

## Engage, Empower, Implement | Jurisdiction Roundtable (July 19, 2023)

### Overview

On Wednesday, July 19, SACOG hosted a Jurisdiction Roundtable for the Engage, Empower, Implement (EEI) Program. Eighteen jurisdiction representatives attended to learn more about the EEI program and provide their feedback on preliminary program requirements and desired outcomes. The roundtable presentation covered the topics listed below.

- **Overview of Engage, Empower, Implement:** Origins of the program; What is EEI?; What do we want to see as outcomes?; The EEI process; What has been done so far and where we are now
- **Community-based organization Focus Group Findings:** Goals of the CBO focus groups; key themes from CBO feedback around applying for grant funding, receiving grant funding, and creating partnerships
- **Jurisdiction Survey Findings:** Key themes from feedback collected through the Jurisdiction Survey so far
- **Overview of the Framework Development Process:** Approach and methodology; how feedback from CBOs and jurisdictions will be incorporated into the framework; opportunities for review
- **Q&A Discussion**
- **Next Steps**

### Participants

A list of the jurisdictions represented at this roundtable are as follows:

- |                          |                           |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • City of Woodland       | • El Dorado Transit       | • City of Sacramento      |
| • Sacramento County      | • Placer County           | • Placer County           |
| • City of Auburn         | • City of Elk Grove       | Transportation            |
| • City of Rancho Cordova | • City of Folsom          | Planning Agency           |
| • Yuba County            | • El Dorado County        | • City of West Sacramento |
| • El Dorado County       | Transportation Commission | • City of Citrus Heights  |

### Q&A Discussion

Below is a recap of the questions and topics discussed during the roundtable.

- Can jurisdictions review a list of the community-based organizations which have participate in the EEI framework development process so far?
- Is this funding only for new community-based planning projects?
- If there is \$3M available in this first round of EEI funding, are there minimum or maximum grant amounts jurisdictions and CBOs can apply for?
- Public agencies know that with planning dollars, when we talk to the community we are asking them to wait about ten years before that project will be implemented. How can we better communicate with our communities about the implementation side of these projects? And are

there implementation dollars that have already been identified for projects that go through the EEI planning process?

- Community-based planning is difficult to do well without implementation dollars.
- Is there a possibility for jurisdictions and CBOs to go through a project screening process or pre-application period to help gauge if there are specific parallel project interests?
- What happens if a CBO wants to pursue a specific project in our jurisdiction, but our agency does not want to pursue it? How does that affect both entities' applications?
- How will the EEI funding guidelines ensure that both partners uphold their end of the grant agreement? How will project evaluation metrics be monitored and defined?
- There may be a need for CBO partners to balance their role as an "advocate" versus "consultant" through this process.