

STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting of November 23, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 4-J

PREPARED BY: Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT:

Update on the Regional Climate Collaboratives Program Round 1

Enclosure: No

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The California Strategic Growth Council is sharing an update regarding Round 1 of the Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) program, which highlights a significant and growing need for capacity building resources across the state. The Round 1 Guidelines enabled applicants to request funding amounts within the range of \$500,000 and \$1.75 million, with SGC staff anticipating that 4-16 awards of varying amounts would be made. Ultimately, 45 applications from across 42 counties were submitted for Round 1 funding. Due to the number of Round 1 applications received and because nearly all applications requested the top funding amount (the average funding request was \$1.55 million), SGC anticipates that it will only be able to fund a total of 4-6 awards. Oversubscription in Round 1 of the RCC program clearly demonstrates the need for further investment in capacity building programs like RCC.

RCC Round 1 Highlights

Round 1 applications are self-determined groups representing hundreds of diverse organizations and communities across California. A total of 300 organizations are represented across RCC applications.

Applications varied across issue areas, including but not limited to climate adaptation and resiliency, public health, natural and working lands, watershed and forest health, affordable housing, sustainable food systems, workforce development, and youth education and engagement in climate action

Next Steps

SGC assembled an interagency panel to thoroughly review and score all the applications, with twelve applicants selected to participate in finalist interviews. Following these interviews, four to six applicants will be selected and recommended for award to the Strategic Growth

Council. The Council anticipates adopting the RCC awards during the next public meeting on Thursday, December 15. For more information visit SGC's <u>meetings webpage</u>.

Following Round 1 of the program, SGC will update the Program Guidelines through a public process and initiate Round 2 in 2023, during which SGC will continue to provide technical assistance to support applicants.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2022-23 Overall Work Program and Budget.