



Sustainable Communities Program

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



Sustainable Communities Program: Civic Engagement, Equity & Environmental Justice

Call for Applications

Instructions

Please complete the Sustainable Communities Program (SCP): Civic Engagement, Equity & Environmental Justice (CEEEJ) Call for Applications using the online JotForm. The Primary Applicant should complete and submit the application. Applicants can track their progress on the application by referencing the completion bar at the top of the form. Applicants can save their application and return to their work at any time during the application period through the JotForm platform. PDFs of the application are available on the [SCP website](#) for reference purposes.

Eligible non-profits, community-based organizations and/or co-applicants that utilize a fiscal sponsor are required to complete and upload a [Self-Certification Checklist](#), which helps SCAG identify areas where co-applicants need additional support to meet eligibility requirements.

Co-applicants are still eligible for the Call for Applications if the applicant is not able to meet all requirements. The Self-Certification form will help SCAG determine on a case-by-case basis how much support and guidance a co-applicant will need.

Upload Self-Certification Checklist

Resources

- [Connect SoCal SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines](#) (including Appendix 3, definitions for all terms)
- Connect SoCal SCP CEEEJ Applicant Toolkit
- [Connect SoCal SCP CEEEJ Scope of Work & Budget Template](#)
- [Connect SoCal SCP CEEEJ Scoring Rubric](#)
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[Connect SoCal 2020 Sustainable Communities Strategy Technical Report](#)

- [Connect SoCal 2020 Environmental Justice Technical Report & Environmental Justice \(EJ\) Toolbox](#)
- PDF Version of Application
- [Regional Early Action Planning \(REAP\) 2.0 Indicators Mapping Tool](#)
- [REAP 2.0 Final Guidelines](#)

SCAG Contact Information

Hannah Brunelle

Telephone: (213) 236-1907

Email: brunelle@scag.ca.gov

General Project Information

Required, but not scored

General Information

Project Name *

Primary Applicant

Organization Name *

Jurisdiction *

Description of Organization or Mission Statement: *

Address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City State

Zip Code

Primary Applicant Project Manager *

First Name Last Name

Title *

Department *

Email *

example@example.com

Phone Number *

Please enter a valid phone number.

Primary Applicant Additional Contact Name *

First Name Last Name

Additional Contact Title *

Additional Contact Department *

Additional Contact Email *

example@example.com

Additional Contact Phone Number *

Please enter a valid phone number.

[OPTIONAL] Co-Applicants

Maximum of Two (2)

Primary applicants are encouraged to apply alongside one (1) or up to two (2) co-applicants. A co-applicant is optional, although highly recommended.

Co-Applicant 1 Organization Name

Jurisdiction

Address

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State

Zip Code

Description of Organization or Mission Statement

Co-Applicant 1 Project Manager

First Name

Last Name

Title

Email

example@example.com

Phone Number

Please enter a valid phone number.

Co-Applicant 2 Organization Name

Jurisdiction

Address

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City State

Zip Code

Description of Organization or Mission Statement

Co-Applicant 2 Project Manager

First Name Last Name

Title

Email

example@example.com

Phone Number

Please enter a valid phone number.

Project Details

Estimated Project Start Date *

Month Day Year

Estimated Project End Date *

Month Day Year

Please note all projects must be completed by December 31, 2025. Projects are anticipated to be awarded summer 2023, with implementation no sooner than winter 2023/2024.

Subregion or Council of Governments *

County *

Tribal Government

Yes

No

Requested Amount *

Enter a Dollar Amount (\$##.##)

Please note the [SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines](#) include budget ranges identifying guidance for minimum and maximum budget requests.

[OPTIONAL] Additional Information on Project Costs

NOTE: Local match is optional and not scored as part of the application. A local match will not increase the competitiveness of the application.

Optional Local Match

Number of Applications Submitted

Priority of this Application

Please prioritize projects if multiple applications are submitted. (Ex. 1 of 3)

Eligibility

Project Category

Indicate the SCP project category that applies to the proposed project. Please see the [SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines](#) for more information and examples of the SCP project categories. All projects funded within each project category must meet the funding objectives relevant to each category, as stated in the SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines, Program Funding Section.

Indicate the SCP project category that applies to the proposed project. *

Housing & Land Use Strategies

Multimodal Communities

Infill Areas

Is your project located in an infill area, as defined in Appendix 3 of the Connect SoCal SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines?

All Housing & Land Use projects funded with REAP 2.0 funds must be located in an infill area and explain how the project satisfies the infill definition. Projects that do not satisfy the infill definition are ineligible for REAP 2.0 funds. Proposed projects not located in an infill area and projects that do not have a housing component are eligible through the Multimodal Communities Category, funded by Senate Bill 1.

Eligible projects must be entirely located in infill areas per the definition below. The project must be entirely within areas meeting Part A and Part B, and either Part C-1 or Part C-2. The State defines "infill," for the purposes of the REAP 2.0 Program, as follows:

- Part A: The area consists of unused or underutilized lands.
- Part B: Within existing development patterns.
- Part C: That is or will be accessible to destinations and daily services by transit, walking, or bicycling and located in **either**
 - :
 - Part C-1: An urban center, urban corridor, or area with transit-supportive densities.
 - Part C-2: An established community that meets all the following criteria:
 - 2.1: The area consists of previously consisted of qualified urban uses.
 - 2.2: The area is predominantly surrounded (approximately 75 percent of the perimeter) by parcels that are developed or previously developed with qualified urban uses. In

counting this, perimeters bordering navigable bodies of water and improved parks shall not be included.

- 2.3: No parcel within or adjoining the area is classified as agricultural or natural and working lands.

Check all boxes that apply to your project. *

- Part A
- Part B
- Part C-1
- Part C-2

Is the totality of your project located in an infill area, as defined above? *

- Yes
- No

Priority Growth Areas (PGAs) follow the principles of center-focused placemaking and are locations where many Connect SoCal strategies can be fully realized.

For the purposes of the SCP CEEEJ application, PGAs can help to identify potential infill areas. Please identify all PGAs that apply to your project using the SCAG REAP 2.0 Indicator Mapping Tool. Please see instructions and link to REAP 2.0 Indicator Mapping Tool below. *

- Job Centers
- Transit Priority Areas
- High Quality Transit Areas
- Neighborhood Mobility Areas
- Livable Corridors

If your project area meets the definition of infill, please provide a map of your project area that visually identifies how all activities meet the definition of infill and describe how your project meets the infill definition.

This map must accompany your submitted application. If you are submitting a Housing & Land Use project application and the project area does not meet the definition of infill, do not proceed. Your project is not eligible.

For assistance determining if your project is in an infill area, please contact SCAG staff: Hannah Brunelle, brunelle@scag.ca.gov. Please note, this question does not disqualify applicants. This question helps SCAG determine the appropriate funding source for the project.

Please describe how the project location meets the definition of infill. *

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Infill Indicators Map

1. Open the [REAP 2.0 Indicator Mapping Tool](#).
2. **Start by zooming into your project location.** The entire project location should be visible and clear on the map. You can use the Search location in the left-hand corner to assist in zooming into your project location. Depending on the geography of your project location, please include the project boundaries, whether area-wide, corridor-wide, jurisdiction-wide, or region-wide.
3. **On the right side under Layer List, please select the following infill-related layers:**
 1. SCAG High Quality Transit Areas (2016)
 2. Transit Priority Areas (Plan Area 2045)
 3. Job Centers
 4. Neighborhood Mobility Areas
 5. Livable Corridor
4. Adjust the transparency to at least 50%, or less as needed to ensure all layers are visible on each map, by clicking on the three dots to the right of each layer.
5. **Please take a screenshot of the project area overlay with the infill-related layers.**
 1. Please upload a PDF of the map to the upload button on the application. To view an example, please reference Appendix 1: REAP 2.0 Mapping Indicator Tool of the Applicant Toolkit.
 2. **NOTE:** If your proposed project does not fall in one of these areas but you believe your project area aligns with the definition of infill (see the [SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines](#), Appendix 3), please reach out to Hannah Brunelle, brunelle@scag.ca.gov, for additional guidance.

Upload the Infill Indicators Map

1 | Project Design & Outcomes

20 Points Total

1.1 Community & Vision Summary - 5 Points

Describe the proposed project and the identified need(s) in the community for the project. In the description, describe the project area and how its impact extends beyond the immediate project area. For a planning or programmatic project, please describe the geographic scope, and how it achieves a significant geographic or region-wide benefit. *

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1.2 Funding Objectives and SCS Implementation - 5 Points

SCP CEEEJ has two project categories:

- Housing and Land Use
- Multimodal Communities

The project categories are funded through separate funding sources which have their own objectives. Projects must meet all objectives for their category.

Describe how the proposed project directly addresses all the funding objectives, for the appropriate project category, listed below. Please also describe which Connect SoCal strategies you are currently implementing or plan to implement within your community through the proposed project. Please note Appendix 3 in the [SCP CEEEJ Program Guidelines](#) includes a glossary of definitions as guidance for the application.

For Housing & Land Use projects:

- Projects must be located in an infill area and describe how the project satisfies the infill definition, as defined in the Program Guidelines, Appendix 3: SCAG REAP 2.0 Program Glossary of Terms
- Meet all REAP 2.0 funding goals and objectives, including accelerating infill development, reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing by means of taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, which overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics, when considering housing
- Meet the definition of a "Transformative Planning and Implementation Activity," as defined in the Program Guidelines, Appendix 3: SCAG REAP 2.0 Program Glossary of Terms
- Support the implementation of Connect SoCal.

For Multimodal Communities projects:

-

Projects must have a direct transportation nexus that directly benefits the multi-modal transportation system

- Support the implementation of Connect SoCal
- Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Reduce VMT

Please consider how the following Connect SoCal implementation strategies are addressed in the response. Sustainable Communities strategies are discussed in detail in the [Connect SoCal Sustainable Communities Technical Report](#).

- Encourage regional economic prosperity and global competitiveness
- Improve mobility, accessibility, reliability, and travel safety for people and goods
- Enhance the preservation, security and resilience of the regional transportation system
- Increase person and goods movement and travel choices within the transportation system
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality
- Support healthy and equitable communities
- Adapt to a changing climate and support an integrated regional development pattern and transportation network
- Leverage new transportation technologies and data-driven solutions that result in more efficient travel
- Encourage development of diverse housing types in areas that are supported by multiple transportation options
- Promote conservation of natural and agricultural lands and restoration of habitats

Describe how the proposed project directly addresses all funding objectives, by for the appropriate project category, listed above. Please also describe which Connect SoCal strategies you are currently implementing or plan to implement within your community through the proposed project. *

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1.3 Anticipated Project Outcomes - 5 Points

Describe the target outcomes of the project in measurable terms that directly address the identified need/problem(s) as identified in question 1.1 and how the outcomes relate to the funding objectives, as identified in question 1.2. Applicant must describe how the project meets all the following target outcomes, by project type:

Housing & Land Use Strategies Target Outcomes

In alignment with the REAP 2.0 funding objectives, applicants must demonstrate how the proposed project meets all the following target outcomes:

- **Accelerating Infill Development that Facilitates Housing Supply, Choice, and Affordability:** Increased number of city codes and/or policies revised and/or adopted to increase infill development or investment.
- **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing**
 -

High-resource areas: Increased number of permit streamlining and/or incentive programs to increase housing affordability.

- Disadvantaged community areas: Increased number of anti-displacement strategies adopted and/or completed.
- **Reducing VMT:** Increased number of multimodal plans completed and/or investments in multimodal transportation.

Multimodal Communities Target Outcomes

In alignment with the Senate Bill 1 funding objectives, applicants must demonstrate how the proposed project meets the following target outcomes:

- **Reducing GHG and VMT:** Increased number of multimodal plans completed and/or investments in multimodal transportation.
- **Supporting Implementation of Connect SoCal:** Directly implements one or more Connect SoCal strategies.

Describe the target outcomes of the project, by project type. NOTE: SCAG will work with applicants to modify target outcomes as needed. *

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1.4 Scope of Work & Project Feasibility - 5 Points

Has the Primary Applicant's organization developed workplans, entered contracts, conducted project-focused surveys or analysis, or taken board action to support this proposed planning project? *

Yes

No

Provide a summary of the deliverables contained in your SOW. Describe how the proposed project can be feasibly and successfully implemented. Please identify any potential hurdles or barriers to project success and specify how they will be addressed throughout implementation. *

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Upload SOW

Provide a Scope of Work (SOW) that identifies the tasks and deliverables to be completed to accomplish the stated outcomes in question 1.3 and align with the above funding objectives, by project category. [Example SOW template included here.](#) The project, including timeline, tasks, deliverables and budget, will be analyzed for feasibility to meet funding guidelines. The SOW must describe the existing conditions of the project area and how the project is designed to meet the target outcomes, as described in question 1.3. SCAG may work with awardees to determine an appropriate baseline of existing conditions for the project.

Reviewers will examine both the SOW and summary when scoring this section of the application.

2 | Project Need & Priority Population Benefits

10 Points Total

2.1 Priority Populations - 5 Points

Identify which targeted areas the project will serve using the REAP 2.0 Indicators Mapping Tool following the instructions below. Please reference Appendix 3 of the SCP Program Guidelines to view definitions for these areas. *

Senate Bill 535 Disadvantaged Communities (All subcategories are eligible)

SCAG Communities of Concern

TCAC/HCD Opportunity Areas (Low resource, moderate resource and high segregation and poverty are eligible. For Housing and Land Use Strategies projects, affordable housing production in high resource and highest resource communities are also eligible)

Assembly Bill 1550 (AB 1550) Communities (All subcategories are eligible, except for the subcategory No Priority Population)

Provide four maps as an attachment to the application. Please upload the maps of your project area and each Priority Population layer using the following link: [REAP 2.0 Indicators Mapping Tool](#).

Upload Priority Populations Maps (4 maps total)

Priority Populations Maps

1. Open the [REAP 2.0 Indicator Mapping Tool](#).
2. **Start by zooming into your project location.** The entire project location should be visible and clear on the map. You can use the Search location in the left-hand corner to assist in zooming into your project location. Depending on the geography of your project location, please include the project boundaries, whether area-wide, corridor-wide, jurisdiction-wide, or region-wide.
3. **On the right side under Layer List, please individually select the following Priority Population layers:**
 1. TCAC/HCD Opportunity Areas
 2. Communities of Concern
 3. Disadvantaged Communities
 4. AB 1550 Communities
4. Adjust the transparency to at least 50%, or less as needed to ensure all layers are visible on each map, by clicking on the three dots to the right of each layer.
5. **Please take a screenshot of the project area overlay with each Priority Population layer (in total, four maps).**
 1. Please upload a PDF of the map showing the project overlay with each Priority Population layer to the upload button on the application. To view an example, please reference Appendix 1: REAP 2.0 Mapping Indicator Tool Examples of the Applicant Toolkit.

2.2 Addressing Historic/Current Inequities & Priority Population Benefits - 5 Points

Describe the proposed project and how it benefits Priority Populations, as defined in Appendix 3 of the SCP Program Guidelines, and how it addresses and intends to repair historic and/or current inequities (transportation, public health, demographic inequities as they relate to housing security, including affordability and anti-displacement). *

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3 | Inclusive & Equitable Engagement

10 Points Total

3.1 Inclusive, Diverse & Equitable Engagement - 5 Points

Describe the project's approach to determining equitable community engagement strategies, what the proposed strategies include, and how community organizations and/or community leaders will be engaged early in the project to inform the proposed engagement strategies. *

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NOTE: An **exceptional** description of the approach to community engagement includes detailed commitments for **co-powered** community decision-making and co-leadership with the process. Strategies must be **accessible, inclusive and relevant** to the community. Strategies must move beyond simply informing or consulting the community, and toward meaningful opportunities for active community participation and co-leadership. Exceptional strategies include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Multi-lingual outreach in the most prevalent languages spoken in the community with translation and interpretation services provided for all project meetings and events as needed
- Meetings and pop-up events held in existing community gathering locations, accessible by public transportation, and in places people are familiar and comfortable with, to foster a trusting relationship with the project team
- Demonstrates an understanding of community norms, priorities, levels of comfort with technical language, and expectations for project completion
- Opportunities for people of all ages to participate and contribute, such as youth-oriented strategies and strategies to target older adults
- Includes paid partnerships with local CBOs and nonprofits working in the project area
- Includes a plan for a feedback loop with the community to demonstrate continual engagement and equitable decision-making

Provide letters of support for the project from three (3) other agencies or partners (not including co-applicants) that address the following:

- How the proposed project meaningfully addresses all the program objectives, by project type.
- How the project reflects a meaningful approach to community engagement.
- How the primary applicant and/or co-applicants have the relevant expertise, experience, and skill sets to implement the project.
- How the project directly addresses historical disinvestment.
- How the entity writing the letter will support the project.

Letters of support can come from, and are not limited to, the following:

- Advocacy Group (Social Equity, Health, Environment, etc.)
- Chamber of Commerce/Business Group
- City Agency
- Community-Based Organization
- County Transportation Commission
- Council of Governments
- Faith-Based Organization
- School District
- Transit Agency
- Youth/Senior Group

Upload Letters of Support

3.2 Priority Populations Engagement - 5 Points

Describe which Priority Populations will be engaged throughout the proposed project and how. Describe how the community-centered strategies are responsive to the project area. *

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NOTE: An **exceptional** description identifies the Priority Populations that will be engaged as part of the project and how the proposed strategies described in question 3.1 are relevant to the project area. An exceptional response includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Clearly defines the Priority Populations the project will engage and connects the engagement strategies to the specific needs of the community
- Demonstrates how the engagement strategies are targeted and culturally inclusive with the specific Priority Populations the project seeks to engage
- Demonstrates an understanding of the local history and cultural norms of the community and describes how the strategies identified in question 3.1 respond to and address local histories and cultural norms

4 | Local Partnerships

10 Points Total

4.1 Reciprocal Relationships and Impact - 5 Points

Describe the roles and responsibilities of the primary applicant, co-applicant(s), and local partners. Describe how the collaboration will meaningfully serve the community. How is the partnership mutually beneficial to applicants, partners and the community in the long-term (beyond this project)? For organizations with an active participation and leadership role on the project, please describe the compensation for community organizations. Please note this is intended for organizations in addition to any co-applicant partnership. *

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4.2 Governance and Decision-making - 5 Points

Describe the working relationship of the entities, including the governance and decision-making structure among the primary applicant, co-applicant(s) and community partners, and how the project scope supports and reinforces this structure. Describe how the project scope reinforces the partnership structure and is designed to build trust between partners. *

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