The Local Government Commission (LGC) supports local policymakers through nationally recognized events, affordable technical assistance, and policy guidance on climate change, energy, water, and healthy community design.
In 2018, the Local Government Commission provided support to over 296 local and regional jurisdictions. LGC staff and CivicSpark fellows provided more than 168,000 hours of direct assistance to communities throughout the state and beyond by building capacity and providing technical assistance, conducting charrettes, community design workshops, walkability assessments and trainings.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

In 2018, LGC's Community Design Team partnered with leading multimodal transportation and urban design consultants to provide assistance in planning and equitable implementation of healthy, sustainable and prosperous communities:

1. City of Albany Solano Avenue Complete Streets & Corridor Revitalization Plan
2. City of Artesia Pioneer Boulevard Design Concepts
3. City of Fresno Blackstone Avenue Corridor Smart Mobility Project
4. City of Guadalupe Mobility and Revitalization Plan
5. City of Pittsburg Active Transportation Plan
6. City of Paso Robles Creston Road Corridor Complete and Sustainable Streets Plan
7. City of Richmond First Mile/Last Mile Strategic Plan
8. City of Salinas Alisal Corridor Complete Streets Plan
9. Community of Orleans Town Center and Cultural Connectivity Plan
10. County of Merced Walkable Winton Town Center Plan
11. County of Merced Planada’s Houlihan Park Revitalization Recommendations
12. County of Riverside Neighborhood and Regional Mobility Plans for Thermal and Oasis
13. County of Ventura Ojai Valley Highway 33 Multimodal and Community Enhancement Study

STATEWIDE/REGIONAL/LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Technical Assistance: LGC collaborated with the SGC, Caltrans, the California Bicycle Coalition, California Walks, and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy to help the City of Colton, the City of Richmond, the City of Willits, Thermal/Oasis (Riverside County), San Joaquin County (adjacent Southeast Stockton), and Mariposa County develop and submit proposals for Cycle 4 of the Active Transportation Program. Out of 500 proposals submitted for ATP funding 3 out of the 6 we provided TA were recommended for funding.

SGC Low Carbon Transportation Technical Assistance: LGC was selected by SGC to work with the Air Resources Board (ARB) to help disadvantaged communities access State funding for clean hybrid and electric cars and shared mobility options using low or zero emission vehicles. LGC facilitated two sessions in the San Joaquin Valley in 2018 and will conduct eight more across the state during the first half of 2019.

SGC Transformative Climate Communities (TCC): LGC, as part of a team led by Estolano Lesar Associates, assisted the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) to submit a TCC implementation grant in October 2018. On December 20th, the Strategic Growth Council voted to award SHRA’s Sacramento Integrated Multimodal Place-based Living project (SIMPL) one of the two $23 million grants awarded in 2018. The SIMPL project includes the Dos Rios Light Rails Station, the Twin Rivers Housing Development, multi-modal mobility improvements (including the Downtown Riverfront Streetcar Project), urban greening, and energy-savings improvements.

Active Transportation Resource Team Technical Assistance: LGC, in partnership with Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, California Bicycle Coalition, and CalWalks, conducted workshops in Tulare County and Riverside County in April. We provided follow-up support to the City of Tulare, Merced County Association of Governments, and the unincorporated communities of Cutler, Tipton, and Alpaugh in Tulare County, and Cutler/Orosi in Riverside County to help them access funding from the State Active Transportation Program for infrastructure, planning and programs to support walking and bicycling.

Funding Navigation Program for Underserved Communities: With funding from a grant through the Climate, Land Use, and Transportation program of Resources Legacy Fund, LGC launched http://fundingresource.org/ a web page and technical assistance program to help communities track, understand, and access funding resources for active transportation, public transit, water, parks, and street projects.

Caltrans SB 1 Planning Grants: LGC partnered with Menifee, Paso Robles, and SACOG to prepare Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning grant applications in early 2018. All three were awarded. In addition, LGC prepared applications in Fall 2018 with Adelanto (Kern County), Artesia (Orange County), Manteca (Stanislaus County), June Lake (Mono County) and San Fernando (LA County).

LGC partnered with Dan Burden of Blue Zones to conduct a walk audit in Redwood City in March as part of an effort to build a new and larger community center.

CLIMATE CHANGE

MAYORS’ COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

LGC, in partnership with Sacramento Mayor Steinberg, West Sacramento Mayor Cabaldon, city staff, and regional agencies, launched the Mayors’ Commission on Climate Change in 2018. The Commission, comprised of 19 community and industry leaders, aims to identify priority actions to achieve Carbon Zero by 2045. LGC organized the first of five Commission meetings, which was attended by over 100 public members, and is now working to convene three Technical Advisory
IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

Committees on Built Environment, Mobility, and Community Health & Resiliency. The final product of this effort will be a robust recommendations report that highlights priority actions, milestones, demonstration sites, and financing strategies under a shared vision for Carbon Zero.

CAPITAL REGION URBAN HEAT ISLAND MITIGATION PROJECT
LGC, in partnership with the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, is supporting a regional adaptation planning effort, funded through Caltrans’ SB-1 Transportation Adaptation Planning Grant Program. This project aims to build community and transportation resilience to extreme heat in the entire 6-county SACOG region by developing a detailed model of the urban heat island (UHI) effect, building a database of transportation projects and plans, and create a regional plan to reduce heat pollution and adapt to climate change. LGC is facilitating the Technical Advisory Committee, leading community engagement activities, and co-managing the project with the District.

RESILIENT INLAND EMPIRE
LGC is working with Western Riverside Council of Governments and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority to advance climate adaptation solutions in California’s Inland Empire. LGC is leading the formation of an Inland Empire Regional Climate Collaborative including community outreach and engagement, and facilitation of workshops for public agency staff to build core adaptation capabilities. This project is also funded through Caltrans’ SB-1 Transportation Adaptation Planning Grant Program.

ENERGY

BEST PRACTICES COORDINATOR
LGC staff provided targeted technical assistance to local governments through a new SEEC Accelerator program to develop climate action plans, track and measure progress on reducing GHG emissions, implement sustainability projects, and achieve recognition for progress. Staff assisted several communities focusing on disadvantaged/low-income communities and rural hard to reach communities including the Town of Biola and cities of Arvin, Huron, and Stockton. Staff also assisted local governments in Fresno, Arcata, Mammoth Lakes, Ventura, San Luis Obispo, and San Mateo County in the areas of building energy codes, revolving loan funds (green funds), and energy action plan development.

CLEAN POWER INCUBATOR
LGC is working with Calpine to launch a multi-year Clean Power Incubator which includes quarterly seminars, an educational website, and technical assistance for the 31 communities in the newly formed Clean Power Alliance across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. This program will build the engagement and capacity of Clean Power Alliance board members, staff, local jurisdictions, and other stakeholders to address emerging energy issues through educational forums and direct support.

CLIMATE & ENERGY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
In support of ongoing program growth and pursuit of opportunities to remain at the leading edge, LGC staff submitted (or are working on submitting) a wide range of climate and energy related project proposals including: a proposal through the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) to the Wildlife Conservation Board to build capacity along the urban-rural transect, a SB-1 Adaptation Planning Grant with the City of San Luis Obispo, and a proposal to support Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in developing a community action plan that achieves climate benefits and air quality improvements through clean energy measures in the City of Fresno.

WATER

WE CAN - SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
LGC’s WE CAN landscape transformation and job training program in Fresno County is officially complete, and the final numbers are in. From 2015 - 2018, LGC provided:
- 2,810 drought tolerant landscape and/or irrigation upgrades
IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

- 290,000 square feet of turf removal and replaced with water-efficient California-friendly landscapes (more than 5 football fields worth)
- More than 3 billion gallons of water savings (150 million gallons a year for the next 20 years which is enough water for 18,000 families, or the entire city of Folsom)
- 660 metric tons of CO2 emissions reductions (equivalent to eliminating the emissions of 88 households or to taking 143 cars off the road)

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

LGC continues working with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority to determine the water management strengths and needs of overburdened and underrepresented communities in the watershed. We identified potential local projects for funding under the One Water - One Watershed implementation program, that would help address key priorities across the Santa Ana River region.

GREAT URBAN PARKS

LGC won a grant from the National Recreation and Parks Association to design four stormwater pocket parks and construct two of the four designs. Stormwater pocket parks reduce pollution to local waterways, increase groundwater recharge, and provide valuable recreation benefits to local underserved communities. Staff are working with the cities of Morro Bay, Salinas, and Woodland to engage underrepresented populations, complete designs, and construct new park features.

SOLANO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

LGC launched a new project with the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency Collaborative. Staff will be working with The Freshwater Trust to engage stakeholders from identified “severely disadvantaged communities” to participate in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process. In December, LGC held a public meeting designed to mobilize local advocates in the Delta to educate community members about groundwater in their region.

NATIONAL SERVICE — CIVICSPARK™

CivicSpark continued to grow and thrive in 2018. The 2017-18 cohort provided 102,000 hours of service through 48 climate action projects and 11 water action projects. These 59 projects benefitted 141 public jurisdictions including 44 Cities and Towns, 19 Counties, 14 Special Districts, 5 COGs/CAGs/MPOs, 2 JPAs, and 3 Public Utilities. Additionally, the Fellows have logged more than 17,200 hours of training. Fellows amplified their local impact by conducting volunteer engagement projects throughout their service year. As a cohort, the Fellows recruited 900 volunteers, who dedicated an additional 4,500 hours of service to California’s communities.
Some highlights from the service year include:

- California Volunteers recognized CivicSpark as a program with exceptional member experience at their 2018 AmeriCorps Leadership Summit.
- CivicSpark formed a community partnership with StoryCorps to capture the stories of individuals working on the frontlines of climate change.
- A Fellow developed the technical permit guidance to authorize EV chargers at on-street parking spaces in the City of Sacramento.
- A Fellow coordinated with the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority on innovative projects to provide greener rebuild options for those affected by the 2017 wildfires.

CivicSpark’s 5th cohort launched on Sept 4, with our largest class size ever—50 climate fellows, 20 water fellows, and 15 new Opportunity Access Fellows. These 85 Fellows hail from 13 different states and have a wide variety of backgrounds and expertise. The new Opportunity Access track will utilize CivicSpark’s successful capacity building model to help local governments in California tackle social mobility by addressing affordable housing and rural connectivity.

Some exciting new highlights from the coming service year include:

- Seven Fellows working with the State Housing and Community Development department to build and deploy affordable housing resources.
- Fellows serving a broader set of local communities than ever before from Lakeport, to Mammoth Lake, to El Centro and more.

LGC also completed a planning process with CaliforniaVolunteers looking at opportunities for rural AmeriCorps programs across California. Out of this process, LGC staff identified a potential multi-campus CSU AmeriCorps program that could serve Humboldt, Butte, Stanislaus, and Fresno counties, and an economic development program for Tuolumne County.

In 2019, CivicSpark looks to continue its strong track record of service and leadership development. Additionally, the program has recently applied to combine all three tracks into one overall program within a larger local government resilience capacity umbrella. This combined program will offer a more uniform experience for communities and a stronger experience for fellows and should realize even greater impacts in the years to come.
In 2018, the Local Government Commission reached more than 5,000 livable community and sustainability leaders and practitioners through our national conference, statewide forums, design workshops, webinars, listservs, and networking events.

Thus far, LGC connected livable community practitioners with other leaders and a range of resources including:
- Over 17,000 people receiving LGC newsletters
- More than 2,500 active Infinite Earth Podcast subscribers and over 250,000 all time podcast downloads
- Over 4,100 livable community leaders and practitioners connected through in-person events
- 2,873 total Facebook followers (286 new); 2,237 Twitter followers; and over 230,000 website hits

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN**

LGC continues to work with the UC Berkeley Transportation Sustainability Research Center on a Shared Mobility Policy Playbook until mid-2019 with funding from Caltrans. Listening sessions have been held in Sacramento, Modesto, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. In early 2019, the Policy Playbook will be completed. Results of the Policy Playbook will be shared via the Shared Mobility Policy and Modeling Workshop on March 22, 2019 at UC Berkeley and at a webinar in early 2019.

LGC partnered on and presented at an Autonomous Vehicle Policy Conference series organized by the TranspoGroup. The events were attended by elected officials and local and regional transportation staff and tech sector leaders in Anaheim, Riverside and Los Angeles.

**CLIMATE CHANGE**

**ALLIANCE OF REGIONAL COLLABORATIVES FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION (ARCCA)**

In addition to standing quarterly meetings, biweekly newsletters, and engagement with key state agencies and legislation, ARCCA facilitated the launch of the Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network (BayCAN), reconnecting our Bay Area allies to our statewide network. LGC also finalized and published a white paper that introduces the importance of urban-rural collaboration: From Mountains to Cities: Exploring California’s Urban Connections to Sierra Nevada Ecosystems (bit.ly/urwhitepaper), which will be followed by additional white papers that explore specific solutions. Looking ahead, LGC is working with ARCCA leadership to focus attention on statewide adaptation priorities and elevating regional adaptation issues within the new administration.
CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE (CRC)

Through biweekly newsletters, quarterly workshops, and targeted assistance to members, CRC continues to support the advancement of climate-smart solutions in California’s Capital Region. In 2018, CRC launched a new effort to enhance community engagement and public education through heat- and flood-focused public service campaigns. Additionally, CRC launched a new grant assistance program, which several agencies and organizations have already taken advantage of. CRC is now creating a robust work plan for 2019 and organizing the Capital Region Climate Change Symposium to disseminate key findings from the Fourth Assessment.

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE SYMPOSIA

LGC organized two regional climate change symposia - in the Central Coast and in the San Joaquin Valley - to disseminate key findings from California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment. The symposia aimed to highlight regionally-relevant findings, bridge the science to action gap, and offer a space for practitioners to connect. Both symposia were highly successful in bringing together a diverse audience and featuring high-caliber speakers from academia, government, and industry. LGC received positive feedback from participants with over 95% of survey respondents rating the symposium they attended as good, great, or excellent.

ENERGY

STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE (SEEC)

In 2018, SEEC provided resources, technical assistance, and networking opportunities to help local government agencies reduce GHG emissions and accelerate climate action. As part of SEEC, LGC launched the Zero Net Energy Hub, an online resource library that compiles resources in a single easy-to-navigate webpage. LGC also developed a legislative update through SEEC that summarizes key energy-related legislation from 2018 available on CaliforniaSEEC.org.

BEST PRACTICES COORDINATOR

LGC manages the wEkly Update newsletter which has become a key resource for local governments and their partners to stay connected to the latest energy news, events, and resources at the local, state, national, and international levels. This year, LGC began two initiatives — educational webinars and monthly roundtables — designed to further build our network of leaders. The webinars have focused on emerging trends in technology and state and federal policy. The roundtable calls have provided local government sustainability staff with an opportunity to connect with their colleagues providing an effective peer-to-peer learning environment. LGC recently completed the hiring for a new Best Practices Coordinator who will be building on the gains made in 2018 with an eye towards even greater energy efficiency support for local governments in 2019.

ZERO NET ENERGY HUB

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

Please visit: http://californiaseec.org/zne-hub/.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COALITION (LGSEC)

In October, LGSEC hosted a networking and educational forum for 70 attendees on Disasters and Energy resilience in Santa Rosa. The forum featured speakers from Investor-Owned Utilities, State Agencies and Local Governments impacted by wildfires and other disasters, to raise issues and open avenues for collaboration to promote community energy resiliency. The forum was followed by a tour of the Santa Rosa City College MicroGrid.
WATER

EQUITABLE INTEGRATION OF WATER AND LAND USE

LGC completed its report, “Bringing Water and Land Use Together,” for the Community Foundations Water Initiative (CFWI). Results from the study were presented to the CFWI Cohort, as well as at the UC Ag and Natural Resources symposium “Water & Land Use: Breaking Down the Silos” and the California Economic Summit.

GROUNDWATER COLLABORATIVE - ANNUAL CONVENING

This October, LGC partnered with Clean Water Action to host the second annual Groundwater Collaborative Statewide Convening. The event brought together over fifty leaders from non-profit organizations and local community members to share ideas and gain new skills to ensure effective implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

CALIFORNIA WATER POLICY CONFERENCE - PLANNING COMMITTEE

LGC continues to serve on the planning committee for this premier statewide event, to be held in San Diego, April 4 & 5 2019. The event will bring together some of the best water experts, policymakers and thought leaders from across the state, to explore solutions to complex and controversial water issues.

EVENTS

27TH ANNUAL YOSEMITE POLICYMAKERS CONFERENCE: BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

March 15-18, 2018 — Yosemite Natl. Park

The 27th Annual Conference focused on California Communities United in Recovery and Resilience. Speakers discussed emerging trends and promising strategies on topics including decarbonization, Community Choice Aggregation, autonomous vehicles and social mobility.

LGC will be partnering with CALCOG (California Association of Council of Governments) to host the 28th Annual Yosemite Policymakers Conference from March 14-17, 2019.

Learn more at: lgc.org/yosemite-conference/

REGIONAL POLICYMAKER DINNER FORUMS

Sacramento, CA

LGC is in its 15th year of organizing educational dinner forums for elected officials, city managers and county administrative officials from the six-county capital region. The dinner forums provide the opportunity for local leaders to network with their peers, share ideas, learn from each other, and discuss regional issues.

Recent dinner forums focused on innovative approaches to economic success and biogas and biomass technology, as well as a discussion about Proposition 6. The next dinner forum is on January 31st, and will focus on Equitable Transportation.

17TH ANNUAL NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH CONFERENCE

February 1-3, 2018 - San Francisco, CA

Over 850 people from across the country attended the 2018 New Partners Conference program spanned 2.5 days with pre- and post-conference mobile workshops. The program featured eight thematic tracks ranging from Strengthening Rural Communities and Creating Sustainable Water Systems to Building Fair and Affordable Housing and Inclusive Prosperity of People and Place. This new program format provided
participants an opportunity for a more intentional, implementation-oriented learning experience. The new format was well received by participants as evidenced by survey results collected after the conference.

PowerPoint presentations and plenary videos will be available online at: newpartners.org.

**THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION SYMPOSIUM “COMMUNITY CHOICE: POWER WITH PURPOSE”**

**June 5, 2018 - Sacramento, CA**

Community Choice Agency (CCA) experts and leaders from across the state convened on June 5th for a day-long event about accelerating CCA adoption, sharing best practices, and creating more benefits for our communities. There were over 400 attendees and an inspiring line-up of state and local leaders. The focus of this year's Symposium was the importance of local energy programs for energy reliability, economic development and environmental benefits. There was also a well-attended pre-symposium workshop on the afternoon of June 4th on distributed energy resource projects that build local resiliency, provide unique customer services and contribute to local economic development and a tour of the CAISO.

The Symposium was lead by the Center for Climate Protection. LGC and LGSEC provided program and sponsor coordination and outreach.

**9TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE FORUM**

**June 20-21, 2018 - Sacramento, CA**

Over 350 energy professionals and local government staff from across the state attended the 9th annual SEEC Forum. The forum was well-received, offering participants a variety of viewpoints on the most pressing energy efficiency issues. The forum featured engaging sessions, expert plenaries and keynotes, and new innovative activities to help energy leaders and practitioners connect to learn about innovative projects and strategies, share best practices, and troubleshoot challenges. PowerPoint presentations and additional materials are available online at: californiaSEEC.org.

**3RD BIENNIAL CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION FORUM**

**August 27-29, 2018 — Sacramento, CA**

In 2018 LGC hosted the 3rd biennial California Adaptation Forum. Close to 800 people attended the Forum with a strong mix of local, state, and regional government stakeholders as well as academic, private sector, and community participants. From leading edge plenary discussions on equity, adaptation financing, and governance, to a broad suite of working sessions on key practitioner topics, the Forum offered a wealth of content and connections. The Forum also served as the launchpad for California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment, featuring a half-day dedicated to highlighting the Assessment's key findings, presentations from key state leaders, and a strong media presence, and was the first and largest affiliate event of the Global Climate Action Summit to be held. Participant evaluation underscored the impact of the forum with a range of positive testimonials such as following comments:

- “A great experience. So much went into creating a remarkable event. Thank you.”
- “I felt the forum was rich with information and right on point with where adaptation planning currently is.”
- “The integration of equity into the discussion was much more apparent and tangible than in 2016. The continued dedication by LGC and the staff to make those connections is clearly paying off. The plenaries were excellent.”

*Water & Land Use Workshop at CA Adaptation Forum.*
ADVANCING POLICY

In 2018, the Local Government Commission participated in 22 presentations, panels, and interviews; engaged state agencies in 38 policy-related actions; had two regulations adopted; actively worked with legislative staff and bill sponsors on one bill (SB 1072) that was passed; partnered with an advocacy coalition to advance resiliency concepts in legislation; sent 15 other letters supporting specific bills; and served on three advisory committees at the state and federal level. Through ARCCA, LGC also provided expert review and comments in response to two State funding guidelines: California Climate Investments, and the Wildlife Conservation Board’s new Adaptation and Resiliency Program.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

LGC played an active role in the policy discussion around California’s housing crisis. Staff participated in a dialogue hosted by ClimatePlan and weighed in on opportunities to provide more housing next to transit, discourage sprawl and reduce vehicle miles traveled. LGC staff also presented to the SF Chamber of Commerce on housing and participated in a Milken Institute forum in September. With a grant through the Resources Legacy Fund, LGC funded research by the Western Center for Law and Poverty on inclusionary housing policy and best practices, developed a factsheet and web page, and disseminated the information to policymakers and practitioners at the California Economic Summit in November 2018. LGC shared best practices and challenges with CARB on SB 375 implementation and wrote a support letter for AB 2923 to increase BART authority to approve transit oriented housing development on BART properties.

CLIMATE CHANGE

In 2018, LGC supported the administration of effective climate action policy alignment through a number of activities:

- Ocean Health and Sea Level Rise Advisory Network for California’s 4th Climate Assessment
- Supporting development of implementation resources for Safeguarding California
- Supporting a Central Coast climate readiness program spearheaded by FEMA and EPA
- Partnering with EcoAmerica on a series of resources for local government engagement on climate change.
ADVANCING POLICY

- Providing a workshop at the California Adaptation Forum and hosting 2 regional symposia in order to assist in the dissemination of results from the 4th California Climate Assessment.
- Submitting detailed comments to inform the Wildlife Conservation Board’s Adaptation and Resiliency Program Guidelines, and the CA Climate Investments Funding Guidelines Discussion.

ENERGY

LGC continues to support Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs (PACE), Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), and policies which empower local governments.

LGC took supporting positions on a few key pieces of legislation important to advancing climate and energy goals, including: SB100: 100% renewable energy (passed). SB1477: Low-emissions buildings and sources of heat energy (Passed). AB2345 (originally AB1099): expansion of on-site solar opportunities.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COALITION (LGSEC)

LGC staff worked with LGSEC to advocate for local government energy policy interests at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and other State agencies and provided members with professional development and networking resources. Energy efficiency programs and funding continue to be LGSEC’s top policy priorities.

Several of LGSEC’s proposals, including consistent contracts for local governments across utilities and the statewide expansion of the Southern California Energy Atlas to improve energy data access for local governments were included in the CPUC’s sweeping Energy Efficiency decision approving a nearly $1 billion in ratepayer funding annually for 2018 through 2025.

Currently, the LGSEC and many of its members and local government partnerships (LGP) are disputing Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) proposed implementation of the CPUC’s decision which cuts local government partnerships from around 15-40%. LGSEC and its members have organized responses to proposed LGP contract terms and conditions, cost-effectiveness measures and budgets which are not aligned with the CPUC’s decision.

LGSEC commented on the CPUC’s “Green Book”, which examined the role of CCAs in the changing energy market and regulatory landscape, emphasizing the fact that CCAs are an effective governance structure, as they are all led by local elected officials, obligated to full transparency, and directly accountable to their rate-payers.

Additionally, LGSEC engaged in and provided comments to four CPUC proceedings: Disasters and Emergency Preparedness, Climate Change Adaptation, Data Access and the Power Charge Indifference Assessment (PCIA) cases and provided representation at two CPCU workshops. Additionally, LGSEC facilitated review and coordinated response to the IOU’s proposed Standardized Terms and Conditions for Local Government Partnerships which, as presented, were not workable for local governments.
LGSEC also monitored impacts and actions associated with the IOU’s implementation of the Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) program, identifying circumstances where power was shut off without appropriate communication, planning or coordination with local governments, potentially exposing the public to different hazards.

LGSEC has hosted a series of webinars on energy asset management to support local government renewable energy resource management. Additional webinars are scheduled.

**WATER**

**GROWING WATER SMART**

This fall, the Sonoran Institute asked LGC to participate in their Growing Water Smart program - designed to guide cross-jurisdictional interdisciplinary teams from local communities through the process of integrating their land use and water policies for better planning and management. LGC and Sonoran Institute are seeking opportunities to bring the program to California, advancing the policy recommendations outlined in LGC’s recent “Equitable Integration of Water & Land Use” report.

**BORREGO SPRINGS**

LGC presented to the Borrego Stewardship Council in November, encouraging the unincorporated community in San Diego County to review their Groundwater Sustainability Plan from the perspective of land use planners, and to develop an integrated watershed master plan. In response, Borrego Water District contracted with LGC to explore funding opportunities to conduct an independent analysis of their Groundwater Sustainability Plan and develop a scope of work for an integrated watershed master plan. Such a plan would be a direct implementation of the policy recommendations outlined in LGC’s recent Equitable Integration of Water & Land Use report.

**WESTSIDE SAC IRWM “BROWNFIELDS” PROJECT**

In 2018, LGC completed a draft area-wide plan for the Cache & Putah Creek watersheds, which evaluates regional priorities and planning documents, providing guidance for cities and counties to address abandoned mine sites. Staff presented the draft plan to Lake and Napa County agency staff, and will be seeking adoption by each county’s Board of Supervisors in 2019.

**OTHER WATER POLICY**

LGC was invited to participate in three new policy advisory committees:

- Water Foundation “Groundwater Leadership Forum” is a network of grantees working to advance SGMA implementation through engagement with the new governor’s administration and providing tools for stakeholders to evaluate local Groundwater Sustainability Plans as they are developed.
- Department of Water Resources “County Drought Advisory Committee” (CDAG) was formed under authority from AB1688 and SB606, and will provide guidance for county governments to better support their unincorporated communities in preparing for potential water shortage.
- California’s “FloodMAR” (managed aquifer recharge) advisory group will provide guidance to the state on how to maximize groundwater recharge during high rainfall events.

LGC also provided reviewer feedback to the Pacific Institute on their State Water Board commissioned report on commercial landscape transformation for stormwater capture.

LGC continues to serve on the Department of Water Resources NGO Advisory Committee for SGMA implementation.

**LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019**

We are so grateful to you, our board, members, funders, and partners, for your support. We are privileged to be part of such a dynamic and passionate group of change-makers. We look forward to partnering with you in 2019!