



## Youth Leadership Academy Recruitment

### Information

**Prepared by:** Rosie Ramos

**Attachments:** Yes

**Approved by:** James Corless

**Referring Committee:** Not Applicable

### 1. Issue:

The Youth Leadership Academy is recruiting for the fifth cohort and staff is requesting the board's support in outreach.

### 2. Recommendation:

None, this is for information only.

### 3. Background/Analysis:

In 2018, the board directed staff to develop a youth engagement program geared toward high school students. We partnered with the non-profit PRO Youth & Families to launch SACOG's Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) to set up the program and worked with them for four years. In the past four years, we have brought together over 150 students from across the Sacramento region to learn about local and regional government and civic issues and processes, heard from numerous elected officials, local leaders and community advocates on wide-ranging topics, and shared ways students can bring change to their community.

### 4. Discussion/Analysis:

The Youth Leadership Academy has now successfully completed four years of the program with a great partnership with Pro Youth & Families. Pro was a critical partner and helped set up the program and staff well to bring the program in-house. SACOG thanks Pro for all they did for the program and is eager to continue the program on the strong foundation we built together.

This fifth year of YLA will have 40 available spots for students across the region. The past years have proven that now more than ever, our young leaders in the region are eager and ready to learn and we are gearing up for another year of growth and leadership development. Our outreach will be virtual, with potential for in person outreach, should there be an opportunity to do so.

The application period for the program will be September 15 through November 4. Students will be notified of their application status in late November. SACOG will target Title I schools across the region to ensure that we make YLA as accessible and as impactful as possible, as well as outreach to community-based organizations. The program will keep the same general topics and curriculum, which include learning about the role of SACOG in the region, land use and transportation planning, local government processes, local advocacy,

personal leadership development, environmental and more. The program will continue to find ways to incorporate more of SACOG's upcoming efforts.

The program will be designed as a hybrid program with one session a month in person and one session a month online. We will continue to invite local elected officials and other leadership from across the region to supplement our workshops.

This fifth year of YLA is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors:

- SMUD
- Teichert Foundation
- California Department of Housing & Community Development

**5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:**

Funding for operations and hard costs will be supported through our generous sponsors. SACOG supports the YLA through staff time included in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget.

**6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Objectives:**

**Goal 2 : Connected Communities**