

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program

Technical Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting Staff Report December 10, 2021

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Integrated Climate Adaptation & Resiliency Program

ICARP Programmatic Priorities

Under the direction of the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) Technical Advisory Council, and building on the [ICARP Impact Report and 2020 Program Recommendations](#), ICARP staff advance a suite of programmatic priorities. Descriptions of, and updates on, these priorities are described through these quarterly staff reports.

Resilience Metrics and Measurable Outcomes

Building adaptation and resilience to an equal footing with the state’s ambitious climate mitigation efforts requires a clear set of measurable resilience goals. ICARP serves as a venue to elevate current state resilience metrics and to identify critical gaps or areas of additional need and research.

Decision Support Tools and Guidance

ICARP develops and shares tools and guidance to support a community of practice on adaptation and resilience in California. Through the State [Adaptation Clearinghouse](#), ICARP supports integrated, science-based climate resilience decisions, planning, and implementation at all levels of governance.

Building Partnerships and Leveraging Resources

ICARP supports local and regional climate-resilient long-term recovery efforts through facilitation, collaborative partnerships, and technical assistance that help communities integrate long-term resilience into recovery efforts.

Funding and Financing

ICARP’s work to scale funding and financing for climate resilience includes supporting state agencies with the integration of climate considerations in existing state programs and investments. ICARP also focuses on the role of the private insurance markets and identifying opportunities to align public and private activities that address climate impacts and support resilience.

Climate Equity and Vulnerable Communities

Climate equity and a focus on vulnerable communities is a core mandate for ICARP, both statutorily and programmatically as defined in [ICARP’s vision and principles](#). Building on the Council’s leadership to define [Vulnerable Communities](#), and in response to stakeholder needs, ICARP continues to fill critical gaps by developing resources and tools that support equitable adaptation action.

Challenges and Opportunities Necessitating Action

ICARP Staff and Council respond proactively to new and emerging issues and opportunities as they align with the ICARP core vision and principles. This includes building new partnerships and initiatives and providing guidance and support for partner efforts to respond in real time to local, regional, and state needs.

1. Resilience Metrics and Measurable Outcomes

Development of Resilience Metrics

Staff Lead: [Juliette Finzi Hart](#)

Background / Framing Context

California has long led the nation in climate action, both in reduction of greenhouse gases as well as in preparing for the impacts of climate change. To date, while many state and local agencies have indicators and metrics that identify their progress towards a specific climate action and resilience goal, there is no consolidated set of metrics that demonstrate the State's overall progress in reducing climate risk and increasing resilience.

Since its inception, the ICARP Council has recognized that a suite of comprehensive resilience metrics is vital to help the State understand where action is progressing and where further action is needed. Staff are working with the ICARP Council, state agencies, and interested stakeholders to catalogue existing resilience metrics and identify gaps where new resilience metrics are needed. The goal of the consolidated suite of resilience metrics is to build our collective capacity to track how we are reducing climate risk and increasing resilience across built, social-human and natural systems.

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Landscape review of the resilience metrics field (Completed)
- Collection of existing state agency metrics (Ongoing, Winter 2021)
- Resilience Metrics Development Process white paper (Ongoing, Winter 2021)
- Compilation of first set of resilience metrics (Ongoing, Winter 2021 / Spring 2022)



Updates for 12/10 ICARP Meeting

- Staff continue to identify state agency resilience metrics through the 2021 CA Climate Adaptation Strategy update. Identification of these metrics will allow staff to identify potential gaps, which are informing TAC Resilience Metrics work group discussions.

Looking Ahead

- Building on the release of the 2021 CA Climate Adaptation Strategy, ICARP staff will work with the TAC Resilience Metrics work group to develop a draft of the State's first suite of resilience metrics.

Follow-ups for Council

- Next Resilience Metrics meetings: Feb. 3 and Feb. 17, 10am – 11:30am PT.

2. Decision Support Tools and Guidance Adaptation Clearinghouse

Staff Lead: [Nikki Caravelli](#)

Background / Framing Context

Per ICARP’s enabling legislation, SB 246 (Wieckowski, 2015), ICARP is mandated to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information. The Adaptation Clearinghouse is the State of California’s consolidated searchable database of resources for local, regional, and statewide climate adaptation planning and decision-making. Resources for adaptation and a compendium of resiliency efforts in California are searchable and accessible at [ResilientCA.org](#).

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Outreach and technical assistance to leverage resources (Ongoing)
- [ResilientCA Adaptation Planning Map \(RAP-Map\)](#), [Topic Pages](#), Featured Resources, and database maintenance and updates (Ongoing)
- Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Guides (Ongoing)
- [2020 Adaptation Planning Guide](#) Integration and [Coastal Plan Alignment Compass](#) (Completed)

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### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- OPR kicked off development of two new Plan Alignment Guides for Wildfire Resilience and Flood-After-Fire events, and an update to the Coastal Compass (See Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Guides section). All three guides will be available in an online interactive format on the Adaptation Clearinghouse in 2022.

### Looking Ahead

- Identify opportunities to highlight and integrate the 2021 CA Climate Adaptation Strategy into the Adaptation Clearinghouse once finalized.
- The Investing in Adaptation Topic page will be assessed for update needs and opportunities.
- Identify opportunities for tailoring the site and the database of resources to meet Tribal adaptation priorities and needs.
- Identify opportunities to integrate partnership and collaboration resources.
- Additional updates planned for the [ResilientCA Adaptation Planning Map](#).
- Release a web-development solicitation in 2022 to support updates and ongoing maintenance and operations of the site, including opportunities to integrate the ICARP Vulnerable Communities Platform and continue cross-site linkages with Cal-Adapt.

### Follow-ups for Council

- None – See Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Guides.

## 2. Decision Support Tools and Guidance (continued)

### Planning and Investing for a Resilient California Guidebook Update

**Staff Lead:** [Nuin-Tara Key](#)

#### Background / Framing Context

[Executive Order N-19-19](#) calls for embedding physical climate risk into state investment decisions. Successful incorporation of physical climate risk into asset investment decisions requires the consistent application of climate science and downscaled risk projections into asset planning and investment processes. It further requires a similarly consistent decision-making framework to identify and prioritize climate adaptation actions.

To respond to EO-N-19-19, ICARP staff are updating the [Planning and Investing for a Resilient California Guidebook](#) (Resilience Guidebook, 2017) , initially developed in response to [Executive Order B-30-15](#). Revisions will include updates to the foundational science that underpins the Resilience Guidebook, as well as updating the adaptation decision-making framework to incorporate discussion of adaptation pathways.

#### Summary of Major Deliverables

- Develop an updated version of the Planning & Investing for a Resilient California Guidebook, to be hosted online in a living document format (ongoing, 2022).

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Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- No new updates for 12/10/21 meeting.

Looking Ahead

- Refine the draft and work with agency partners to identify examples of state adaptation efforts.

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

2. Decision Support Tools and Guidance (continued)

Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Guides: Wildfire, Flood-After-Fire, and Coastal

Staff Lead: [Nikki Caravelli](#), [Taylor Carnevale](#), & [Sarah Samdin](#)

Background / Framing Context

ICARP is developing a suite of “climate resilience plan alignment guides” to support local climate resilience planning efforts. Communities create an array of plans that help them manage their assets and resources – from local hazard mitigation plans, climate adaptation plans, and hazard-specific plans such as sea level rise strategies or community wildfire protection plans.

The goal of the ICARP plan alignment guides is to support alignment of local planning efforts, allowing local planners to achieve climate resilience goals, reduce duplication, and avoid policy conflicts. Staff are currently working on a series of plan alignment guides, including a Wildfire Resilience Guide, a Flood-After-Fire Guide, and an update to the [existing Coastal Plan Alignment Compass Guide](#) (“Coastal Compass”). These guides may summarize requirements and best practices, discuss strategies to leverage various stages of different planning and implementation processes, and identify crosswalk opportunities and tricky spots to avoid.

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Develop the print and interactive, online Wildfire Resilience Plan Alignment Guide and the Flood-After-Fire Plan Alignment Guide. (Ongoing, Fall 2021 - Summer 2022)
- Update the Coastal Plan Alignment Compass Guide. (Summer 2022 - Fall 2022)
- Convene a Plan Alignment Advisory Group, which includes agencies and stakeholders that will regularly meet and guide development of content. (Ongoing, Fall 2021 – Summer 2022)
- Convene a Plan Alignment Local Government Focus Group to identify and ground-truth user needs, and beta-test the guides. (Ongoing, Winter 2021 – Summer 2022)

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#### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Held first Plan Alignment Advisory Group meeting in mid-November.
- Developing content for the Wildfire and Flood-After-Fire Plan Alignment Guides.
- Finalizing Web and Design Contractor Team.

#### Looking Ahead

- First Local Government Focus Group meeting will be held in January.

#### Follow-ups for Council

- Please contact ICARP Staff ([sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov](mailto:sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov)) if you are interested in contributing to the plan alignment guides’ development through a role in the Advisory or Local Government Focus Groups.

### 3. Building Partnerships and Leveraging Resources

#### Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function

**Staff Lead:** [Clay Kerchof](#)

#### Background / Framing Context

In partnership with Cal OES, OPR serves as the lead state agency on the Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function (CPCB-RSF), which strengthens the adaptive capacity of local governments to plan for and implement long-term disaster resilience and recovery programs by coordinating information, technical assistance, and funding. CPCB is one of six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) established under [California's Disaster Recovery Framework](#), which is modeled after the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#). OPR works to integrate climate adaptation and resilience policies into hazard mitigation, emergency management, and disaster recovery programs. In leading the CPCB-RSF, OPR staff is both building the capacity of the CPCB program as well as connecting and aligning it to other state agencies and programs that address disaster resilience and recovery. To extend the impact of the CPCB-RSF, the ICARP team will lead the development of a peer-to-peer learning network for long-term wildfire resilience and disaster recovery.

#### Summary of Major Deliverables

- Engage stakeholders from wildfire-affected and at-risk communities to solicit feedback on planning and capacity needs for long-term disaster recovery and wildfire resilience (Ongoing, Fall 2021).
- Convene local governments as part of Wildfire Recovery Peer Learning Network to build a cohort of wildfire-impacted and at-risk communities, accelerate information exchange, connect communities to funding opportunities, and inform policy design and program guidelines to better meet local needs (Ongoing, Beginning late 2021).
- Develop a case study on the initial impact of the peer learning network for the Adaptation Clearinghouse. (Ongoing, Winter 2022)



#### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Finalizing local stakeholder engagement for the peer learning network and sent out invitations.
- Presented on equity & resilience in long-term recovery at the FEMA-facilitated Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Plan workshop.

#### Looking Ahead

- Peer learning network kick-off roundtable will be second week of January.
- Collaborating with Cal OES and HCD in developing a Disaster Recovery Planning Toolkit.

#### Follow-ups for Council

- Please contact ICARP Staff ([sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov](mailto:sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov)) if you or local partners are interested in sharing needs and priorities for wildfire resilience and long-term recovery and/or interested in participating in the learning network.

### 3. Building Partnerships and Leveraging Resources (continued)

#### Technical Assistance for Integrated Planning

**Staff Lead:** [Juliette Finzi Hart](#) & [Nikki Caravelli](#)

#### **Background / Framing Context**

OPR ICARP and Planning staff provide climate resilience technical advice and support, upon request, to local and regional governments in support of statewide planning objectives and requirements, such as safety and housing element General Plan updates, alignment between resilience and local hazard mitigation planning, climate adaptation and resiliency planning, and other regulatory requirements. A priority objective is to help local and regional governments across the state implement integrated planning concepts to achieve more holistic and effective climate-resilient outcomes.

#### **Summary of Major Deliverables**

- Local and regional workshops as requested (Ongoing)

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Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Staff partnered with a number of local and regional governments to present on [SB 379](#) and related climate resilience planning topics, and to provide technical assistance to support local implementation. These engagement opportunities also help build awareness of ICARP and the Adaptation Clearinghouse.

Looking Ahead

- Plan integration workshops with other communities.

Follow-ups for Council

- Please contact ICARP Staff (sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov) if you are interested in holding a plan integration workshop in your region.

4. Funding and Financing

FEMA Cooperative Technical Partners

Staff Lead: [Sarah Samdin](#)

Background / Framing Context

ICARP received a Cooperative Technical Partners (CTP) grant from FEMA to provide coordination support to align federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funding with state resilience goals. This 18-month partnership will identify projects that strengthen California’s portfolio of nature-based, social and environmental justice projects. Eligible project types include natural infrastructure to build coastal resilience, urban greening, wildfire mitigation, and transportation-related planning and implementation projects. With a specific focus on hard-to-reach priority project types, as identified by FEMA, these pilot projects will help shape a pipeline of projects that can be eligible for future FEMA funding.

ICARP, in partnership with CalOES, will provide technical assistance to state partners who are new to the federal HMA space, and help identify innovative projects for FEMA’s newest pre-disaster infrastructure funding program, [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](#) program. This partnership will advance California’s climate resiliency goals, as well as the Governor’s priority of leveraging state and federal funding.

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Work with state partners to develop project pipeline for FEMA HMA funding (Ongoing)
- Develop case studies that document lessons learned and highlight challenges and opportunities with aligning state/federal priorities and programs (Ongoing, Spring 2022)

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#### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- ICARP staff is working with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to support scoping an application for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, which will explore CDFA’s healthy soil practices to identify if there are opportunities for healthy soils to provide hazard mitigation benefits.
- ICARP staff, in partnership with CalOES and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is providing coordination and technical assistance to communities in the Sierra region on applying to FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding.

#### Looking Ahead

- California received \$484 million in funding for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-COVID-19. ICARP staff is exploring opportunities to align this funding with state resilience goals and programs.
- OPR received funding through a CTP FY21 grant. Taylor Carnevale will serve as project manager for the development of a Flood-After-Fire Plan Alignment Guide.

#### Follow-ups for Council

- Please contact ICARP Staff ([sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov](mailto:sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov)) if you have BRIC or HMGP project concepts.

## 4. Funding and Financing (continued)

### CDI Climate-Safe Insurance Working Group Partnership

**Staff Lead:** [Juliette Finzi Hart & Clay Kerchof](#)

#### Background / Framing Context

California’s changing climate has implications on the availability and affordability of insurance. [SB 30 \(Lara, 2018\)](#) created the CA Climate Insurance Working Group, which is charged with exploring innovative insurance strategies with the aim of reducing climate risk.

Given the shared programmatic goals of reducing climate risk, the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) and the California Department of Insurance (CDI) created a collaborative subgroup of the ICARP Council and the SB 30 Climate Insurance Working Group. This subgroup explores opportunities to improve community climate resilience using landscape-scale insurance-related mechanisms and strategies.

#### Summary of Major Deliverables

- Insurance primer that describes key insurance principles (Ongoing, Winter 2021)
- Planning primer that describes key planning principles (Ongoing, Fall 2021)
- Recommendations to ICARP Council on future research and identification of potential pilot projects (Ongoing, Spring 2022)

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Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Insurance primer has been finalized.
- Held sub-group meeting on 11/16/21 to discuss draft of the planning primer and to identify future projects

Looking Ahead

- Identify opportunities for ICARP to support integration of climate adaptation and resilience priorities into insurance products, in partnership with CDI.

Follow-ups for Council

- Please contact ICARP Staff (sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov) to provide feedback on draft of the planning primer.

4. Funding and Financing (continued)

Prop 84 Wildfire Recovery and Resiliency Grants

Staff Lead: [Juliette Finzi-Hart](#) & [Clay Kerchhof](#)

Background / Framing Context

Prop 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Planning Grants are a collaborative effort between the Office of Planning & Research, the Strategic Growth Council, and the Department of Conservation. The grants support community wildfire resilience and recovery planning efforts in four California jurisdictions. Grantee activities vary depending on local context, need, and scale, but the overarching goals of the program are to: 1) support land use planning activities at the local and region levels that advance climate adaptation and resilience efforts specific to wildfire risk reduction; 2) advance local understanding and consideration of vulnerable communities in an adaptation context; and 3) support local or regional capacity building to incorporate climate adaptation and resilience into wildfire planning and recovery.

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Administer planning grants to wildfire-affected communities (Ongoing, Fall 2022)
 - Los Angeles County: Development of a holistic climate adaptation and planning strategy that includes an Integrated Wildfire Safety Program, comprised of a Unified Vegetation Management Plan and Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan. These will be used to inform the update of the General Plan Safety Element.
 - Sonoma County: Development of a comprehensive ordinance to manage forest resources, ensuring protection and stewardship of the beneficial uses of forest resources.
 - City of Ventura: Develop a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan that serves both as a technical document guiding used day-to-day by city staff and a visionary document to help the community understand the city's long-term direction.
 - Town of Paradise: Update of the Town's General Plan Housing Element and policies for the Landscaping Master Plan, as the community rebuilds for resilience following the catastrophic 2018 Camp Fire.
- Develop a case study for the Adaptation Clearinghouse on how Prop 84 grantees have incorporated wildfire resilience practices into their ongoing long-term disaster recovery planning and programs (Ongoing, Winter 2022)



Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- All grants are active as of July 1, 2021.
- Prop 84 case study drafted as of November 10, 2021

Looking Ahead

- Schedule a roundtable for grantees in Winter 2022

Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.

5. Climate Equity and Vulnerable Communities

Vulnerable Communities Platform

Staff Lead: [Lisa Hu](#)

Background / Framing Context

Building off the 2018 ICARP TAC definition of “vulnerable communities” in the context of climate adaptation, and in response to queries from a range of cross-sector stakeholders, OPR is developing an integrated platform to make this definition actionable for adaptation policy and investments decisions. The goal for the Vulnerable Communities Platform is to develop an open, accessible, and community-grounded platform that holistically identifies the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

Developing the ICARP Vulnerable Communities Platform consists of several workstreams: (1) background research synthesis, analysis, and comparison with existing policy guidance, vulnerability assessments and approaches & existing data platforms and tools; (2) convening an interagency state technical workgroup to knit together existing statewide data; (3) robust stakeholder engagement with vulnerable communities through listening sessions and pilot community partnerships, with ongoing input from frontline communities; (4) technical assistance and support from ESRI; and (5) consistent integration and guidance on existing ICARP, OPR & SGC, and interagency programmatic work.

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Compilation of existing statewide datasets (Ongoing, Winter 2021-22)
- Vulnerable Communities Platform community needs assessment to funder (Winter 2021-222)
- External draft beta platform launch (Ongoing, 2022)

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#### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Conducted initial landscape analysis of existing mapping and data platforms and state agency definitions and guidance on vulnerable communities, under-resourced communities, disadvantaged communities, and related terms.
- VCP Interagency Technical Workgroup launched September 2021. Workgroup has met monthly, with addition platforms/tools demo sessions.
- Scoping VCP stakeholder engagement, starting with listening sessions co-hosted with SGC’s Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC, SB 1072) focused on rural (11/17/21) and Tribal communities (11/30/21).

#### Looking Ahead

- Stakeholder engagement activities and opportunities launched in November 2021, will continue through 2022.
- Continued work with ESRI to compile existing datasets and begin platform configuration process.

#### Follow-ups for Council

- Staff are developing a solicitation to support community engagement and partnership in the development of the Vulnerable Communities Platform. What key considerations does the TAC

want staff to consider in structuring the solicitation (e.g. mix of climate impacts, geographies and biomes, social vulnerabilities and income)?

- Please contact ICARP Staff ([sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov](mailto:sloane.viola@opr.ca.gov)) if you have suggestions.

## 6. Additional Relevant Projects

### California State Adaptation Strategy

**Staff Lead:** [Nuin-Tara Key](#)

#### **Background / Framing Context**

California state agencies are statutorily required to release an updated, comprehensive, state-level climate adaptation strategy every three years ([AB 1482, Gordon, 2015](#)). Previous strategies were released in 2009, 2014, and 2018. For the 2021 Update, the California Natural Resources Agency is partnering with OPR to coordinate the development of California’s 2021 State Adaptation Strategy. Past State Adaptation Strategy documents can be found [here](#).

The 2021 State Adaptation Strategy (Strategy) will set strategic directions for actors, sectors, and regions across California, outline specific and time-bound actions, and increase accountability through goals and metrics. This approach reflects the Administration’s broader effort to integrate and coordinate existing adaptation efforts by utilizing over-arching, intersectional priorities to drive action.

#### **Summary of Major Deliverables**

- Kick-off webinar, 10 stakeholder engagement workshops, and tribal consultation meetings (Completed, Spring-Fall 2021)
- Release draft Strategy for public comment and review (Oct-Nov 2021); public comment webinar and three workshops, two tribal listening sessions and continued tribal consultation. (Ongoing)
- Finalize and release web-based Strategy, with accompanying summary print materials ( Winter 2021)

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Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- Draft of CA Climate Adaptation Strategy was released for public comment from 10/18/21 - 11/17/21.

Looking Ahead

- Public comment will inform final draft of the Strategy, to be released Winter 2021.

Follow-ups for TAC Council

- None at this time.

5. Additional Relevant Projects (continued)

The California State Adaptation Strategy's Extreme Heat Framework

Staff Lead: [Taylor Carnevale](#)

Background / Framing Context

California's best available climate science projects that extreme heat will affect all of California. Extreme heat poses significant threats to our public health and well-being, infrastructure, and natural systems. As a part of the 2021 update to the [CA Climate Adaptation Strategy \(Strategy\)](#), California is developing an Extreme Heat Framework. This Framework will build upon a 2013 state heat report and provide a comprehensive set of actions that reflect the urgent need for action on extreme heat.

More information regarding the Extreme Heat Framework can be found [here](#).

Summary of Major Deliverables

- Inventory of ongoing and planned state-level work related to extreme heat adaptation (Completed, Summer 2021).
- Discussions with state agencies to set future actions, objectives, and goals (Ongoing, Summer – Winter 2021).
- Extreme Heat Listening Sessions (–Spring - Summer 2021)
- Development of Extreme Heat Framework (Ongoing, Winter 2021)

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#### Updates for 12/10/21 ICARP Meeting

- In March, July, and August, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the California Natural Resources Agency hosted three Extreme Heat Listening Sessions. At these sessions, the state gathered participant input and expertise to build a comprehensive set of state actions necessary to build resilience to the impacts of extreme heat events across built, natural, and social systems.
- Staff are meeting with state agencies to inventory and better understand their respective efforts on extreme heat to inform the 2021 Extreme Heat Framework.

#### Looking Ahead

- The Office of Planning and Research and the California Natural Resources Agency will host a fourth Extreme Heat Workshop this winter. This workshop will allow attendees to provide comment on the Framework document (date TBC).
- The Extreme Heat Framework will be released in Winter 2021.

#### Follow-ups for Council

- None at this time.