



CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE

CRC Members' Forum

Wednesday, December 8th | 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Watch the recording of this event [here](#).

Introduction

- Review of logistics
 - Muting/ unmuting procedures, proper use of Chat, etc.
- First half of meeting will be recorded and shared out

Overview of CRC and CRC Updates

- CRC is a collaborative of local leaders seeking to build climate resilience throughout California's Capital Region.
- CRC brings together stakeholders from across sectors and jurisdictions to find regional solutions to address our shared challenges – drought, extreme heat, extreme weather events, wildfires and more. Our goal is to help the six counties of El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba, and the communities they encompass, thrive in the face of a changing climate.
- CRC Updates
 - *Projects & Initiatives*
 - CRC launched two working groups this year: Extreme Heat & Building Electrification.
 - CRC submitted a proposal for California Resilience Challenge in partnership with SACOG and Climate Plan: Inclusive Collaboration for a Resilient Capital Region. This proposal will facilitate a bottom-up community engagement process centered on prioritizing and uplifting underserved and under-resourced communities in regional climate resiliency planning.
 - *2021 Webinars*
 - Climate Action in the Capital Region: Presentation of the Mayors' Commission on Climate Change (MCC) recommendations and updates from regional members on climate action.

- Summer Networking Event: An opportunity for members to reconnect in an informal setting and learn more about the climate work being done in the Capital Region.
- Fall Networking Event: An event focused on how our region is responding to drought with perspectives from local agencies, regional organizations, and the state. Participants had the opportunity to share their own work and hear from other CRC members in breakout groups.

ARCCA Update

- CRC is one of the seven regional collaboratives of ARCCA - the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation. ARCCA aims to create a robust network of organizations and professionals working to advance climate change adaptation in California to share information and best practices, coordinate activities, and leverage limited resources to conduct joint projects.
- ARCCA's annual Member Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 14th** from 9 AM to Noon. As a member of CRC, I encourage you to attend. If you have not already, please register your attendance through the Zoom link: <https://lgc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucOGtrTMpEtXSlmRaE3-QtTYuoBKolmo> in the chat.
 - This meeting will focus on emerging opportunities in the adaptation field. We will hear from ARCCA's state liaison, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, on new adaptation developments happening throughout California. We will also focus our attention on how to utilize ARCCA's network for joint advocacy work in order to elevate regional interests and perspectives to state-level decision-making. In addition, participants will hear from the Regional Climate Collaboratives and Affiliate Members for updates on their 2021 activities and what to expect in 2022.
 - For the second half of the meeting, we will join the California Climate & Energy Collaborative's Local Energy Resource Network (LERN) call featuring the Strategic Growth Council to talk about the new Regional Climate Collaborative (RCC) program.
- For the past year, ARCCA has been working on various deliverables for its Embedding Equity in Adaptation initiative. Deliverables included:
 - Hosting three learning seminars throughout the summer featuring underrepresented voices in the climate space - Youth, Tribal, and Spanish-speakers. Recordings are available on the ARCCA website.
 - Hosting a Peer Learning Circle each month for adaptation practitioners to convene and discuss opportunities and challenges for equitable adaptation work at three different levels of action - organization, community, and network.
 - Finalizing a new set of ARCCA Guiding Principles that more fully integrate equity into our principles and guiding documents. I will discuss more about those in a moment.

- Updating ARCCA’s Governance Bylaws and Board Policies to more fully integrate equity principles into the very core of ARCCA’s work.
 - Revising CRC’s governance documents in order to utilize the framework for other regional collaborative governance updates.
 - Developing a set of case studies, one from each regional collaborative, that feature successful approaches to embedding equity in adaptation.
- As I noted previously, ARCCA Principles serve as a foundation for our governance processes and overall program. They are built off of two prior documents: Principles of Adaptation and Principles of Collaboration. I would like to take a moment to walk through each of them - there are only four - and answer any questions you might have.

- Consider the Equity, Health, and Safety of All Californians

Adaptation is fundamentally about protecting people, especially those who are and will be disproportionately impacted by climate change. Actions to reduce risk and build resilience must prioritize the health, safety, and wellbeing of California’s most vulnerable communities. These include historically marginalized communities that experience the first and worst consequences of climate change and other injustices, particularly Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities and other marginalized communities that have shouldered the largest health burdens and face the greatest economic barriers.

ARCCA seeks to support local and regional efforts to build resilience by understanding the perspectives and needs of our diverse member communities throughout the state and co-creating solutions that simultaneously promote environmental justice, economic stability, and long-term resilience.

- Focus on the Regional Level

Communities have a self-defined regional identity created by shared geography and mutual reliance on resources. The landscape-level impacts of climate change also demand regional collaboration to best leverage limited resources, avoid maladaptive practices, and advance impactful solutions. By collaborating at the regional scale, communities are more likely to be successful in building meaningful climate resilience, particularly by amplifying marginalized voices, prioritizing frontline communities, and aligning policies, plans, and programs.

For these reasons, ARCCA prioritizes collaboration on adaptation within and across regions, focuses efforts where there is common ground, and supports all regions, whether members, non-members, or future members, as a statewide resource.

- Empower Collaboration Across All Sectors and Levels of Leadership

In order to accelerate durable and effective solutions, build capacity for local and regional action, overcome barriers to success, and elevate the needs of those most impacted by climate change, we must establish and expand alliances, collaboratives, networks and community partnerships across the state. These collaborative efforts should include public, private, nonprofit, and community-based partners working across sectors to deliver comprehensive adaptation solutions.

ARCCA works to bring together stakeholders across all levels of leadership, geographies, sectors, and communities to foster knowledge exchange, build collective capacity for implementation, and facilitate collaborative efforts that advance regional adaptation efforts. To support this, ARCCA provides platforms for information sharing and mutual learning, coordinates adaptation policy engagement, organizes statewide convenings, and serves as a liaison between regions and the State.

○ Prioritize Forward-Looking Adaptation Projects

Adaptation strategies should be comprehensive, provide multiple benefits and be incorporated into existing plans, policies and decision-making processes. Strategies must, first and foremost, be equitably devised and implemented, centering the leadership and address the unequal burden faced by frontline communities; they should not only consider the inequities of the past and present, but those that might emerge in the future as the impacts of climate change worsen. Effective strategies will also incorporate best-available science, adaptive management techniques, regular monitoring and evaluation, and efforts to build long-term capacity. In order to maintain the valuable ecosystem services that communities rely upon, nature-based strategies should also be prioritized.

ARCCA elevates equitable and forward-looking adaptation frameworks, strategies, and practices among its membership and to State leadership. ARCCA will remain responsive to the needs of its members and California's diverse communities in order to bring attention to important considerations that have been overlooked, uplift promising local and regional solutions, and amplify marginalized voices in state policy engagement.

- Eventually, we would like to incorporate these principles into CRC's governance documents.
- Do you have any questions about these principles?
- Feel free to reach out to me if you have any additional questions and/or comments about ARCCA' Guiding Principles.

Member Updates

The next half an hour was devoted to member updates. We began with those who have shared their slides and then included space at the end for verbal updates from the group.

Note: More details about the updates can be found in the recording and/or the slide deck.

Members with Slides:

- California Department of Water Resources
- City of Folsom
- City of Sacramento
- Regional Water Authority
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- Sacramento County
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD)
- San Juan Water District
- Valley Vision

Catherine: Introduction of Topics for breakout groups

In early conversations about the topic for this Member's Forum, many individuals on our Steering Committee shared that they would benefit from having a space in which they could discuss the mental health challenges of our work. As we are all aware, our work can be very rewarding, but also pose some very personal challenges as we navigate a world in which climate change more detrimental impacts the communities we care about. So we wanted to spend some time this morning focusing on aspects of Personal Resilience. We have a few questions on the screen to serve as a jumping off point, but I encourage you all to explore other aspects of personal resilience as you see fit.

Breakout Groups. Questions to consider:

- What best practices or strategies have you incorporated into your daily life to manage the stress of working in this field?
- What positive experiences or stories do you reference to maintain optimism during challenging times?
- How can we (as a collaborative or individual) inspire others to engage in this work and not become discouraged by the frequent barriers?
- What are you most hopeful about for next year and how might we highlight this work for our membership?
- How might we modify our language and marketing materials to focus more on the successes and benefits of our work as opposed to the challenges and barriers?

Closing Remarks

Thank you again for attending. Wishing you the happiest of holidays and looking forward to reconvening in 2022.