- Over 350 tweets and reposts; over 2,200 Facebook followers; over 2,000 Twitter followers; and over 217,000 website hits

For more information:
http://www.milkeninstitute.org/events/forums/view/723

CLIMATE CHANGE

ALLIANCE OF REGIONAL COLLABORATIVES FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION (ARCCA)

The Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) is supporting an ever-growing adaptation community of practice throughout California through quarterly meetings, biweekly newsletters, and engagement with key state guidance and legislation. LGC staff support these climate networks by facilitating member meetings and resource sharing; serving on the steering committee for the biennial CalPoly Climate Action Planning Conference (August 24-25, 2017) and coordinating an equity session for the event; supporting direct peer-to-peer connections by developing a Directory of California Resiliency Practitioners; facilitating the relaunch of a Bay Area regional adaptation network; and supporting the launch of a new Central Coast collaborative representing the 6 central coast counties through network assistance and facilitation of a successful application for FEMA and EPA technical assistance.

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN

SACRAMENTO HOUSING FORUM

May 16, 2017 - Sacramento, CA

LGC partnered with The Milken Institute, California Center, Capital Public Radio and The California Business Roundtable to put on the “Sacramento Housing Forum: The Future of the State’s Housing Dilemma and its Economy” on May 16th with National experts, State Assembly and Senate members, the mayors of Stockton and Sacramento, and other business and thought leaders.
CONNECTING LEADERS

CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE (CRC)

The CRC brings together leaders from government, business, academia, labor, environmental, and community organizations to advance a holistic approach to adaptation in the greater Sacramento Region. In 2017, CRC hosted quarterly meetings featuring subject matter experts focused on traditional ecological knowledge, disaster preparedness and response, and carbon sequestration. CRC also created a series of fact sheets to increase adaptation awareness of local leaders, on resilient infrastructure, community health and well-being, public safety, economic vitality, and nature-based solutions. Throughout 2017, CRC continued to expand and diversify adding three new members.

ENERGY

STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE (SEEC)

Over 280 people attended LGC’s 8th Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum held June 14-15 in Downtown Fresno. This year's forum focused on bridging gaps to accelerate greenhouse gas emissions reduction in order to meet aggressive state and local targets. LGC is also taking the conversation to other communities by launching SEEC Local Government Roundtables on climate action planning, stakeholder engagement, and street light retrofits to provide a forum for local government staff to share updates and resources and discuss shared challenges.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COALITION (LGSEC)

The LGSEC hosts quarterly meetings featuring state experts and local government leaders on a range of energy efficiency and renewable energy issues including Energy Data Access and building energy use decarbonization. Regular LGSEC newsletters are distributed to nearly 160 recipients. Regulatory committees representing the 39 LGSEC member organizations discuss regulatory engagement on energy efficiency, community choice and distributed energy resource issues. In 2017, LGSEC presented webinars on community choice energy, sizing solar and energy storage, California energy legislation and local government energy efficiency financing with a total attendance of nearly 400.

BUSINESS FOR LOCAL ENERGY COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY SYMPOSIUM

LGC and LGSEC partnered with the Center for Climate Protection to host the Business for Local Energy Community Choice Energy Symposium on May 5th, 2017 in Long Beach. The event drew over 400 attendees. Keynote speakers included: California Senate Pro Tempore Kevin De León and CPUC Commission President Michael Picker. The 2018 BLE Symposium will be held in Sacramento on June 4-5, 2018.

WATER

WATER CONVENINGS

LGC staff serves on the California Water Policy Conference Planning Committee and facilitated a panel discussion on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation at the 2017 conference. LGC facilitated a convening of over 30 local leaders from the water and land use planning sectors across the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) service area to explore opportunities to integrate new Groundwater Sustainability Plans with land-use planning processes. LGC staff participated in the State Water Project inspection tour, to help local elected leaders and water managers from Southern California better understand Northern California water infrastructure. LGC staff delivered a speech on building better partnerships and collaboration between northern and southern water and land use professionals. LGC staff participated in the Groundwater Collaborative Strategic Planning Workshop to identify statewide priorities.
DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (DCI) PROGRAM

LGC launched the Santa Ana Watershed Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program. The team participated in SAWPA’s first (April) and second (December) Symposium on Water & Homelessness to educate local leaders on water challenges faced by the homeless community, as well as impacts to local water quality as a result of homelessness. LGC also conducted 5 interviews with local elected officials to inform the Community Strengths & Needs Assessment.

BROWNFIELDS

The Brownfields Team hosted administrative advisory meetings with municipal staff in Napa and Lake Counties, and met separately with Lake County Supervisors, to elicit regional land use planning priorities to include in the project’s Area-wide Plan for cleaning up abandoned mine sites. Project update newsletters were released in July and November.

EVENTS

26TH ANNUAL YOSEMITE POLICYMAKERS CONFERENCE: BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

March 16-19, 2017 — Yosemite Natl. Park

LGC held another successful Yosemite Policymakers Conference in March, with 114 people in attendance (66 policymakers). This year’s conference focused on protecting and advancing critical elements of the American Dream for ALL Californians. Keynote speakers included Pro Tempore Kevin de León of the CA State Senate, Executive Officer Richard Corey of the CA Air Resources Board, CEO Carl Guardino of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and President Micah Weinberg of the Bay Area Council Economic Institute.

27TH ANNUAL YOSEMITE POLICYMAKERS CONFERENCE: BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

March 15-18, 2017 — Yosemite Natl. Park

LGC is gearing up for a great convening of California's policymakers this coming spring. Visit https://www.lgc.org/ypc to learn more.
The Local Government Commission has provided 38 comment letters on state guidance or legislation; participated on 23 presentations, panels and interviews; engaged state agencies in 42 policy-related actions; facilitated 4 policy workshops; developed 6 policy fact sheets; and served on 18 advisory committees at the state and federal level.

This legislative session LGC supported the following bills that promote livable communities:

- **SB-1 Transportation Funding** *(Senator Jim Beall)*
- **SB-2 The Building Homes and Jobs Act** *(Senator Toni G. Atkins)*
- **SB-3 Statewide Housing Bond** *(Senator Jim Beall)*
- **SB-5 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018** *(Senator Kevin De León)*
- **SB-35 Planning and zoning: affordable housing: streamlined approval process** *(Scott Wiener)*
- **SB-242 Property Assessed Clean Energy Program** *(Senator Nancy Skinner)*
- **SB-263 Climate Assistance Centers** *(Senator Connie Leyva)*
- **AB-398 Cap and Trade Extension** *(Garcia)* - passed
- **AB-1568 Land Uses, Neighborhood Infill Finance and Transit Improvements** *(Assemblymember Richard Bloom)*

**COMMUNITY DESIGN**

- LGC is serving on Caltrans’ “Future of Mobility” Technical Advisory Committee to investigate trends in transportation technology, business models, and innovations. The committee’s findings will be used to inform Caltrans transportation planning activities, including the California Transportation Plan (CTP) 2050.
- In partnership with the offices of Congresswoman Matsui and Mayor Steinberg, staff are also working with the Autonomous Transportation Open Standards Lab to pilot driverless vehicles in the City of Sacramento.
- LGC served as a project advisor for Capital Public Radio’s documentary project “The View From Here: Place and Privilege”: a documentary and community engagement initiative on the affordable housing crisis.
- LGC helped the California Conference of Local Health Officers and The County Health Executives Association of California convene health and planning officials throughout the state.
LGC is working with UC Berkeley’s Transportation Sustainability Research Center on a Shared Mobility Policy Framework over the next two years with funding from Caltrans.

CLIMATE CHANGE

LGC supported resilience-focused policies and in 2018 developed several comment letters (through ARCCA) on state policy and planning documents including:

- Strategic Growth Council Draft Climate Research Investment Plan,
- State Water Resources Control Board Proposed Resolution on Climate Change,
- Transformative Climate Communities Program Revised Draft Scoping Guidelines,
- Draft Forest Carbon Plan,
- 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update, and

LGC continues to engage directly with legislators and agency leaders on key climate policies. In recent months, LGC staff met with Senator Wieckowski to discuss the continuation of climate programs after 2020 and with Assemblymember Arambula to discuss the Transformative Climate Communities program. LGC also provided an overview of adaptation financing to the Statewide Technical Advisory Committee under SB246.

ENERGY

LGC is engaged in supporting the continued growth of Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs (PACE) in California. In particular, LGC submitted an opposition letter in regards to AB 271 (Caballero) which as written would have unduly burdened the PACE industry that is critical to California's energy goals and an opposition letter in regards to SB-618 (Bradford) which contravened the intent of AB 117, the Community Choice Aggregation law passed in 2002 and threatens to undermine Community Choice energy programs in California.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COALITION (LGSEC)

The Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) is advancing the application to the California Public Utilities Company (CPUC) to combine all local government energy efficiency programs (presently worth $154M) under a single LGC-run statewide administration. A CPUC decision on the proposal was originally anticipated in September, but is now likely to be forthcoming in Q1 2018. An early success of the process has been the adoption of an Interim GHG Adder in the CPUC’s decision D.17-08-022 as advocated by LGSEC and others, which adds greenhouse gas emissions benefits to energy efficiency metrics. Local government access to consistent and complete community-wide energy data for climate action planning is an issue for many LGSEC members.

LGSEC is monitoring CPUC decisions regarding the closure of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant and associated proposals for ubiquitous charges to pay for efficiency and renewables, as well as a SoCal Edison proposal for grid infrastructure investments - both of which are precedent-setting. The LGSEC is also monitoring CPUC investigations into the role Utilities may have had in the recent fires in Northern (and perhaps Southern) California, and the associated overdue update of hazard maps.
ADVANCING POLICY

WATER

AHWAHNEE WATER PRINCIPLES
LGC continues to support local governments in efforts to adopt and/or implement the 2006 Ahwahnee Water Principles. Napa County adopted the principles through a board resolution and integration into County code. LGC led efforts to create a new fact sheet tying the Ahwahnee Water Principles to local actions municipalities can take to implement the Governor’s California Water Action Plan.

GOVERNOR’S WATER USE EFFICIENCY FRAMEWORK
LGC signed on with ten other public agencies, municipalities, for-profit corporations and nonprofit organizations to support the Governor’s new framework for “Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life.” LGC is tracking executive agency development of the new efficiency framework and subsequent legislation to support local public agencies in implementing any potential new standards.

SGMA STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
LGC provided recommendations and support documentation to the Department of Water Resources Stakeholder Engagement Guidance Document and Sustainable Management Criteria Guidance Document, in partnership with the Groundwater Collaborative and the NGO Advisory Committee to SGMA Implementation.

STATE-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT
Staff continues to meet with state agencies (e.g., DWR, State Water Board, OPR, CalEPA) and participate in multiple advisory groups to explore funding and partnership opportunities, as well as to inform state-level policies that impact local governments. LGC serves on: the SGMA Implementation NGO Advisory Committee, the Groundwater Collaborative, the working lands subcommittee of the California Economic Summit, the California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply, the California Data Collaborative, and the Water Leaders alumni network.

Senator Ben Allen at the Business of Local Energy Symposium